

Health Data Charter

Inspired by the universal human rights to health, to benefit from science, and to non-discrimination, and founded on the five principles of public administration, comprehensiveness, universality, portability, and accessibility (Canada Health Act), the *Health Data Charter* reaffirms Canada's commitment to "improving data collection across health systems to inform future decisions ..." (Speech from the Throne, November 23, 2021).

To honour the duty to put persons and populations at the core of all decisions about the disclosure, access and use of health data, the Health Data Charter requires:

- Person-centric health information design to ensure that health data follow the individual for clinical, and analytical access and use;
- Common standards for terminology, health data design, stewardship, interoperability, access and portability;
- The quality, security and privacy of health data to maximize benefit and reduce harm to individuals and populations;
- Timely accessibility of health data to individuals, decision makers, researchers, and the health workforce;
- The use of health data for policies, programs, services, statistics and research for the public good given the importance of open science;
- Data-driven social and technological innovation through partnership, invention, discovery, value creation and international best practice;
- Health data literacy of the public, decision-makers and the health workforce;
- Harmonization of health data, governance, evaluation, and policy;
- Support for First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nation data sovereignty;
- Inclusion of diverse members of the public, patients, communities and other stakeholders in health information system development and oversight.

*CONTEXT: The *Health Data Charter* is inspired by, and founded on, human rights whose universal nature transcends jurisdictional and disciplinary differences. Recognizing international standards and data governance norms, the Charter's principled, parsimonious, and prospective nature serves to foster international implementation and interoperability both within and across different national systems.