Understanding persistency in the high-cost state among mental health patients

Presenter: A/Prof. Claire de Oliveira

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Seminar Room 515, Level 5
207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

High-cost patients place a substantial burden on the health care system. Most work has examined high-cost patients as a homogenous group; however, previous work has shown that mental health high-cost patients are distinct from other high-cost patients. For example, these patients are younger, live in lower income neighbourhoods and typically have lifelong chronic conditions, such as psychosis and bipolar disorder. Moreover, there is little knowledge regarding whether/why they remain high-cost patients for long periods of time. Using administrative health care data from Ontario, Canada’s most populous province, the main objectives of this analysis were to describe high-cost patients with mental illness who persist in the high-cost state and to determine the predictors of persistency. These findings will be important to inform the development of appropriate case management and care coordination interventions, and to improve the design of care pathways for this patient population.