



Overview of NRS Training and Education

To promote data quality in the National Rehabilitation Reporting System (NRS), facility staff must be properly trained on coding NRS data elements relevant to their role in data collection. Facilities are to determine which method of NRS training best meets their needs.

NRS training

FIM[®] instrument training

The FIM[®] instrument training and testing process may vary between facilities, but whether it is provided in person, online or a combination thereof, NRS assessors **should be trained on all 18 data elements of the FIM[®] instrument**.

CIHI requires that all facility staff who complete NRS functional assessments — trainers and assessors alike — must successfully pass the FIM[®] instrument proficiency test **covering all 18 items of the FIM[®] instrument**. CIHI further recommends periodic retraining and retesting of NRS assessors, the nature and frequency of which are determined by each facility according to internal policies on CIHI data quality, as well as to the individual learning needs of staff.

Online FIM[®] instrument training courses include the following:

1. **Bundle 5004E: NRS — FIM[®] instrument** consists of 7 short courses that provide an overview of the FIM[®] instrument and deepen one's understanding of the 6 assessed domains (i.e., self-care, sphincter control, transfers, locomotion, communication and social cognition). This course is also offered in French.
2. **Course 790E: Practice Videos — Assessing Motor Function With the FIM[®] instrument** allows participants to practise their assessment skills for rating the FIM[®] motor tasks, using video scenarios.

If you have any difficulty accessing NRS courses, please email education@cihi.ca.

Completing the NRS: FIM® instrument Proficiency Test

Facility staff may complete NRS proficiency testing using online proficiency tests.

Online proficiency tests

Individuals can register for online tests in the NRS subcatalogue of the Rehabilitation course catalogue in CIHI's Learning Centre. Separate tests are available in English and French. The tests can be used for both (initial) qualification and retesting.

The online program contains a bank of standardized clinical vignettes. The test includes a random selection of vignettes across 18 FIM® instrument items. 2 vignettes are presented per item. Users enter their rating from multiple choices. A minimum of 80% is required to become an NRS assessor. The final score is provided once answers have been submitted. Unlimited make-up attempts are possible following self-guided review.

Accessing NRS courses via CIHI's Learning Centre

1. Create a [CIHI profile](#) and affiliate your profile with your organization. Once it has been processed, automatic access is ensured to the restricted NRS courses and to any other Learning Centre and eStore products that your organization is entitled to.
2. Self-register for courses through [CIHI's Learning Centre](#) by logging in to your CIHI profile.

When viewing the course catalogue, be sure to log in to your CIHI profile, as many NRS courses are restricted to NRS users and are not visible to the general public.

For assistance, please visit CIHI's [Help page](#) or email help@cihi.ca for a quick response.

Your NRS resources

Manuals and guides to support your learning

Resource	Code	Location
Rehabilitation Minimum Data Set Manual Contains detailed NRS guidelines, FIM® instrument coding guidelines and decision trees	n/a	eStore
NRS Resources Includes NRS tip sheets and training resources, such as the NRS Easy Reference Guide, Quick Pocket Guide to FIM® instrument Ratings, Training Package for NRS Assessors, Tips for Managing Your Open Episodes and many more	n/a	CIHI's Learning Centre

Collecting and submitting your NRS data

Assessment guidelines and proficiency testing for NRS assessors

Course	Code	Type	Hours*
NRS — FIM® instrument Review and application of FIM® instrument guidelines through 7 short courses	5004E 5004F†	eLearning	2.5
Practice Videos: Assessing Motor Function With the FIM® instrument Practice in assessing clinical motor function with the FIM® instrument (prior FIM® instrument training recommended)	790E	eLearning	1
NRS: FIM® instrument Proficiency Test Test of proficiency in interpreting FIM® instrument assessment guidelines	1050E 1050F†	Online test	1
NRS: CIHI Cognitive Data Elements Review of guidelines for completing the CIHI Cognitive data elements, and practice assessing cognitive function using these data elements	926E 926F	eLearning	1
Collecting NRS Administrative Data Elements Review of guidelines for collecting NRS administrative data elements (e.g., Service Interruptions, Reasons for Waiting for Discharge)	641E	eLearning	1
NRS for Coders — Capturing Health Characteristics Review of guidelines for capturing NRS health characteristics (e.g., ICD-10-CA data elements, Rehabilitation Client Group, Date of Onset)	420E	eLearning	1

Advancing your skills to train others

Course to be completed after completing the courses in “Collecting and submitting your NRS data”

Course	Code	Type	Hours*
NRS for Trainers Review of the NRS trainer’s role and resources; identification of ways to increase learner engagement and use data quality issues as training opportunities	942E	Web conference (live)	2

Using NRS data

Analysis, report creation and interpretation, and strategic uses of data

Course	Code	Type	Hours*
Understanding NRS Metrics and Indicators Review of basic statistical principles and terminology relevant to interpreting NRS data	547E	eLearning (self-study workbook)	2
Building Your eReports Exercise-based practice in creating reports in the NRS online eReporting environment (available to NRS eReports users only)	125E	Web conference (recorded)	1.5
Using NRS Reports: Case Studies Case study-based practice in strategic use of NRS data	524E	Web conference (recorded)	2
NRS: Introduction to RPG Reports (listed under Case Mix) How to read and interpret data in the NRS eReports Resource Utilization folders	703E	Web conference (live)	2
		Web conference (recorded)	1.5

Notes
 * Times shown are approximate. Duration can vary since courses offer optional practice and opportunities to review training resources.
 † French language course.
 n/a: Not applicable.

For further information about NRS education, please contact your designated NRS facility coordinator or send an email to education@cihi.ca.



For data-specific information:

education@cihi.ca



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