

PRIHS: Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System

FUNDING AWARD



ENCOMPASS: ENhancing COMMunity health through Patient navigation, Advocacy and Social Support

PROJECT FAST FACTS

LEAD: Dr. Kerry McBrien

INSTITUTION: University of Calgary

PRIHS AWARD: \$1.5M



There is an increasing number of patients presenting with multiple chronic conditions in primary care.



GOAL:

Examine the impact of a community health navigation program on health outcomes for patients with multiple chronic conditions.

In Canada, patients presenting with multiple chronic conditions are becoming the norm in primary care. While safe and effective treatments for chronic diseases are available, patients often have difficulty accessing health services due to barriers. These barriers include lack of awareness of publicly-funded programs (including community-based resources), financial constraints, competing priorities (e.g., family and work), personal circumstances, language and culture.

To help people with complex health conditions optimize their care and outcomes, health navigation programs are being implemented across Canada. The ENCOMPASS study will examine the impact of a community health navigation program on health outcomes for patients with multiple chronic conditions. Patients will be linked with a Community Health Navigator who will help them navigate the health system, facilitate communication and understanding with their health care providers, connect them with community resources and support patient self-management.

In partnership with Alberta Primary Care Networks, ENCOMPASS will implement and evaluate the intervention across different settings and patient populations. This program has great potential to improve care for patients with chronic diseases in Alberta's primary care system.



ABOUT PRIHS



WHAT IS PRIHS?

The Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System (PRIHS) is a partnership between Alberta Innovates and Alberta Health Services focused on supporting health research and innovation projects that will adopt and implement evidence to maintain or improve quality of patient care and services while substantially reducing costs in the healthcare system.

This partnered funding opportunity targets the implementation of high quality, evidence informed solutions to “Enhancing Care in the Community” to address performance gaps (“Focus Areas”) in the healthcare system that prevent optimal patient care, resource use, delivery and access to affordable and sustainable health services.



VALUE & TERM

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



FOCUS AREAS

- Solutions that help Albertans optimally manage their health conditions, maintain their independence and live well in their communities.
- Solutions that help Albertans avoid unnecessary Acute Care visits and admissions.

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