Strategic Clinical Networks (SCNs) are supporting frontline clinical teams to create improvements within focused areas of health care.

The Head and Neck Cancer Clinical Pathway is a key initiative to bring clinical teams together across the province to learn from each other. It is led by Zone-based surgical programs, with support from the Cancer, Critical Care and Surgery SCNs.

This initiative has led to better post-surgical care for over 200 head and neck cancer patients per year in Alberta. It has also generated substantial capacity at the University of Alberta Hospital (UAH) and the Foothills Medical Centre (FMC) without new resources.

1. Data from the UAH is shown that was sourced from AHS eCritical - TRACER Database for pre- and post-implementation patient cohorts. Bed day savings per year were based on current patient volumes of 150 per year at the UAH.
2. Cost estimates are based on AHS fiscal year 2012/2013 budget for costs per elapsed day in ICU at the UAH with ($4950) or without therapies and support services ($2000), with 5% inflation per year up to 2015/2016 fiscal year.