

Family Medicine / Primary Care Census

Why did we launch this initiative?

Within the context of the primary care crisis, an issue plaguing the system is the lack of up-to-date and standardized details on active family care practitioners. This information is essential for healthcare planning and fostering a reliable database of information. Currently, there is not a central database that allows this integral information to be shared regionally.

To address this issue, the University of Toronto Department of Family & Community Medicine (DFCM) (in their role as regional primary care leaders) is collaborating with the Ontario Health Toronto Region (OH-TR) and [Empower Health](#) to establish a database of family practitioners to support local health human resources (HHR) planning.

The main goals of this initiative are to:

- Establish an up-to-date database of comprehensive, longitudinal family physicians/nurse practitioners practicing in Toronto.
- Collect data required for primary care health human resources and capacity planning.
- Analyze the data collected to support regional initiatives.
- Recommend strategies for the ongoing maintenance of the database at the regional level.

How does this help?



Improved Resource Allocation



Influence Regional Strategies



Enhanced Collaboration

Who should participate?

- All Family Doctors and/or Nurse Practitioners with patients in Toronto.

How is the data governed?

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- The DFCM has partnered with Empower Health, to handle the database design, architecture, and to ensure necessary security measures are in place for data protection. The collection and use of any data/information provided through the family medicine/primary care census will be strictly limited to the purposes outlined above.
 - The long-term goal is for this data to be stored and managed centrally through the Primary Care Networks (PCNs), ensuring sustainable, regional oversight and streamlined access for planning and operational purposes.
 - A dedicated advisory table, led by regional operational steering leads, will oversee the governance and use of the data to ensure alignment with regional health priorities and fair, transparent decision-making.
 - For health human resources planning purposes, OHT/PCN leads will have access to individual level data for their own sub-region. Data sharing will be limited to use for regional healthcare planning and capacity building. Any external sharing, such as for reports to the OH Toronto Region will be done in aggregate form to ensure privacy.

For more information on how the data will be used, read the [Terms of Use](#).

To fill out the census:

Contact your Ontario Health Team or email PrimaryCareCensus@empower.ca

Have any questions?

Questions? contact: DFCM.PrimaryCareCensus@utoronto.ca