



### Accelerating the Diagnosis of Cancer:

This emerging initiative aims to design and implement a provincial cancer diagnosis program to expedite diagnosis and provide navigation, psychosocial and educational support. Work on this initiative has been paused due to the organizational focus on COVID-19. Prior to the pause in work and redeployment of resources, the following activities were accomplished:

- Practice Leads North and Senior Analyst have been recruited to support pathway implementation and evaluation, measurement and reporting
- Lymphoma Diagnosis Pathway
  - Developed standardized CT and ultrasound reporting statement for findings that meet highly suspicious criteria
  - Developed a biopsy patient education sheet
  - Identified implementation teams North and South
  - Developed practice support tool for lymphoma RN triage role in the pathway
- Colorectal Cancer Diagnosis Pathway
  - Achieved consensus to develop pathways for high risk rectal bleeding and iron deficiency
  - Completed literature review on symptom presentations and associated risk of colorectal cancer and risk of hospitalization before diagnosis
  - Conducted interviews with specialists and primary care providers on perspectives on challenges and opportunities for colorectal cancer diagnosis
  - Obtained ethics approval to initiate interviews with patients diagnosed during hospital admissions on challenges and opportunities for colorectal cancer diagnosis

### CSCN Research:

The CSCN research team supports priority initiatives of the CSCN as required. It also continues to engage with multiple stakeholders to identify and nurture research-practice partnerships, which will create and apply knowledge that improves cancer outcomes.

- Two cancer related applications were advanced for the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System PRIHS 6 (2020/2021) funding competition. The submission date for the next stage of the funding competition is postponed to Fall 2020.
- CSCN is defining quality indicators to measure progress and success related to the three strategic directions defined in our new TRM 2020-2024. Literature reviews, consultations with experts and facilitated discussions with key stakeholders including our Core Committee are continuing.
- A practicum student from the University of Alberta, Xin Grevers, completed a rapid review that describes trends in cancer incidence and survivorship, potential impacts to the healthcare system, and plans proposed by healthcare organizations across Canada to mitigate these impacts. The report will inform future CSCN discussions of future priorities.
- Related to the COVID-19 pandemic, CSCN assisted the Critical Care SCN with research to support the development of recommendations for wear time of N95 respirators and strategies to conserve personal protective equipment supplies.