ALBERTA **INNOVATES**

Alberta Health Services

Launching Soon….

Alberta's Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System (PRIHS)

A Digital Health Edition

Overview

Alberta Innovates and Alberta Health Services are the largest innovation agency and the largest health services delivery provider, respectively, in all of Canada! Together, we are excited to offer leaders in our health system the opportunity to leverage digital and data-enabled technologies to deliver innovative models of care for patients in Alberta.

The Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System (PRIHS) 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 the implementation of promising solutions to priority health system challenges in collaboration with Strategic Clinical Networks (SCNs). These academic-clinical collaborations will help AHS identify and advance solutions that improve healthcare quality, health outcomes and overall value for Albertans in acute, primary/ambulatory, and/or community-based settings.

What is Digital Health?

Digital transformation of health care can be disruptive. However, digital and data-enabled technologies applied across the care continuum have proven potential to enhance health outcomes by delivering care more ubiquitously, when, where, and how patients want it.

For PRIHS, we are defining digital health as the application of technologies to support the delivery of innovative care models that **empower patients, families, and their healthcare teams to improve quality of care.** Technologies include virtual and augmented reality, mobile-health applications, big data analytics, connected devices, sensors, wearables, 3D printing, and computer simulation and modelling.

Digital Health enables the health system to:

- Collect, sense, measure, connect, and distribute valuable information effectively and efficiently.
- Create, amalgamate, analyze, and apply highly complex information to improve decision-making.
- Complement and increase the value of existing e-health implemented solutions.

What is an Innovative Model of Care?

Innovation is the process of introducing new ideas, devices, or methods.[1] There are three integral pieces to innovation; i) a novelty, ii) an application component, and iii) an intended benefit.[2] Care models are comprised of multiple components (***people, processes, technology, methods, locations, information***), that when working synergistically, deliver *optimal value* for patients and stakeholders with which they serve.[3] Digital health transformation will disrupt existing care models and their implementation will have a cascading effect on these other components. Innovative models of care will require clinicians to simultaneously address all (if not the majority) of these components if true breakthrough system changes can be realized, beyond what technology can do on its own.

Have an Idea for PRIHS? What should you do?

Every idea is a good idea! But is this PRIHS call the right mechanism to move that idea forward? If you can answer yes to these four questions, then we encourage you to reach out to a Strategic Clinical Network to explore your idea further.

Question #1: Does your idea involve implementing an innovative care model?

Question #2: Does your idea leverage a digital health innovation?

Question #3: Does your idea align with a priority as identified in one of the SCN Translational Roadmaps?

Question #4: Does your idea already have evidence for clinical effectiveness from an Alberta pilot (preferred) or another similar jurisdiction?

Need more Information?

Please see the detailed Program Guide.

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[1] Merriam-Webster. Simple Definition of INNOVATION. 2016. Available at: http://www.merriam-webster.com/ dictionary/innovation. Last accessed: 13 October 2021.
[2] Länsisalmi H et al. Innovation in healthcare: a systematic review of recent research. Nurs Sci Q. 2006;19(1):66-72.
[3] Adapted from Toussaint, T. https://createvalue.org/blog/key-breakthrough-results-innovation-address-whole-care-model/. Last accessed: 14 October 2021.