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Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) Summary

Public Body or Custodian: Alberta Health Services

Project Title: Alberta Health Services Data Matching Project between AHS Screening Programs, Physicians and/or PCN and Alberta Health and Wellness

Date Submitted: May 14, 2010

Date Accepted: August 16, 2010

OIPC TRAX File: H3538

Project Summary:

The effectiveness of regular screening for cervical, breast and colorectal cancer is undisputed, yet a significant proportion of Albertans remain under-screened. The vision of Screening Programs is to work collaboratively with key stakeholders to increase cancer screening rates in identified program-targeted cohorts. AHS Screening Programs facilitates the use of tools and resources such as protocols, clinical guidelines and clinical reminders for screening and surveillance in an effort to support service providers and PCN's in the common goal of increased cancer screening.

The Alberta Cervical Cancer Screening Program (ACCSP) is trialing a new process that is aimed at helping participating physicians to identify and invite under-screened women for routine cervical cancer screening. As part of this trial the ACCSP will send participating PCN member physicians a list of their patients who are under screened for cervical cancer.

This data matching project will take place on a pilot basis between AHS Screening Programs, participating physicians/PCNs and Alberta Health and Wellness. The project will be re-evaluated to determine its effectiveness and whether this type of process will be continued on an ongoing basis. The vision of Screening Programs is to work collaboratively with physicians/PCNs to increase cancer screening rates in identified program-targeted areas. If proven effective, creating physician lists of under-screened patients could be expanded to include breast and colorectal cancer screening over time.

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