

Respiratory Health Strategic Clinical Network

What is the Respiratory Health Strategic Clinical Network (RHSCN)?

The RHSCN is a province wide network of health professionals, scientists, clinical administrators, patient advisors and other stakeholders who are committed to improving the experience of those suffering from respiratory conditions. They seek to enhance the patient journey and standardize care across the province through innovative, evidence-based care.

Why was the RHSCN created?

The RHSCN was created to facilitate optimal respiratory health through the implementation of innovative, patient-centred, evidence-informed and coordinated services.

Who's involved?

The RHSCN membership includes nearly 40 physicians, front-line health care workers, researchers, patient advisors, clinical leaders and others specialized in addressing respiratory disease. In addition to its Core Committee, the RHSCN has three active working groups in the areas of: Childhood Asthma Pathway, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and the Asthma Working Group.

What work is under way?

- **Standardized Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Order Sets.** This standardized way of admitting COPD patients from Emergency Departments is aimed at decreasing a patient's stay in hospital.
- **Alberta Childhood Asthma Pathways.** The focus of this work is to develop, implement and evaluate asthma clinical pathways. These clinical pathways guide clinicians in assessing and treating pediatric asthma, resulting in better outcomes for patients and their families.
- **Research & Innovation.** The network has received two Alberta Innovates Health Solution grants to create and pilot a COPD Post-Discharge Care Pathway and a Primary Care Pathway for Childhood Asthma.
- **Policy and Practice.** This group is working to create recommendations within respiratory health that will improve patient safety and support health care providers.
- **Sleep Disorders.** Our work group is working closely with several stakeholder groups to improve the delivery of sleep provincially through regulatory revision, a shared vision of best practice and a provincial funding model for sleep testing

How to get involved

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Respiratory Health SCN, please contact us via email: respiratoryhealth.scn@albertahealthservices.ca.

Network Note

COPD is responsible for the highest number of hospitalizations and long lengths of stay in Alberta.