
e-Appendix 1: Selection of stage 1 and stage 2 reviewers, remuneration and average time for chart audit

Stage 1 reviewers were selected and trained by the provincial site leaders and remunerated on a unit basis according to standard regional rates. The ideal Stage 1 review team included 3 registered nurses or health data professionals with at least 5 years of postgraduate experience and previous experience in health record review. The average length of time required to perform a stage 1 chart review was 32 minutes

For stage 2, a convenience sample of physician reviewers was selected and trained by provincial physician leaders. The ideal physician review team was composed of 3 generalists with 10–15 years of postgraduate clinical experience and an appreciation of smaller hospitals. When possible, the team included 1 general practitioner, 1 general internist and 1 general surgeon. Research fellows were considered ineligible for inclusion. Physicians were remunerated at standard provincial hourly rates. The average length of time required to perform a stage 2 chart review was 30 minutes
