

CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH INFORMATION -  
LONG-TERM CARE QUALITY INDICATOR

# Experiencing Worsened Pain in Long-Term Care

## What this means:

This indicator measures the percentage of long-term care residents whose physical pain or discomfort worsened. The pain could be occasional or constant, acute or chronic, and could happen whether the resident is moving or still. Pain can impact a resident's quality of life, including mood, willingness/ability to eat, and interactions with others. Worsened pain can indicate that current pain management strategies are not effective or that a resident's condition is worsening.

## Alberta results:

In 2014/15, 13.2% of long-term care residents in Alberta experienced worsened pain. This is lower than to the previous four years.

## Steps for continued improvement:

Care providers are expected to monitor and evaluate how residents are managing pain. Residents with pain should have ways to manage that pain included in their care plans. Care plans outline a resident's daily care based on their needs and are reviewed regularly.

## For more information:

[www.health.alberta.ca/services/continuing-care-CIHI-RAI.html](http://www.health.alberta.ca/services/continuing-care-CIHI-RAI.html)

