

# THE EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INCREASED MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES, WITH MINIMIZED BARRIERS, FOR PATIENTS OF A LOCAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

This project examines emergency department (ED) visits to identify trends in the rise of mental health and substance use disorders, aiming to improve care delivery and address service gaps in Leamington’s rural community.

### GOAL:

1

Identify key demographics and clinical traits of ED visits to improve mental health outcomes in Leamington.

2

Analyze mental health and substance use disorder patterns to guide ED staff interventions and training.

3

Develop data-driven strategies to enhance rural mental health care, focusing on service gaps.



## COLLABORATORS



## METHODS

1

Literature Review

2

Quantitative Study Design

Data collected from ED patient charts between 2019-2022

Data Collection

- Demographics
- Clinical Characteristics

Supplemental Data Provided by ESHC

Data Collection Tool

## KEY FINDINGS



Increase in ED visits  
3,459 ED visits  
in 4 years



Discharge Patterns  
80% discharged home  
10% left against medical advice



Common Discharge Diagnoses

- Anxiety (37.1%)
- Depression (11.8%)
- Alcohol-related (8.9%)



Follow-Up Care Challenges

- Limited mental health services
- Transportation barriers
- Risk of repeated ED visits