Proxy panel selection algorithm

The HQCA proxy panel is an **estimate** of a physician's active panel based on the **pattern of family physician billing claims over a three-year period**.

The algorithm predicts which family physician, from all those seen by a patient over the three-year time period, is most likely to be the patient's main family physician. If there is a tie between two or more family physicians at any step, assignment moves to the next step.

The proxy panel will be most accurate for physicians who had a stable practice during the data period and who saw few patients of other family physicians (e.g., in an after-hours or walk-in clinic).

Please note information on the specific diagnostic codes used in the algorithm can be found in the **Data Dictionary**, available from the Using Your Report page on hqca.ca.

Step 1 - Sole visits

Patient visited only 1 family physician (FP)

Step 2 - Visits for high probability codes*

FP visited most frequently by patient for 7 diagnostic codes and 1 procedure code that together predict a FP visit.

Step 3 - Visits excluding low probability codes*

FP visited most frequently by patient excluding 142 diagnostic codes and 143 procedure codes poorly linked to a FP visit.

Step 4 - Most frequently visited

FP visited most frequently by patient.

Step 5 - Most recent visit

FP most recently visited by patient.