

Clinical Information and Research Accessible Datasets

This document was created with the intent to provide a simplified overview of the databases available for research when requesting access to existing health information and/or administrative data using an electronic source (e.g., electronic medical records/EMRs).

SHA is the source trustee for the following data sets which can be used for research:

PART 1: SHA-AFFILIATED

SHA is the source trustee for the following data sets which can be used for research:

Database	Direct Access	Case-level	Aggregate	Patient List*
SCM	☒	☒	☒	☒
WINRECS	☐	☐	☐	☒
WinCIS	☐	☐	☒	☒
ISP	☐	☒	☐	☐
Med Access - SHA	☒	☒	☒	☒
Accuro - SHA	☒	☒	☒	☒
BDM	☐	☐	☒	☐
LIS	☐	☐	☒	☐
PACS	☒	☒	☐	☐
RIS	☐	☐	☒	☐
MHAIS	☐	☐	☒	☐
Pediatric ARIA	☒	☒	☒	☒
MIQS	☒	☒	☒	☒

*=Referred to Line List.

Request(s) for data to any of the above data sets must be made through the SHA Operational Approval [form](#).

Sunrise Clinical Manager (SCM)

Collection description

SCM	Acute Care Health Record
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Please note: SCM is not an integrated system within the province. Each site (Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert, Yorkton, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, and Lloydminster/North Battleford) hosts a separate environment and may have variable data fields.

Process

Request(s) for data access in any location may require **site-specific approval** for SCM research accounts.

Please note when using SCM, if some data fields are unavailable, **paper health records** are used in its

place. Requests can be made for **chart reviews** and must be approved by Health Information Services (HIS) Department.

WINRECS

Collection description

WINRECS	Patient abstracting and reporting system utilized in various SHA locations
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Process

Request(s) for data must be approved by HIS (specified for the area of interest).

WinCIS

Collection description

WinCIS	Admission/discharge/transfer registration system in rural/northern facilities
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Process

Request(s) for data must be approved by HIS (specified for the area of interest).

IntelliSpace Perinatal (ISP)

Collection description

ISP	Fetal & maternal monitoring and surveillance
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Process

Request(s) for data must be approved by Digital Health (Urban and Tertiary) and Maternal & Children's Provincial Programs.

Med Access (SHA Departments)

Collection description

Med Access – SHA departments	Primary Health Care and outpatient electronic medical record (EMR)
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Process

Access requirements should be carefully considered as personnel without a current EMR licenses will need to purchase (i.e., Estimated. \$800 initially, \$750 for annual maintenance). Request(s) will be

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approved by Digital Health, with limited and monitored record-level access to EMR (**chart reviews**).

Please note that non-SHA EMRs do exist; therefore, researchers must consider where access is required. Additionally, even if the research team includes care providers with prior access to EMR, individuals are only allowed to pull data from this database if they have been given SHA Operational Approval for their project.

Accuro (SHA Departments)

Collection description

Accuro	Primary Health Care and outpatient EMR
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Process

Access requirements should be carefully considered as personnel without a current EMR licenses will need to purchase (i.e., Estimated. \$100 initially, \$100 for monthly maintenance). Request(s) will be approved by Digital Health, with limited and monitored record-level access to EMR (**chart reviews**).

Please note that non-SHA EMRs do exist; therefore, researchers must consider where access is required. Additionally, even if the research team includes care providers with prior access to EMR, individuals are only allowed to pull data from this database if they have been given SHA Operational Approval for their project.

BDM

Collection description

BDM	Hospital pharmacy information system used to track medications provided to patients
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Process

Data request(s) must be approved by Pharmacy Department based on service area(s) requested.

Please note that even if the research team includes pharmacy residents with prior access to BDM, individuals are only allowed to pull data from this database if they have been given SHA Operational Approval for their project.

Laboratory Information System (LIS)

Collection description

LIS	Lab test results system, feeding into the provincial repository system (SLRR – non-SHA)
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Process

Data request(s) must be made using the LIS Information Request Form (also discoverable on the [SHA Operational Approval form](#)). For **aggregate data** (frequency/results of specific lab tests per population), request(s) must be made to and approved by the laboratory/laboratories of interest (e.g., chemistry, histology, pathology, etc.).

Picture Archiving and Communication Systems (PACS)

Collection description

PACS	Capture of the actual medical image from the diagnostic tests (e.g. x-ray, MRI, CT, PET scan)
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Process

For SHA facilities and clinics, SHA is the trustee of the records they generate. For private clinics, eHealth and the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency (SCA) are the trustees of the records generated in their clinics [once images are uploaded into the provincial PACS]. Therefore, requests/approvals are dependent on each trustee and their respective criteria list.

Radiology Information System (RIS)

Collection description

RIS	Registration and results system for PACS. This database stores printed report of the medical imaging test. Additional information includes scheduling information and billing codes.
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Process

For **chart reviews**, reports will be generated by the radiologist interpreting the image(s).

Mental Health Addictions Information System (MHAIS)

Collection description

MHAIS	Documentation and assessment of mental health patients
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Process

This database will only be available through the Health Research Data Platform Saskatchewan ([HRDP-SK](#)).

Pediatric ARIACollection description

ARIA	oncology information system
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Process

Effective 29-Sep-2019, the Pediatric Oncology records were transferred from Saskatchewan Cancer Agency (SCA) to the SHA, as dictated by the Ministry of Health. ARIA oncology information system contains both pediatric and adult patient records where only the latter can be facilitated through SHA's the Operational Approval team.

Medical Information Quality System (MIQS)Collection description

MIQS	Medical Information Quality System (also known as Renal electronic medical record)
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Process

This database is used for all SHA Kidney Health Programs and Transplant, documenting all patient clinical care and is a standalone platform that is not linked to SCM or any other electronic medical records. Researchers can have delegated access to some programs or the full provincial access and would be able to view all patient records in the department level documentation.

Advanced Analytics Support

In addition to the above databases, **SHA Advanced Analytics [team](#)** provides support for research projects requiring specialized data extractions from across clinical and administrative specialties. This service is particularly useful when data spans multiple systems or requires advanced methods of cleaning, linkage, or analysis.

Currently, Advanced Analytics can assist with data requests in the following areas:

- Maternal & Children's
- Cardio Sciences
- General Ledger (financial/administrative)
- Surgery
- Ambulatory Care
- Emergency
- Trauma

- Primary Care
- Forensic, Neuropsychiatry, and Mental Health Services (FNMHS)
- Critical Care, Organ Donation, Code Blue
- Continuing Care / Intermediate Care
- Homecare
- General Medicine
- Neurosciences
- Rehabilitation
- Mental Health
- Population Health
- Oncology
- Chronic Disease
- Palliative Care
- Alternate Level of Care (ALC)

Process

Requests for Advanced Analytics support must also be submitted through the SHA Operational Approval process. Timelines, feasibility, and prioritization will depend on data availability, clinical/operational endorsement, and alignment with SHA resources.

PART 2: NON-SHA AFFILIATED

For all **non-SHA data sets** (e.g., cancer, vital statistics, etc.), researchers should contact the source trustee for the following data sets below:

Database	Trustee	Chart	Aggregate	Patient List
DAD	SK Ministry of Health	☐	☒	☐
NACRS	SK Ministry of Health	☐	☒	☐
Med Access	Private	☒	☒	☒
Accuro	Private	☒	☒	☒
PHRS	eHealth	☐	☒	☐
PANORAMA	SK Ministry of Health	☐	☒	☐
SLRR	eHealth	☐	☒	☐
Cancer Registry	SK Cancer Agency	☐	☒	☐
ARIA – Medical Oncology	SK Cancer Agency	☒	☒	☐

Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) & National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS)

Collection description

DAD	Hospitalization data of discharge
NACRS	Hospitalization data of emergency ambulatory care

Process

Request(s) for disease/condition-specific research or service line-specific research must be made directly to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health. A data sharing agreement might be needed. Please contact Operational Approvals for assistance.

Med Access & Accuro – private

Collection description

Med Access	Primary Health Care EMR where system is dependent on the clinical department and/or the clinician
Accuro	

Process

Access can be provided by the individual physician/clinic in SHA who purchased their own EMR.

Personal Health Registry System (PHRS)Collection description

PHRS	Health card registration system – records every person currently when a health card is presented
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Process

Request(s) must be made to eHealth.

PANORAMACollection description

PANOROMA	Provincial record of immunizations
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Process

Request(s) must be made to the Ministry of Health; only **aggregate data** is available and must be anonymized once provided to the researcher.

Please note that SHA's employee immunization system is not linked into Panorama. Currently, SHA sends copies of employee immunization information to eHealth for manual entry.

Saskatchewan Lab Results Repository (SLRR) SystemCollection description

SLRR	Provincial repository of lab results
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Process

Request(s) must be made using the following the Request for Information [form](#) and approved by eHealth.

Cancer Registry & ARIA – Medical Oncology
Collection description

Cancer Registry	Each individual with a cancer diagnosis is registered
ARIA – Medical Oncology	Main oncology-specific EMR used to track patient radiation, medical, and surgical information

Process

Request(s) must be made using the following Application to Access Data [form](#) and approved by the Data Access Committee of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency (SCA):

- For the cancer registry, no direct access is allowed.
- For ARIA, a research account will be created and set up.

SCA can provide identifiable, aggregate, de-identified or anonymized data.

PART 3: NON-RESEARCH DATASETS

The following sources of information **cannot** be used/accessed for research:

- Vital Statistics
- eHealth Viewer
- Pharmacy Information System (PIP)
- Drug Claims Database
- PROCURA (Home Care)
- Convergence (Continuing Care)

PART 4: CONTACT INFORMATION

Please determine the appropriate data source(s) for your research study prior to seeking Operational Approval. If you require any assistance, please contact the Operational Approval Office.

Research Approval Coordinator Contact Information

- researchapprovalregina@saskhealthauthority.ca
- researchapproval.saskatoon@saskhealthauthority.ca

For non-SHA data sets, please contact accordingly:

- SCA: datarequest@saskcancer.ca
- Ministry of Health: health.infoprivacy.accesshelp@health.gov.sk.ca
- eHealth: servicedesk@ehealthsask.ca

For more information, please refer to the OA [guidance notes](#) or [costing manual](#).

If you have any general questions about research process in SHA, please contact ResearchInfo@saskhealthauthority.ca.