

About this Toolkit

This Toolkit is an opportunity to share implementation tools with emergency providers who are interested in improving the care provided to patients with developmental disabilities (DD).

The resources included in this Toolkit can be used together, or as stand alone materials, depending on the needs, goals and existing resources in your hospital. We encourage you to use whichever pieces of this Toolkit feel appropriate for your site. We have made electronic versions of all materials available (www.hcardd.ca). Where available, we have included a modifiable version (usually in Microsoft Word), that can be downloaded, then further adapted for your site. We do ask that acknowledgment be given to the H-CARDD program. We envision that all the materials included in the Toolkit could be uploaded into EMRs as easy-to-access materials for paper-based practice settings.

About the H-CARDD Program

This toolkit has been prepared by the Health Care Access Research and Developmental Disabilities (H-CARDD) program. H-CARDD is a research program based in Ontario, Canada, and has been studying health care outcomes of adults with developmental disabilities (DD). Through this research, we have learned about the various health disparities adults with developmental disabilities face. From 2013 - 2016, H-CARDD received a grant from the Health Systems Research Fund to conduct implementation research. Accordingly, we focused our efforts on implementing a quality initiative with several Emergency Departments in Ontario. The goal of this work was to better understand how to identify patients with DD in the ED setting, and then learn about the most effective strategies to optimize their care.

Look for these quick reference symbols!



PowerPoint slide decks



Promotional material for your site



Staff engagement surveys



Implementation tools



Clinical tools or handouts for staff



Resources for patients with DD, and/or their caregivers



Videos