

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Community Health Assessment (CHA)

CHA involvement: WRHA Research & Evaluation Unit (Colleen Metge, Director)

GOAL: The primary aim of the Community Health Assessment (CHA) is to identify community health assets and issues, set health objectives, and monitor progress towards those objectives.

The four main areas of WRHA CHA activity are:

Comprehensive CHA report. This report produced every 5 years, includes provincially comparable indicators, and integrates data and analysis from focused CHA reports and other linked reports.

Focused CHA reports are produced on specific topics and populations and released on an ongoing basis.

Web-based Community-Area Profiles form a distinct strand of the CHA in the form of an interactive web-based resource. The intention is for the Profiles to be the central repository for data and resources that are relevant to decision making and planning in geographically-defined community areas of the Winnipeg Health Authority.

Integration of CHA into health planning and strategic planning through community engagement.

OUTPUT: CHA activities develop evidence regarding the health of the population. These activities provide information and analyses to a) assist the WRHA Board and Senior Management in setting priorities and allocating resources, b) assist in program development and planning, and c) assist communities in addressing priority issues.

METHODS: The CHA process involves multiple activities and several methods are used:

Mixed methods analysis.

Integration of quantitative and qualitative data.

Analysis of core indicators from administrative data which is then balanced with community input. This analysis includes secondary data sources (such as discharge abstracts, national surveys, and census data) qualitative data gathered from local surveys and in-depth interviews/focus groups with community members/groups and experts.

ESTIMATED END DATE: CHA activities are ongoing. Most recently, the cycle started again in January 2011 and will end in the fall 2015.