

AHS Strategy for Clinical Health Research, Innovation and Analytics 2015-2020

DELIVERING BETTER CARE TO ALBERTANS, TODAY AND TOMORROW

The ability of our staff, physicians and partners to generate, share and apply evidence is critical to providing patient-focused, quality care. The *AHS Strategy for Clinical Health Research, Innovation and Analytics* is a blueprint to integrate research and innovation in the health care system.

Through clinical research and by testing innovations, our health care teams acquire the expertise to raise the standard of care for the benefit of all patients. Generating the evidence for new and improved services and treatments of tomorrow relies on many types of activities. This strategy fosters excellence in three areas: clinical health research, innovation, and data analysis, often referred to as analytics.

Together, these three capabilities form the foundation of AHS as a learning organization—an organization skilled at helping our people to create, acquire and use knowledge, to raise the standard of care.

The *AHS Strategy for Clinical Health Research, Innovation and Analytics* sets out five strategic priorities and 13 actions directed at achieving the strategic directions in the *AHS Health Plan and Business Plan*. It strengthens our ability to undertake patient-oriented research and innovation with our university partners, as well as to strengthen the ability of Albertans to participate in and benefit from clinical research.

As Alberta's largest provider of care, AHS works with researchers and innovators to ensure they have timely access to health information, patients, specialized facilities, medical tests, training and recruitment opportunities, and guidance on the critical health issues facing Albertans.

This is one of four foundational strategies that will guide our efforts to sustain safe, high-quality health-care delivery.

- The Patient First strategy is designed to strengthen AHS' culture and practices to ensure patients and families are at the centre of all health care activities, decisions and teams.
- Our People Strategy (under development) is about how we support each other. It is about creating a culture in which we all feel safe, healthy, and valued, and can reach our full potential. Through Our People Strategy, workforce engagement will be higher, and patient and family experiences will improve as a result.
- The IM/IT strategy (under development) will allow health information to flow with the patient, so that providers and patients across the province can have access to complete information at the point of care and learn from the data in the future.

Every day, our staff, physicians, volunteers and partners strive to deliver excellent care to Albertans by relying on health research, innovation and analytics to inform the decisions they make. We look forward to the progress we will make, and the outcomes we will achieve, through the *AHS Strategy for Clinical Health Research, Innovation and Analytics*.

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Build Strong Partnerships

1. Use Alberta's SCNs to engage partners to improve patient care and the performance of the health system.
2. With Alberta's universities, strengthen our ability to undertake patient-oriented research and innovation.
3. Strengthen the ability of Albertans to participate in, and benefit from, clinical research, no matter where they live, stage of life or health care needs.
4. Involve patients, health care providers, physicians, researchers and other decision-makers in all aspects of research and innovation - from inception to outcome.

Incent Research and Innovation of Highest Value to Albertans

1. Identify gaps in care where research and innovation will have a significant benefit to patients and the health system.
2. Strengthen AHS' ability to commission health research and innovations from Alberta universities and other partners.

Liberate Health System Data

1. Provide easy, timely, secure and appropriate access to health information.
2. Acquire and link information to extend the ability of health care providers, physicians, researchers and others to improve patient care and the performance of the health system.

Apply and Spread Knowledge

1. Provide effective ways to capture, translate and apply knowledge in all areas of the organization to improve practice and patient outcomes.
2. Adopt an integrated set of tools, practices and technologies that make accessing and using knowledge easier.

Innovate to Achieve Excellence Across all AHS Services

1. Streamline AHS processes for initiating and delivering research and innovation.
2. Accelerate the adoption of research and innovations of value to the health care system, including clinical and corporate service areas.
3. Measure the benefits of research and innovation for ongoing improvement and reinvestment.

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