

NEW BRUNSWICK
HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

NBHRF: PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES

2019 TO 2023

MAPPING NEW BRUNSWICK'S
HEALTH RESEARCH FUTURE



2018 / 19

2022 / 23

New Brunswick
Health Research
Foundation



Fondation de la
recherche en santé
du Nouveau-Brunswick



MANDATE:

To co-ordinate, support and promote health research in New Brunswick.

VISION:

A healthy population, a high performing health system and a vibrant knowledge economy through health research and innovation.

MISSION:

To promote, coordinate and support all aspects of the health research enterprise and related innovation activities in New Brunswick.

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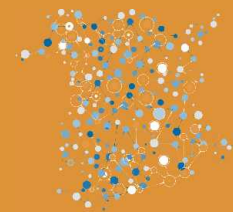
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THE FOUNDATION

The New Brunswick Health Research Foundation (NBHRF) was created in 2008. Over the past five years, inspired by our vision, NBHRF and our partners have generated a total investment of \$46.5 million in the knowledge economy, leveraging the \$13.8 million that came from taxpayers over the same period.

By working collaboratively with provincial, federal and national partners to support New Brunswick health researchers, clinicians, health research trainees and institutions, NBHRF facilitates the development of new therapies, the recruitment of patients in clinical trials, and the delivery of healthcare by mobilizing and translating evidence-based research which improves systems and services. These all improve the quality of life of the New Brunswick population.

This document embraces opportunities to enhance health research, to provide leadership by supporting and expanding health research capacity in people and infrastructure in the province, and to advance the knowledge economy.

This will lead us through the next five years by focusing on three inter-dependent priorities.

1. Align health research funding with the population health needs of the Province
2. Invest in high-calibre strategic health research and further build capacity in people and infrastructure
3. Increase support for clinical health research



PRIORITY ONE

ALIGN HEALTH RESEARCH FUNDING WITH THE POPULATION HEALTH NEEDS OF THE PROVINCE



CONTEXT

- NBHRF is closely aligned with the current population health priorities of the province.
- The New Brunswick Centre for Precision Medicine will bring academic and clinical researchers together to investigate, develop and utilize personalized medicine for improved treatment of cancer, cardiac, chronic and rare neuro-degenerative diseases.
- The presence in the province of one of NATO's largest military bases provides unique research opportunities.
- The enormous cost of treating chronic illnesses is driving the demand for more applied research in preventative and rehabilitative care. The University of New Brunswick's Faculty of Kinesiology is poised to be a part of the solution. The new Kinesiology Building will create a nationally significant research cluster focused on health, wellness, physical fitness and health promotion that will establish New Brunswick as a leader in preventative health care.

INITIATIVES

- Help make New Brunswick a global leader in personalized medicine for better treatment of cancer, cardiac, chronic and rare neuro-degenerative diseases.
- Attract partners to provide additional funding for our researchers to facilitate higher quality, more sophisticated research and ensure knowledge mobilization and translation.
- Work with partners to provide incentive for the recruitment of, and support training for, the next generation of health researchers, clinicians and trainees in New Brunswick.
- Complement the population health needs by promoting and funding research on keeping people living well and out of hospitals, healthy aging, mental health, early diagnostics and assessment of cognitive decline.
- Increase the scale and scope of public-public and public-private investments, partnerships and collaborations.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Year-over-year stable and sustainable increases in total funding from the Government of New Brunswick (GNB) that will attract and leverage additional funding from partners, further building capacity. This in itself will enable academic and clinician health researchers to attract more funds, from outside the Province, without the Foundation's direct intervention.
- Increase in independently-reviewed funding to foster excellence in health research in New Brunswick.
- Additional patient-oriented research that aligns the work of New Brunswick Health Research Centres, Institutes and Networks; post-secondary institutions and Regional Health Authorities.
- Generate real-world data and evidence that will guide the listing of novel and effective therapeutics, reduce wait-times and improve the healthcare system and services.
- Fund research to develop evidence-based solutions for the recommendations from the New Brunswick Council on Aging for better senior's health and healthy aging in the community.

PRIORITY TWO

INVEST IN HIGH-CALIBRE STRATEGIC HEALTH RESEARCH AND FURTHER BUILD CAPACITY IN PEOPLE AND INFRASTRUCTURE



CONTEXT

- The New Brunswick Health Research Enterprise employs highly qualified personnel.
- There is support for the renewal of Strategies for Patient- Oriented Research partnerships for another five-year cycle.
- Collaboration among clinician researchers and academic health researchers has increased.
- New Brunswick researchers are collaborating and engaging on nationally-funded major initiatives and continue their engagement with current research partners.
- There is support increased number and value of undergraduate, master and PhD studentships; Postdoctoral Fellowships; bridge grants; and establishment grants for health researchers new to the Province.

INITIATIVES

- Help fund and recruit five new research chairs in health-related areas and help provide release time for the best clinical and academic health researchers.
- Complement population health needs by promoting and funding research on keeping people living well and out of hospitals, healthy aging, mental health, early diagnostics and assessment of cognitive decline.
- Work with partners to provide incentive for the recruitment of, and support training for, the next generation of health researchers, clinicians and trainees in New Brunswick.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Increase in the numbers of undergraduate and graduate research students, retained graduate research students, and new national and foreign postdoctoral fellows in health-related fields, year-over-year.
- Increase in the numbers of funded academic faculty members and clinical researchers.
- Increase in the numbers of clinical trial coordinators, managers, research nurses, biostatisticians and regulatory affairs specialists.
- Increase in funding from existing and newly-identified sources.

PRIORITY THREE

INCREASE SUPPORT FOR CLINICAL HEALTH RESEARCH



CONTEXT

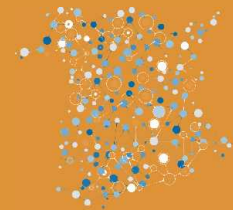
- Regional Health Authorities' Research Services coordinate investigator-driven and industry-sponsored clinical trials and the recruitment of patients with various pathological conditions for the development of new treatments and evaluation of new medications.
- There is support for an increased number and value of Clinical Scholarships.
- A CIHR-SPOR-innovative clinical trial Chair is currently in action in New Brunswick, co-sponsored by NBHRF.

INITIATIVES

- Promote the construction of a new "Health and Social Innovation Research Institute or Center" embedding a Clinical Trial Center in Saint John.
- Support the development and implementation of joint Learning Health Networks (LEARNHNs) to complement Regional Health Authorities' efforts to improve the delivery of healthcare services and ensure sustainability of the health care system.
- Help facilitate the implementation of a centralized ethics review board approval and research administration system.
- Co-Fund Clinical Research Scholars in health areas that align with the population health needs of the Province.
- Increase the scale and scope of public-public and public-private investments, partnerships and collaborations.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Increase in the number of clinical trials being conducted in the Province, creating highly qualified jobs, validation of new concepts, products, practices and services in the healthcare system, generating broader economic value and providing access to new drugs, treatments and medical devices for New Brunswick patients.
- New Brunswick, as a Living Lab, becoming a demonstration site for pilot research projects to validate new policies, programs and services.
- Through LEARNHNs, implementation of evidence-based best practices or novel approaches to treatments that save lives or improve a patient's quality of care. The identification of gaps in care as well as practice variations (among physicians, hospitals and regions) will lead to improvements; high costs and high volume will be examined; the reduction of barriers to implement more rapid improvements and uptake of best practices that will deliver better health, better care and better value.
- Increase in the access to complimentary drugs for patients participating in clinical trials.
- Increase in funding from existing and newly-identified sources.



THE FUTURE

NBHRF is poised and ready to foster change and will continue to leverage and efficiently manage funding to fuel the provincial knowledge economy.

These principles and priorities will help us reach our primary goal to improve the health and well-being of New Brunswickers through the translation and mobilization of new knowledge and innovative solutions generated from health research.

It will generate investment in the knowledge economy of the Province and it will guide our efforts as we work to support a healthier population.

We look forward to continue building relationships as we welcome additional partnerships in this exciting movement.

