

# PRIHS: Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System

## FUNDING AWARDS



## A Disease-Inclusive Pathway for Transitions in Care (ADAPT): Alberta Collaborative Pathway for Patients with Complex Chronic Diseases

### PROJECT FAST FACTS

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**LEAD:** Sara Davison

**INSTITUTION:** University of Alberta

**PRIHS AWARD:** \$1.2M

## THE PROBLEM

*Patients who have complex, chronic diseases often have extensive unmet care needs as they transition between hospital and home and regularly return to hospital due to a flare-up or progression of their medical condition.*

## THE SOLUTION

*Establish a common platform to integrate primary care and specialist led transitions in care pathways across Alberta for patients with chronic diseases.*

Many readmissions to hospital can be prevented with appropriate primary care and community supports. Interventions to address care gaps during these transitions in care have tended to be disease-specific (e.g., heart failure, cancer) and have been developed in hospitals by specialists; they are not necessarily optimized for family doctors who may not have the tools and resources to support the shared care needed by these patients. Opportunities exist to improve transitions in care, with timely primary care follow-up, appropriate medication lists, and shared care planning that reflects patient and family preferences.

This project proposes to establish a common platform to integrate primary care and specialist led transitions in care pathways in order to scale and spread the current disease-specific pathways work across Alberta for patients with chronic medical diseases. A Disease-Inclusive Pathway for Transitions in Care (ADAPT) aims to strengthen the hospital admission and discharge planning processes and follow-up to primary care for patients with the following chronic conditions: heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cirrhosis, end-stage kidney disease and/or stage 3-4 cancers. This project will assess whether such a pathway adapted to local settings is an efficient and cost-effective intervention within the Alberta healthcare system.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Creating A Disease-Inclusive Pathway for Transitions in Care (ADAPT)
- Strengthen the hospital admission and discharge planning processes and follow-up to primary care for patients with chronic conditions.
- Assess efficiency and cost-effectiveness within the Alberta healthcare system.

## ABOUT PRIHS

*The PRIHS program is designed to align the knowledge production efforts of researchers with the evidence needs of the health system. This is achieved by providing opportunities for researchers to propose solutions to priority health system challenges and access support from SCNs and other expertise within AHS to administer implementation studies. These implementation studies will help AHS identify and advance solutions that improve health care quality, health outcomes and value for Albertans.*

## VALUE & TERM

Combined pool of funds available: \$7 million. Individual award's period of support: up to three years.

## FOCUS AREAS

PRIHS V provides a streamlined process for connecting Alberta's academic institutions with Strategic Clinical Networks™ (SCNs), patients, providers and leaders in AHS to:

- Translate research evidence into testable solutions that address priority health system challenges in Alberta as articulated by the SCNs; and
- Generate the evidence needed to identify and accelerate the spread and/or scale of solutions that foster more efficient and/or effective use of health care resources.

Learn how

[albertainnovates.ca](http://albertainnovates.ca)