

Health care utilization and costs among individuals with a concussion in Ontario: a population-based study

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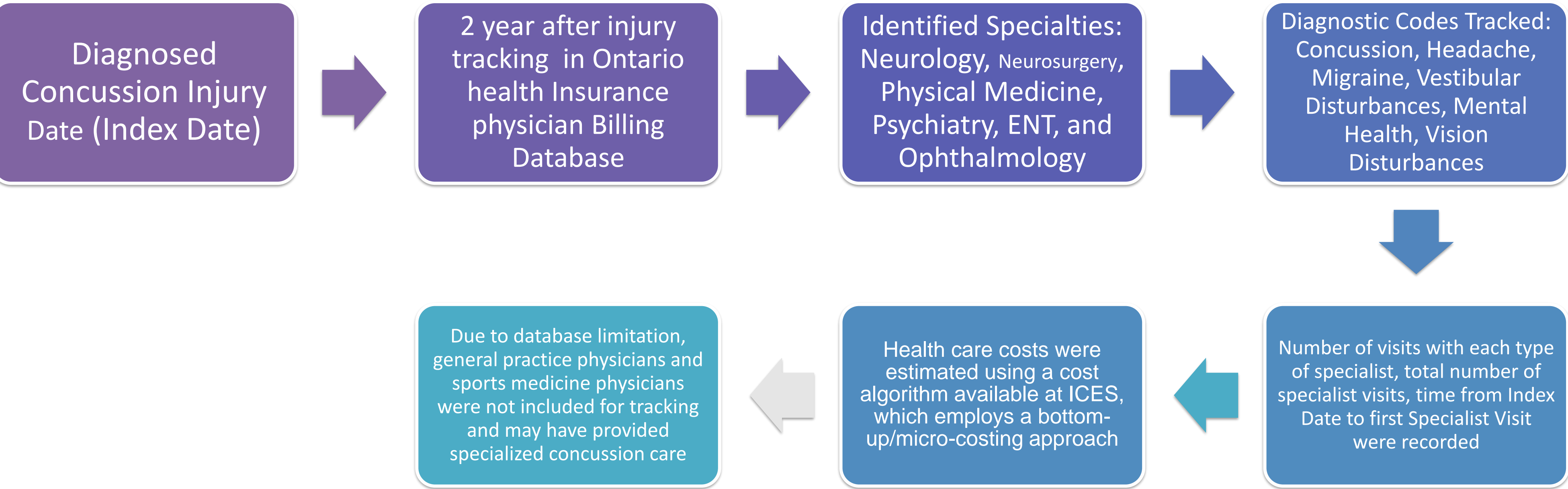
Introduction

- Over 150,000 residents of Ontario (i.e., 1.2% of the population) are diagnosed with a concussion by a physician every year
- Rates are highest among children and those living in rural parts of the province
- Best Practices recommend all patients with a concussion have a follow-up visit with their primary care physician within 3 days of injury
- An estimated 30% of children with a concussion may develop prolonged post-concussion symptoms (PPCS) and require additional health care to treat their PPCS
- 12.5% of adults with a concussion in Ontario required multiple specialist health care to treat PPCS

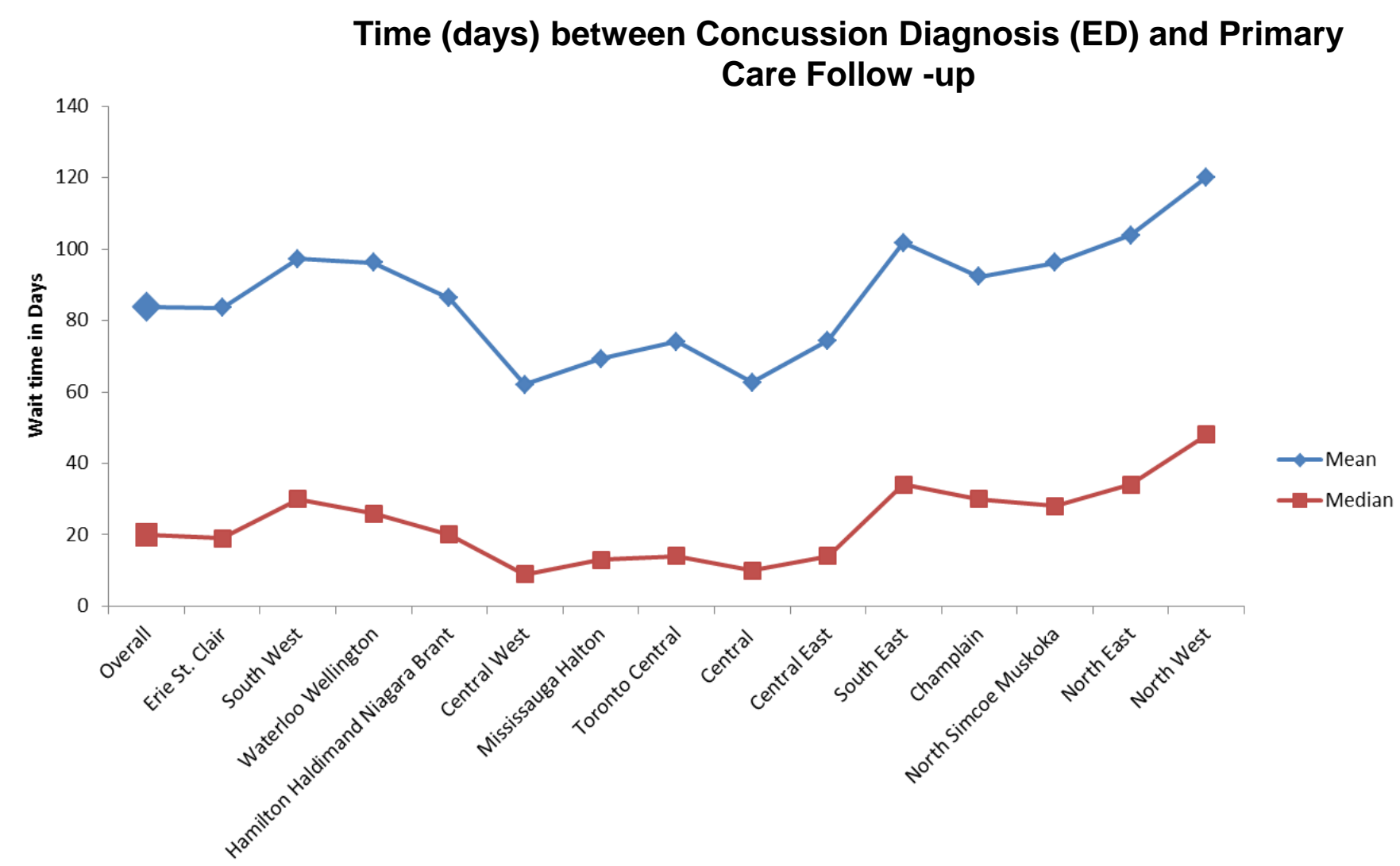
Objectives

- To characterize post-concussion health care utilization and direct physician costs of residents of Ontario with a concussion

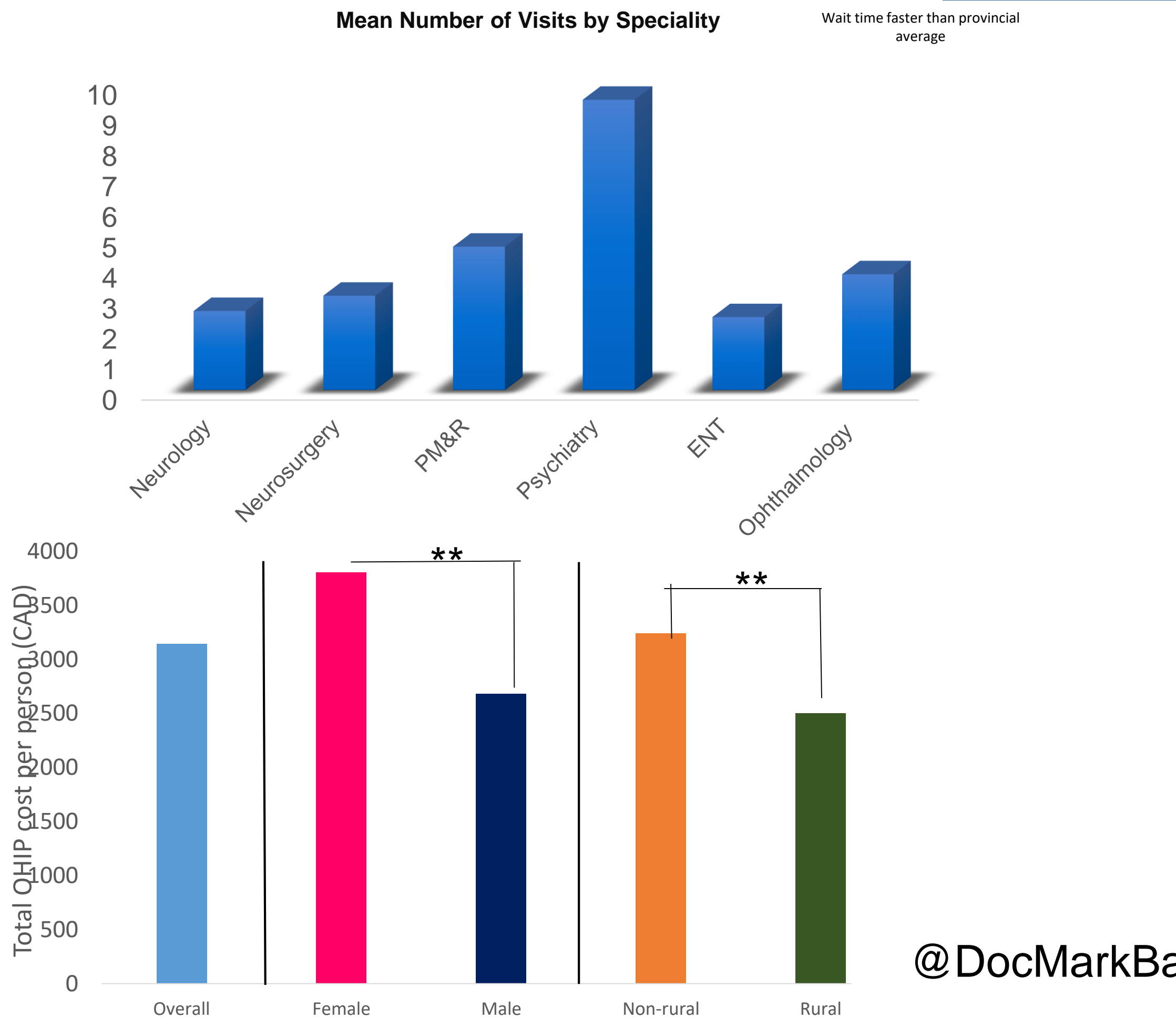
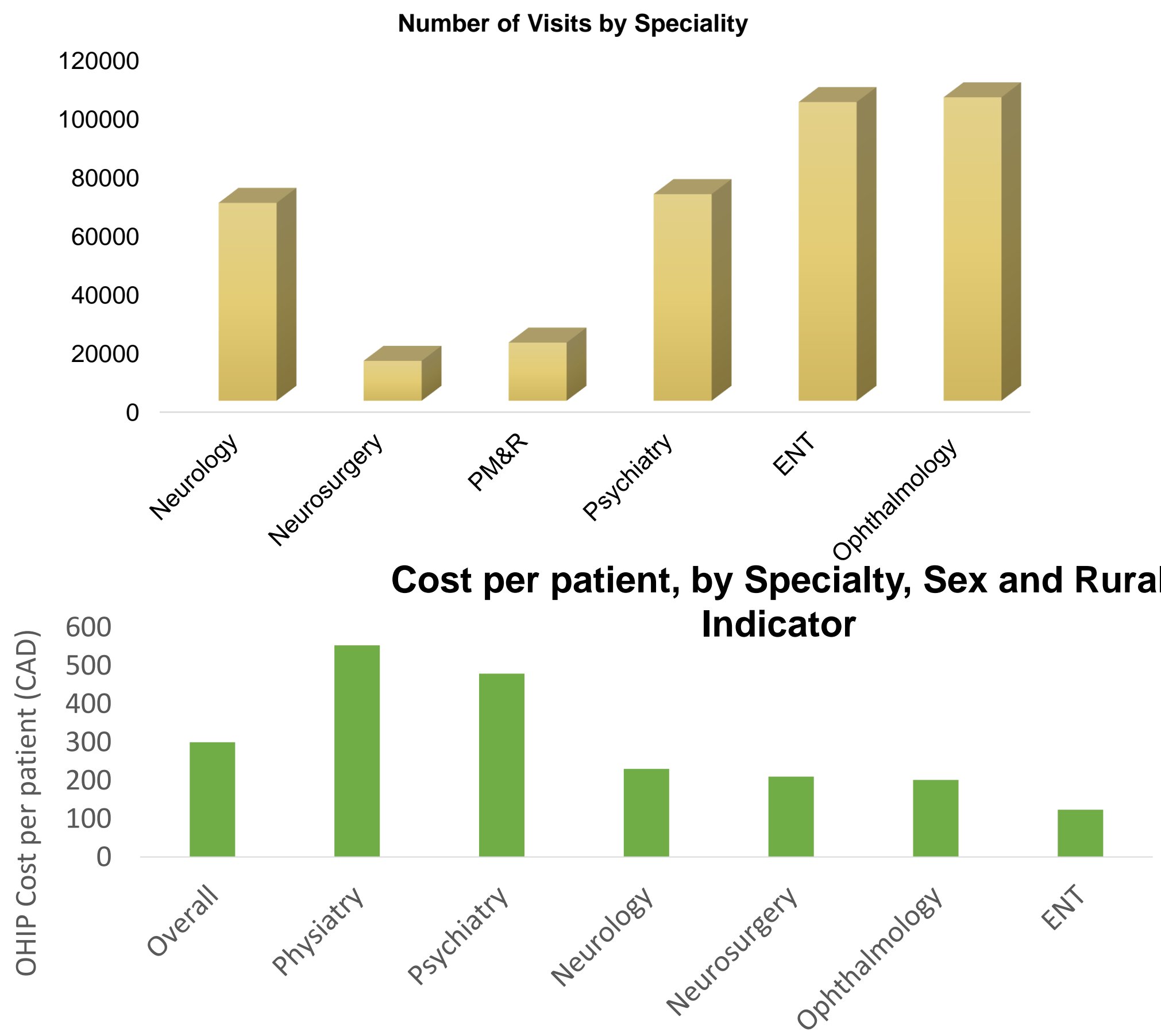
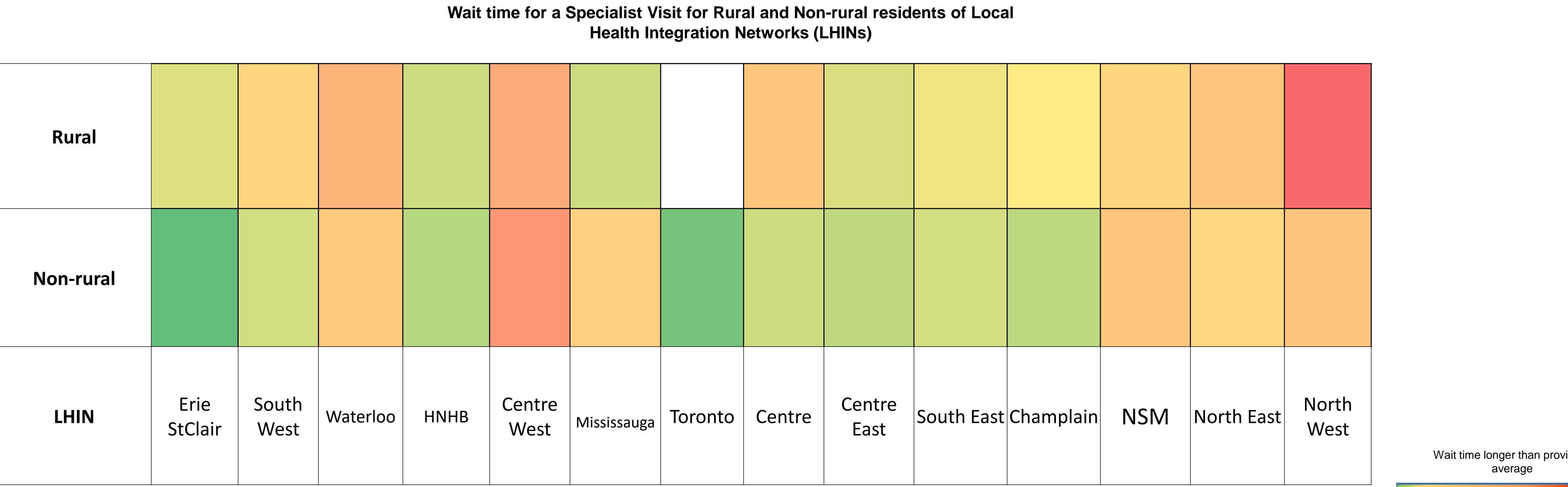
Methods



Results



Overall	Mean Number Specialist Visits in following 2 years	Mean Wait Time (Days)
	2.4 (SD 7.0)	237.2 (SD 203.3)
Age	Mean Number Specialist Visits in following 2 years	Mean Wait Time (days)
>18 year	3.2 (SD 8.83)	203.8 (SD 196.92)
<18	1.3 (SD 3.03)	276 (SD203.99)
	Mean Number Specialist Visits	Mean Wait Time (Days)
Rural	2.5 (SD6.41)	213.5 (SD196.4)
Non-Rural	3.3 (SD9.14)	202.3 (SD197)



There are discrepancies in post-concussion health care utilization based on age and geographic location. Concussions cost the Ontario health care system \$18 million per year in direct physician billing.

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