

NICU Standing Committee

This committee is supported by working groups and a network of members across Alberta. It is co-chaired by:

- Dr. Alixe Howlett – Section Head, Neonatology, Calgary Zone
- Dr. Amber Reichert – Zone Section Chief (Interim), Newborn Health, Edmonton Zone
- Bryan Peffers – Executive Director, Women’s Health, NICU, Anesthesiology & Respiratory, Foothills Medical Centre, Calgary
- Sarah Bieganek – Executive Director of Critical Care and Respiratory Therapy, Stollery Children’s Hospital, Edmonton

Purpose:

The Standing Committees of the Maternal Newborn Child and Youth (MNCY) Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) advance the mandate of the MNCY SCN by identifying and guiding the focus and priorities for clinical and other stakeholders to address maternal, newborn, child and youth health issues. The work of these committees will guide the building of maternal and child capacity and capability across the Alberta health care system. The focus specifically is:

- patient outcomes, using evidence & measurement (effectiveness)
- patient satisfaction & experience (accessibility and acceptability)
- clinical practices, including appropriateness of care (effectiveness & appropriateness)
- efficiency and reduction in unjustifiable clinical practice variation (efficiency & effectiveness)
- patient & system safety (safety)
- value for money (efficiency, effectiveness, appropriateness)
- prevention of disease and proactively lessen specific burdens of illness in Alberta



Responsibilities:

The NICU Standing Committee of the MNCY SCN shall:

- Provide expert opinion and perspective in your area of specialty (Midwifery, Neonatology, Pediatrics, Operations, Allied Health, Patient/family perspective)
- Define committee specific performance measures and recommend organizational performance and tactical measures
- Address issues related to neonatal intensive care
- Identify and address gaps between current practice and best practice
- Utilize appropriate data to set priorities to identify and prioritize population and geographic variation, equity and disparity in the delivery of care, promotion of health and prevention of disease
- Develop recommendations and evaluate quality, safety and access improvement strategies or initiatives based on identified priorities
- Create standard provincial evidenced-based approaches to care
- Support research activities
- Support related accreditation activities province wide and provide expert guidance to related services
- Communicate and champion committee activities to appropriate clinician stakeholder groups
- Lead relevant knowledge translation approaches (KT) and develop mechanisms to share learnings across the organization.
- Following critical review of evidence and stakeholder feedback, endorse guidelines, pathways and strategies that support improved newborn outcomes for provincial application.