Key Messages

- C-HOBIC introduces a systematic, structured language to patient assessment and documentation, in acute care, complex continuing care, long-term care and home care.

- The C-HOBIC data set consists of the following categories of evidence-based clinical outcomes:
  - Functional status and continence
  - Symptoms (pain, nausea, fatigue, dyspnea)
  - Safety outcomes (falls, pressure ulcers)
  - Therapeutic self-care (readiness for discharge)

- The C-HOBIC data set was designated as a Canadian Approved Standard (CAS) on January 11, 2012.

- Collecting standardized clinical outcomes data for patients as they move across the health-care system will allow for comparative analysis within organizations and industry benchmarking. In addition, it will provide the information necessary to evaluate operational decisions and resource allocation and support continuity across the continuum of care.

- It is important for the nursing profession to collect standardized information if nurses are to demonstrate their contribution to patient outcomes, identify areas for quality improvement, show how clinical practice leads to improved outcomes and provide information to support clinical accountability.

- The C-HOBIC team is in discussions with the Canadian Institute for Health Information regarding the inclusion of the C-HOBIC data set in the Discharge Abstract Database (DAD). For this inclusion to occur, nursing leaders across Canada need to advocate at the local, provincial and national levels. Including the C-HOBIC data set in DAD will provide standardized patient-centred outcomes data to support aggregation and analysis of clinical outcomes, health-system use and performance reporting.

For more information visit the C-HOBIC webpage at http://c-hobic.cna-aiic.ca/about/default_e.aspx