


Island Health Performance Measures

Acute Care Occupancy



Year to Date Performance	103%	Performance Assessment		Red
Island Health Target	Less than or equal to 95%	Performance is significantly outside acceptable range; take action and monitor progress.		

What do we measure and why?

'Acute Care Occupancy' indicates the percentage of acute care hospital beds that are occupied by patients.

'Acute Care Occupancy' is a measure of the average percentage of beds that were in use over a defined time period. The measure is calculated by dividing the number of patient days in the time period by the number of beds available multiplied by the days in the period. It does not include newborns or patients in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

'Patient days' is the product of the number of patients in hospital, multiplied by the number of days they spent in hospital. For example, 2 patients in hospital for 7 days each = $2 \times 7 = 14$ patient days.

High occupancy means most of the hospital beds are full most of the time. If there are no unoccupied hospital beds available, then surgeries may have to be cancelled or hospital admissions delayed for people who need care. High occupancy has negative consequences for patient safety and can cause congestion in the emergency room as patients wait for an inpatient bed.

What is the target?

Island Health has set a combined (all hospitals) occupancy target for 2019/20 of 95% or less. Greater than 98% would be flagged as red, being significantly outside the acceptable range and requiring action.

How are we doing?

Island Health did not meet the target in 2019/20.

What actions are we taking?

A variety of strategies are being implemented to put greater emphasis on community-based health and care, and to ensure services are available to our clients and patients outside of hospital. This overarching strategy will contribute to lowered occupancy by reducing avoidable hospital admissions, reducing the length of time patients stay in hospital, and reducing the number of people in hospital beds who do not require hospital-level acute care.

A Regional capacity management plan will manage capacity pressures through a cross-continuum approach to pull people out of acute care. Additionally, 30 temporary transitional beds at the Gorge Road Hospital will be opening to assist with capacity management during seasonal surge.