Accessing DISER Summary

An overview for planning and accessing Diabetes Infrastructure for Surveillance, Evaluation and Research (DISER).

1. Plan Out Your Project

Planning is essential to the success of any project. Consider preparing a project outline with the population of interest, analytic methods, and a knowledge translation plan. During your drafting process, consider the resources needed and how patient partners can enhance your project.

2. Quality Improvement Project or Research Project?

Quality Improvement in the Health Information Act of Alberta 27 (1)(g) is a privilege for data collection and use **only** within the Custodian's organization as *"examining existing services and patient outcomes to determine how services can be improved for the future"*.

- The Alberta Innovates ARECCI tool can be used to assist in determining if the project is primarily for quality improvement (QI) or research.
- The Principal Investigator leading a QI project can request an RMT ticket with AHS Data & Analytics (DnA; *formerly DIMR*) for assistance with project design & feasibility. A privacy compliance review may also be performed by DnA.

Research as defined in the Health Information Act of Alberta 1(1)(v) is *"academic, applied or scientific research that necessitates the use of individually identifying health information"*.

- For any research project, researchers are encouraged to submit a request for services (e.g. feasibility & design, execution, analysis, etc.) with the Alberta SPOR SUPPORT Unit.
- For all research projects, ethics approval must be granted by one of Alberta's Health Research Ethics Boards (HREB).
- Once HREB approval has been granted, AHS' Health System Access Team (research.administration@ahs.ca) will facilitate a data disclosure agreement for external data release, or a Staff Disclosure Notice for internal data release.

3. Data Extraction

An analyst will facilitate any required approvals from data owners (i.e. Alberta Health), extract the required data from DISER (and possibly other AHS sources) and securely transmit it to the QI or research team.

Alberta Health Services
Diabetes, Obesity & Nutrition Strategic Clinical Network™