



## Cancer Strategic Clinical Network

### Town Hall Meeting

**Dr. Joseph Dort (Senior Medical Director)**  
**Barbara Sonnenberg (Senior Provincial Director)**  
**Dr. Greg Cairncross (Scientific Director)**

Tom Baker Cancer Centre Auditorium  
Cross Cancer Institute Auditorium

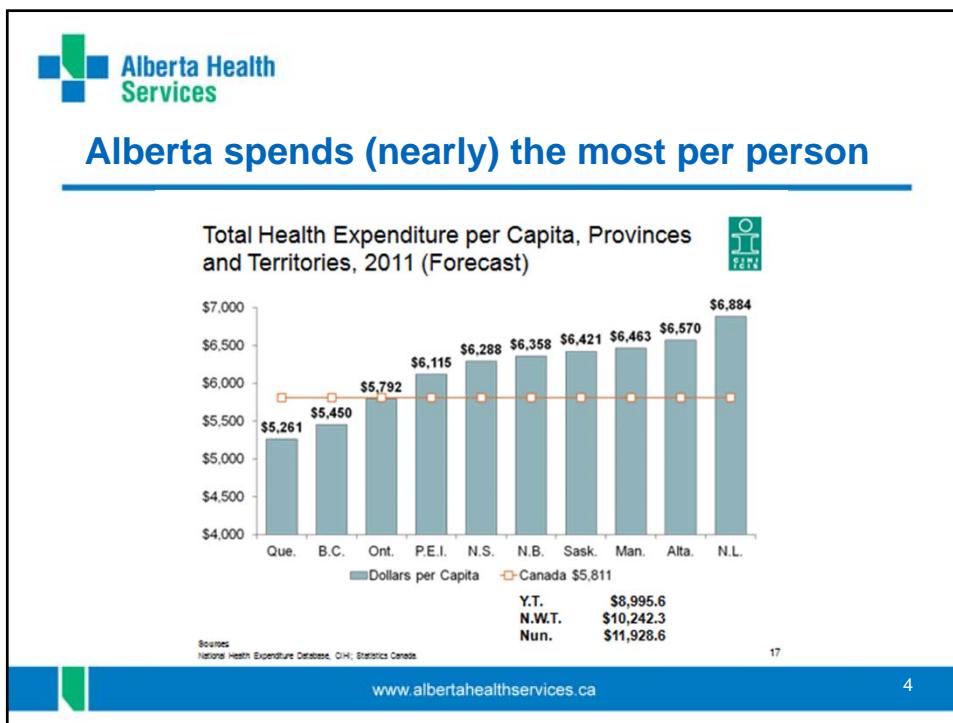
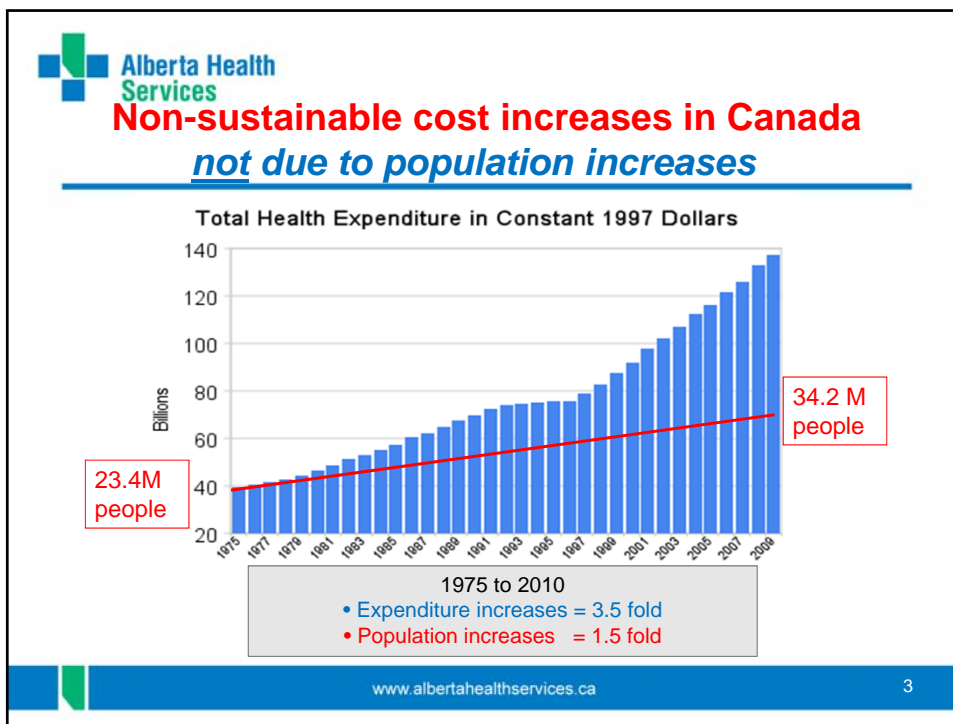
June 3<sup>rd</sup> 12:00 PM-13:00 PM



### Outline

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- Team Introductions
- What are the SCNs?
- Priority Projects and Recent Successes
- Research Initiatives and Future Plans
- Questions and Comments

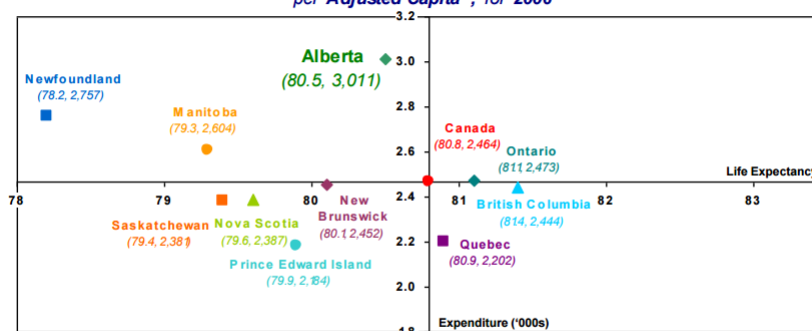




## ...and gets mediocre results

**Middle of the pack in Canada - at best**

Total Life Expectancy<sup>1</sup> vs. Constant (2002)<sup>2</sup> Provincial Health Expenditure<sup>3</sup> per Adjusted Capita<sup>4</sup>, for 2006



<sup>1</sup> Source: Statistics Canada, Table 102-0511 - Life expectancy, abridged life table, at birth, Canada, provinces and territories, annual (years), CANSIM.  
<sup>2</sup> Adjusted for inflation using Alberta-specific CPI for Alberta and Canadian CPI applied across remaining provinces. Statistics Canada, CANSIM, table 326-0021.  
<sup>3</sup> Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information, National Health Expenditure Trends, 1975 - 2008 (Ottawa, Ont.: CIHI, 2008).  
<sup>4</sup> Adjusted for Age and Gender differences in expenditure using the Indirect Method and weighting by All-Sector Expenditure in Alberta (2007/2008 Population-Based Funding Weights). Alberta's weights were applied across all provinces.



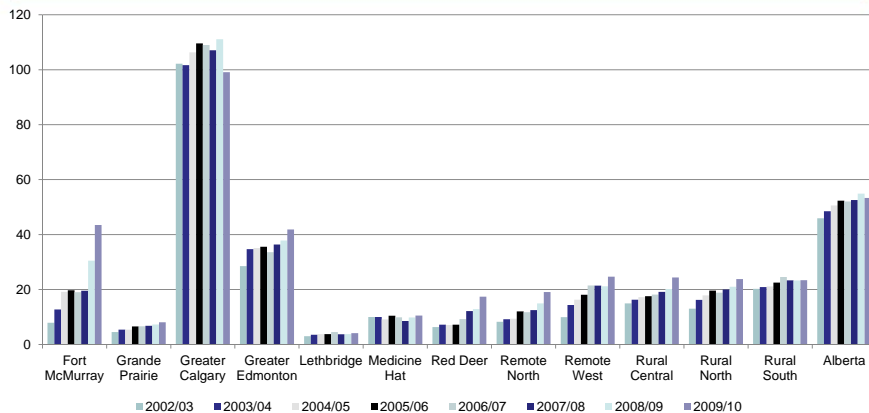
## Value for Money

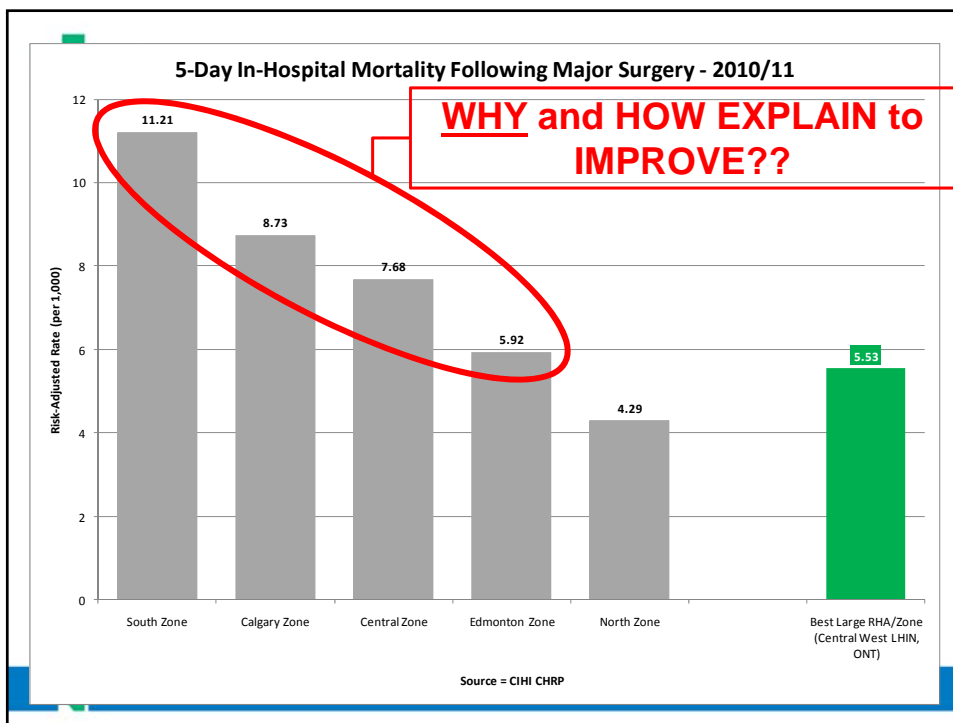
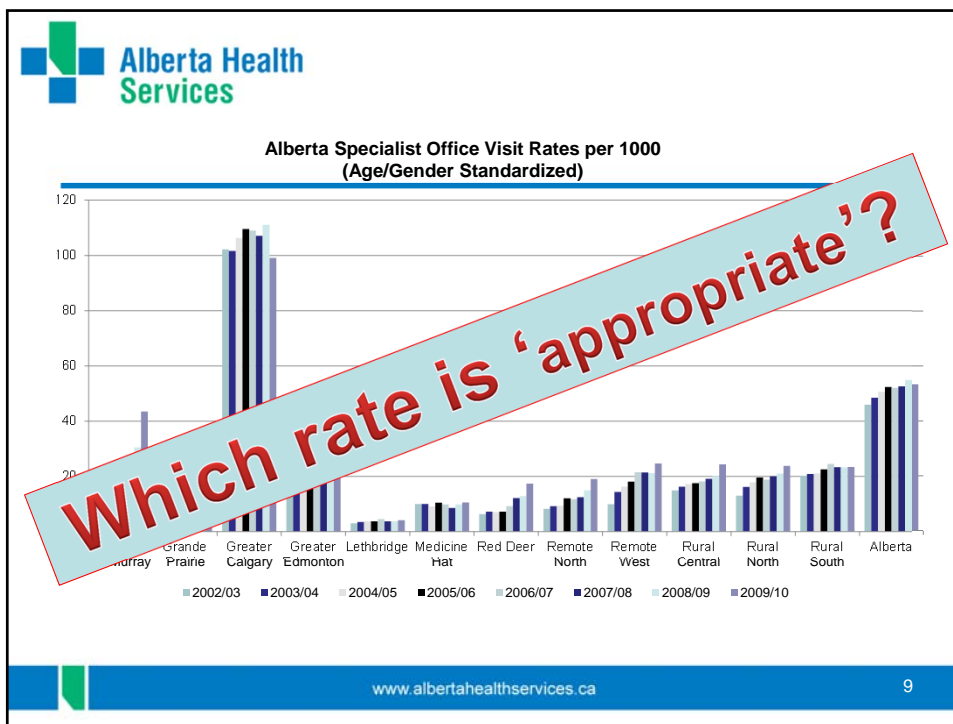
$$\text{Value} = \text{Outcome} / \$$$

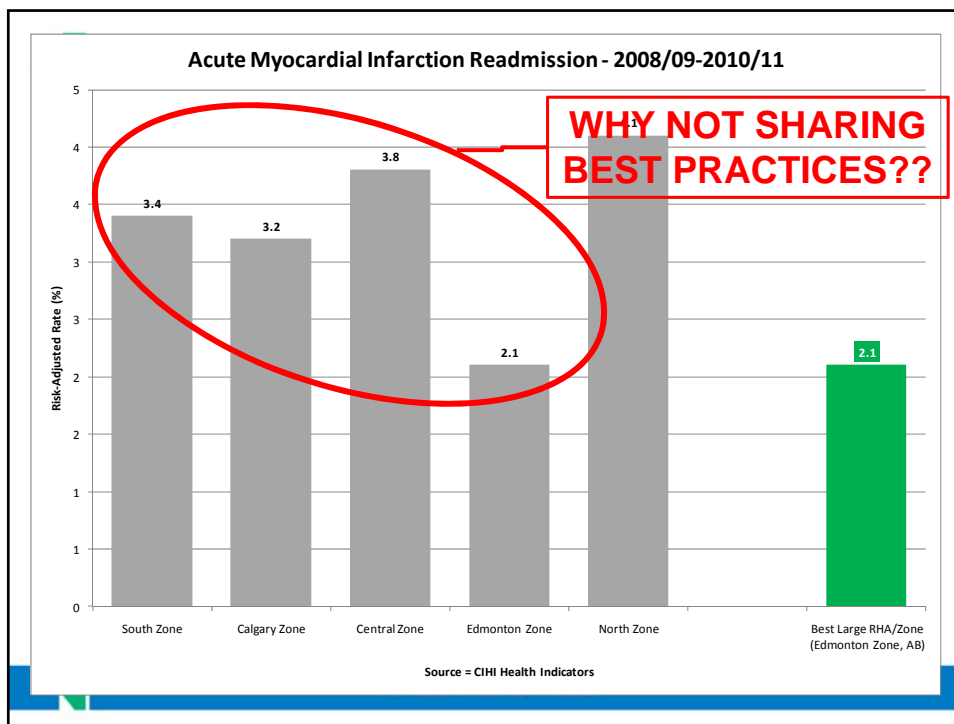
## IN FACT - HUGE VARIANCES ACROSS OUR PROVINCE

**VARIABLE USE OF RESOURCES + QUALITY OUTCOMES**

**Alberta Specialist Office Visit Rates per 1000  
(Age/Gender Standardized)**







## Cy Frank



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## WHAT ARE THE STRATEGIC CLINICAL NETWORKS?

### The Goal

***Alberta to have a sustainable health system that creates the healthiest population and best health outcomes in Canada***



 **Alberta Health Services**

**ALL of Albertans to be impacted positively by SCN priorities and plans – with evidence**



**Safer... Healthier... People...**

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**NOTE: SCNs are NOT just AHS alone!!**

 **.....intended to include many other groups: Patients, public, industry, etc**



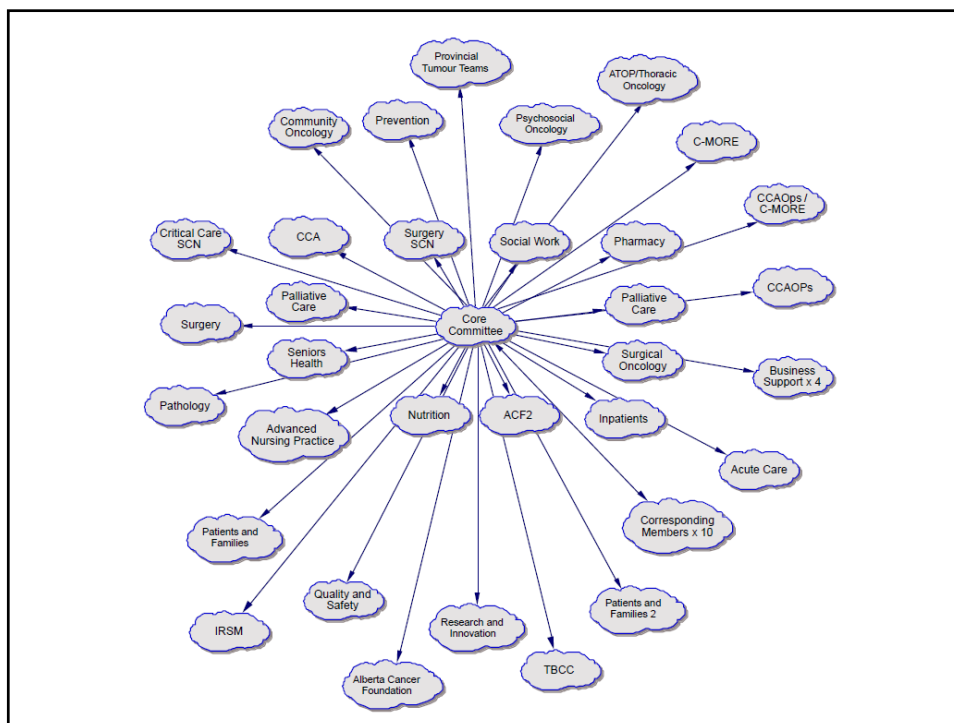
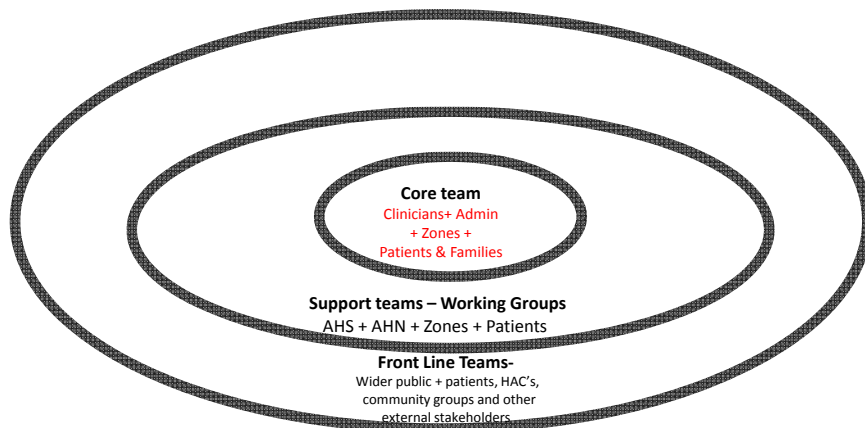
## Strategic Clinical Networks

- Diabetes, Obesity and Nutrition
  - Seniors Health
  - Bone & Joint Health
  - Cardiovascular and Stroke
  - Cancer
  - Addiction & Mental Health
  - Emergency
  - Critical Care
  - Surgery
  - Respiratory
  - Maternal, Child, Newborn & Youth Health
- Primary Care & Chronic Disease
  - Kidney

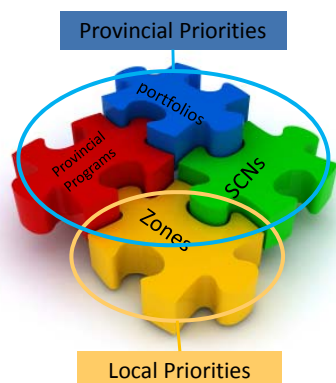
## SCNs Use a Common Quality Definition and measure one or more of six dimensions to improve



SCNs designed to lead with cores = “orchestra leaders”  
*to engage every Albertan as a network member*

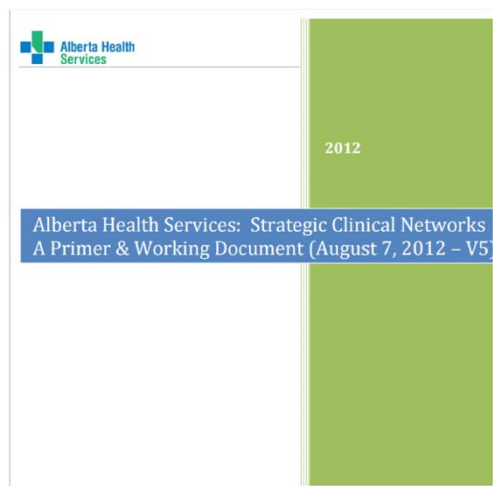


## SCNs must build Zone Collaborations



- Establish Common goals
  - Best Health for Patients
  - Best Health care for Patients
  - High Performing System
- Establish Common Priorities
  - Improve Quality + Value for Money - Together
  - Reinvest the Waste - Together
  - Achieve Common Goals

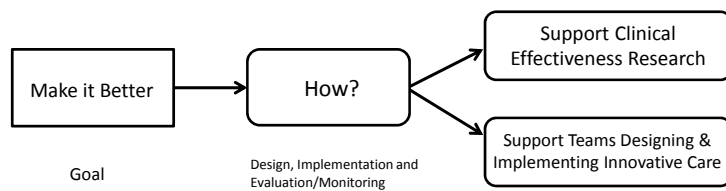
## SCN Primer



<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/Strategic%20Clinical%20Networks/ahs-scn-primer.pdf>

So, what do we do?

### Our Core Business



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## RESEARCH: CONTEXT, PROGRESS, CURRENT ACTIVITIES & FUTURE PLANS

### Context

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How can the Cancer SCN add value to the rich cancer research landscape in Alberta?

- University of Alberta - CRINA
- University of Calgary - SACRI
- CancerControl Alberta
- Strategic Clinical Network – health services research



## Context

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What do we mean by **health services research**?

- **quality of cancer care** delivery
- **patient-centered** research
- **implementation** research
- **value for money**
- delivery of **best practice**
- **transitions of care** research
- **dissemination of knowledge**
- **appropriateness of care** – Choosing Wisely



## Progress Since May 2014

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- Collaborated on Grant Submissions (4)
- Supported Published Research (3)
- Clinician/Researcher Engagement (81)
- Seed Grant Competition (8 awards; \$70K)

## Progress: SCN Seed Grant Competition

Principal Investigator	Project Title	Amount
Vickie Baracos	Characterizing cancer-associated malnutrition in early stage colorectal cancer patients undergoing surgery.	\$10,000
Janine Giese-Davis	Long-Term Follow-Up of Adult Survivors of Childhood Cancer: Bridging the Gap Between Oncology Care and Primary Care	\$10,000
Judith Hugh	Decisions Tools for Chemotherapy in Estrogen Receptor Positive Breast Cancer Patients	\$10,000
Todd McMullen	OR Science Point of Care Diagnostics	\$10,000
Ivo Olivotto	Risk and severity of Radiation Induced Brachial Plexopathy with hypofractionated or conventional radiation therapy for node-positive breast cancer.	\$10,000
Edith Pituskin	NOVEL 2 (Oncology): Nurse practitioner care in Alberta: Evaluation of quaLity, Value and Outcomes	\$10,000
Jana Reiger	Maxilla Reconstruction: The Impact of Surgical Planning and Reconstruction Guides on Speech and Swallowing Outcomes in Head and Neck Cancer	\$5,000
Gordon Wilkes	Custom external breast prostheses for patients with partial or full mastectomies using a digital pathway: a pilot study	\$5,000

## Current: Supporting Health Services Research

- Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) Guidelines:
  - Breast reconstruction - 80% complete (*Temple-Oberle C, et. al.*)
  - Head and neck surgery - 20% complete (*Dort J, Harris J, et. al.*)
- Preparatory (QI) work for a potential future bladder cancer pathway proposal (*Ruether D, et. al.*)
- Pilot study to describe models of active treatment delivery in early breast cancer (*Pituskin E, Rawson K, et. al.*)
- Health economic evaluation of the rectal cancer pathway

## Future: Supports for You!

- Champions: Cancer SCN Leadership
- Infrastructure:
  - Assistant Scientific Director
  - Senior Researcher (**new**)
  - Access to AHS Research Resources (e.g., biostatistics, costing)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Cancer SCN Seed Funding Opportunity (\$70K)
- Access to SPOR Platforms – evolving



## PRIHS III (Partnership, Research/Innovation, Health System)

- Announcement expected: 3rd week of June 2015
- Focus: ‘appropriateness and efficiencies’
  - transitions in care
  - complex high needs
  - unnecessary diagnostic tests (lab or imaging)
  - unnecessary or futile treatments
  - innovative models of care
- Must involve at least two SCNs
- LOIs due mid-September 2015; Funding starts 2016



## Future Plans and Aspirations

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- Find and create new funding opportunities (for projects and people)
- Develop cancer health services research (with the Universities)
- Strive for impactful and pragmatic research (ideas from patients and clinicians)

## QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS?

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## CONTACT US

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- If you have a great idea to share, or wish to discuss opportunities for collaboration, please contact us:
  - Angela Estey – Executive Director  
[angela.estey@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:angela.estey@albertahealthservices.ca)
  - Melissa Shea-Budgell – Assistant Scientific Director  
[melissa.shea-budgell@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:melissa.shea-budgell@albertahealthservices.ca)
  - Visit our website at:  
<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/7677.asp>