Analysis of Emergency Department Physician Human Resources Utilization in Ontario: 2004 to 2009

HealthForceOntario

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Purpose

- In Ontario, planners and decision-makers are faced with the challenge of planning for a sustainable physician workforce for emergency departments (EDs).
- To appropriately plan, we must first understand:
 - 1) Who is the ED workforce?
 - 2) How much do they work?
 - 3) How is the practice profile changing?
- This work was completed to inform and support the ED Taskforce, made up of a diverse group of ED experts, in their deliberations to address the HHR and system issues in EDs across Ontario.

Data Sources and Methodology

Data Sources

- OHIP Claims Data for Fiscal Years 2007-2009 for ED billings
- National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS) Data for Fiscal Years 2007-2009 for Hospital information
- Physicians in Ontario (PIO), Ontario Physician Human Resources Data Centre Data for Years 2007-2009

Active Physician OHIP Claims Registry **NACRS** Examined all physicians Obtained physicians' Matched that provided at least one Matched Identified hospitals at specialty, which the physicians clinical service in an demographics and Ontario ED in each worked. location information from specific year. the registry.

Final ED Dataset

Identifying the ED Workforce

• The analysis is focused on Family Medicine (FM), Family Medicine - Emergency Medicine (CCFP-EM), and Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada - Emergency Medicine (RCPSC-EM) physicians.

Physicians that provided at least 1 clinical service in an ED

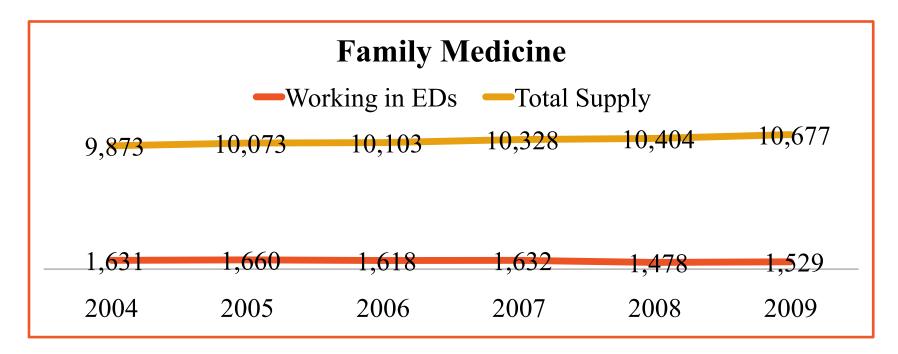
2,691 physicians in 2009

Physicians that worked at least 1 shift in an ED, defined as seeing at least 3 unique patients in 1 day

ED workforce = 2,429 physicians in 2009

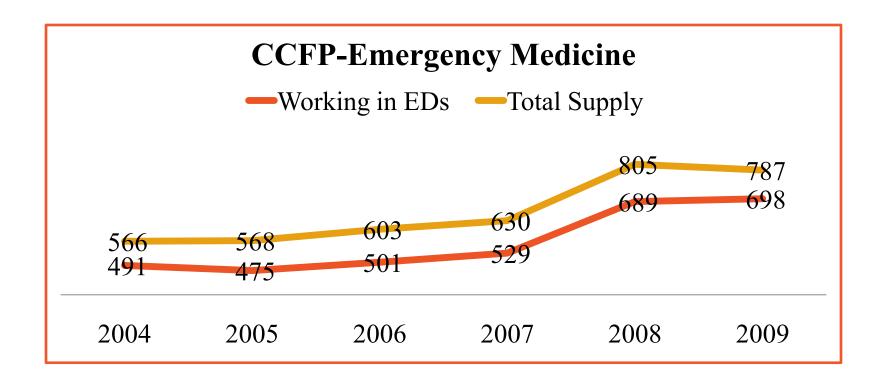
Family Medicine Supply

- In 2009, 14% of the FM provincial workforce worked at least one shift in an ED in Ontario.
- From 2004 to 2009, the total provincial FM physician supply increased by 8%, however the FM ED workforce decreased by 6%.



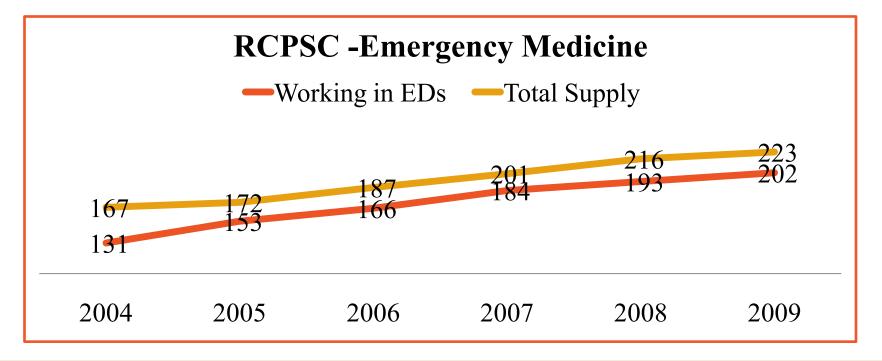
CCFP-EM Supply

- In 2009, 89% of the CCFP-EM workforce worked in EDs.
- From 2004 to 2009, there was a 39% increase in the total supply and 42% increase in the ED workforce for CCFP-EM.



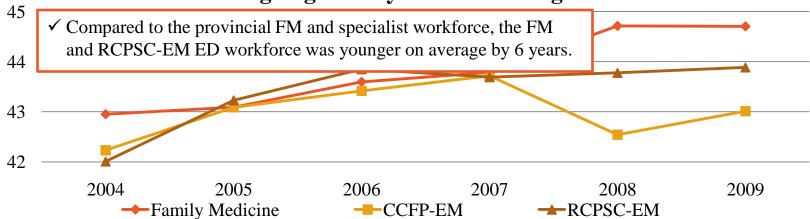
RCPSC-EM Supply

- In 2009, 90% of the RCPSC-EM provincial workforce worked at least one shift in an ED in Ontario.
- From 2004 to 2009, the total provincial RCPSC-EM supply increased by 34% and the ED workforce increased by 54%. This could also be an artefact of an improvement in data collection.



Average Age and Sex Distribution in EDs



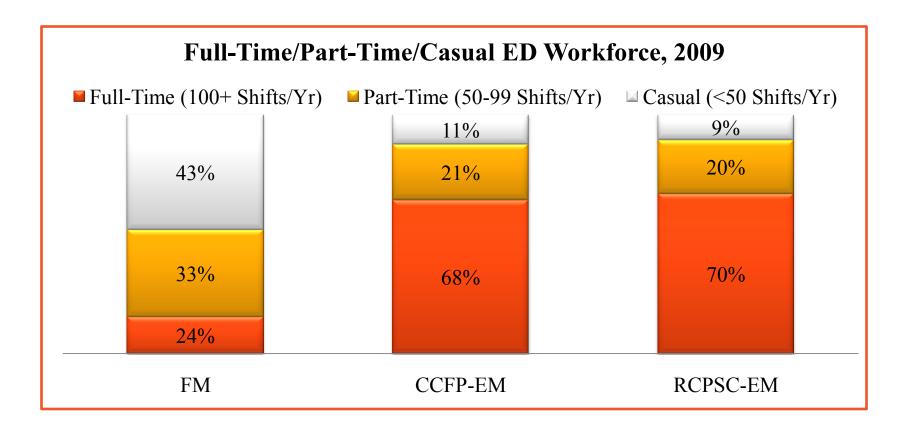


Sex Distribution by Specialty in EDs and Total Supply

	Family Medicine		CCFP-EM		RCPSC-EM	
	2004	2009	2004	2009	2004	2009
Working in EDs						
F	27%	30%	21%	27%	18%	24%
M	73%	70%	79%	73%	82%	76%
Total Supply						
F	36%	41%	24%	28%	19%	24%
M	64%	59%	76%	72%	81%	76%

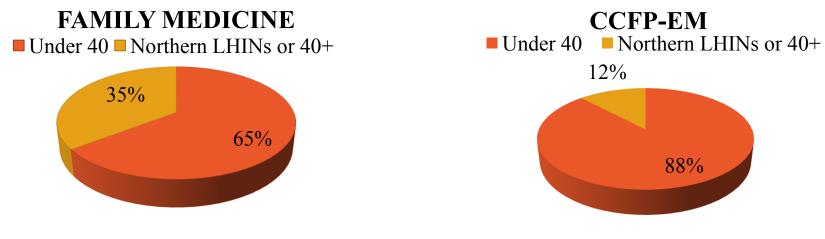
Full-Time/Part-Time/Casual Distribution by Specialty, 2009

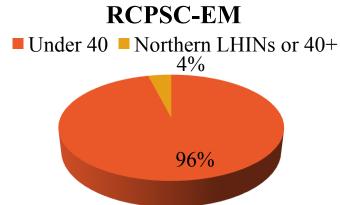
• Of the FM physicians working in EDs with their primary practice in 40+ communities, 15% worked FT in an ED.



Distribution Under RIO 40, Northern LHINs or RIO 40+ by Specialty, 2009

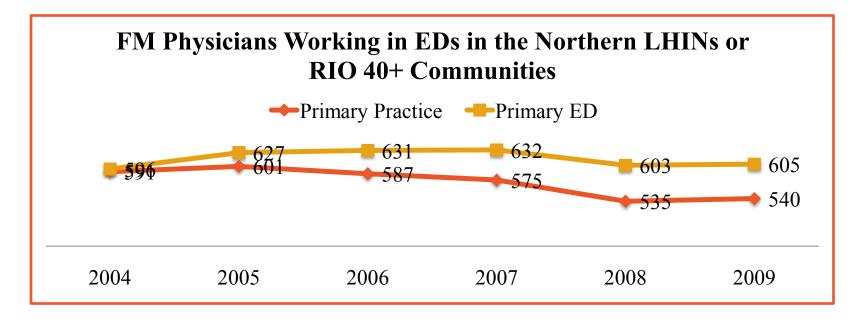
• FM physicians working in EDs were more likely to be in the two northern LHINs or rural (RIO 40+) communities than CCFP-EM or RCPSC-EM physicians based on primary practice location.

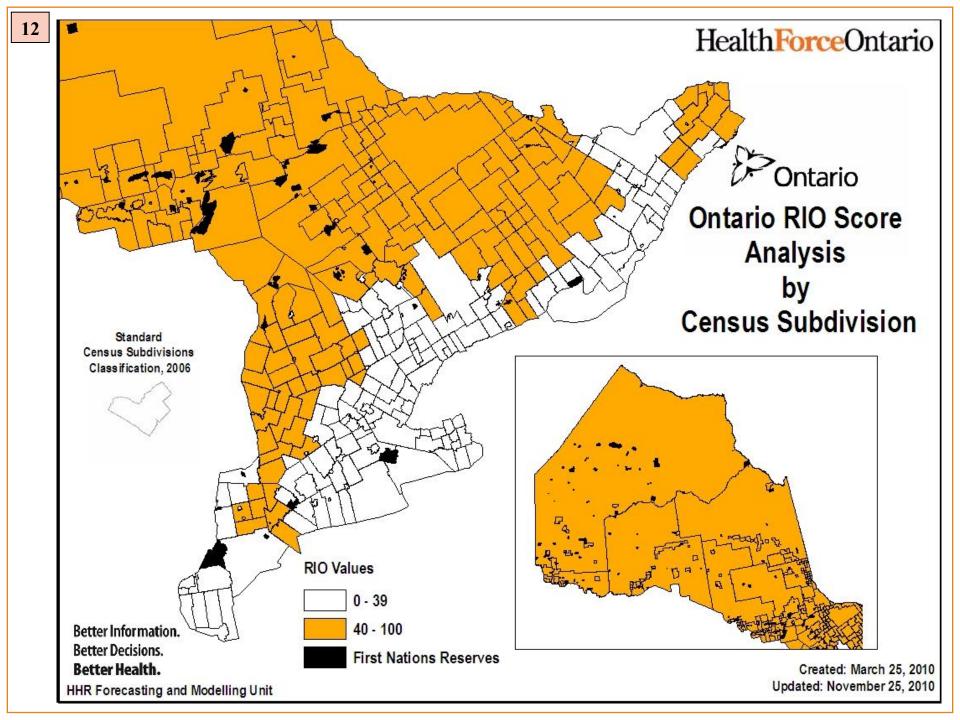




ED Workforce in the Northern LHINs and RIO 40+ Communities

- In 2009, of the total ED workforce in the northern LHINs or RIO 40+ communities, based on primary practice, was:
 - 85% FM physicians
 - 13% CCFP-EM physicians
- There were 12% more FM physicians with their primary ED in the northern LHINs or RIO 40+ communities than their primary practice location.





Summary

- FM physicians made up a large component of the ED workforce, especially in EDs located in the northern LHINs and rural areas.
 - o The northern LHINs and 40+ communities include 74 EDs (about 40%) with an average of 15,088 (including the AHSCs) ED visits in 2009/10.
- FM physicians were more likely to work casually in EDs, while the CCFP-EM and RCPSC-EM physicians tended to work full-time in EDs.
- From 2004 to 2009, the total provincial FM physician supply increased by 8%, however the FM ED workforce decreased by 6%. During the same timeframe, both the CCFP-EM and RCPSC-EM provincial supply and ED workforce increased.