

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE INTEGRATION NETWORK

The Primary Health Care Integration Network (PHCIN) is focused on improving transitions of care between primary healthcare providers and acute care, emergency departments, specialized services and other community services. This will support Albertans to get the care and social supports they need in the communities where they live.

Primary Health Care Integration Network

The PHCIN is a customized Strategic Clinical Network™ (SCN) that was established to improve health outcomes and patient/provider experiences, while addressing challenges in Alberta to reduce spending in healthcare.

Placed within the AHS Provincial Primary Health Care Program, the PHCIN works closely with several key partners, including patient/family advisors, AHS zones and provincial programs, Primary Care Networks (PCNs), the Primary Care Alliance, other SCNs, Alberta Health and academic partners to improve transitions of care at every level.

The PHCIN will facilitate new and innovative ways of delivering care throughout the province by connecting academic research, clinical evidence and innovation with front-line providers to adopt local best practices and coordinate services. We will work with partners to find solutions for common challenges in the system, such as long wait times and lack of access to specialists or other services. All integration initiatives will align with emerging provincial and zone primary healthcare priorities to help enhance success in achieving coordination across the health system.

By working collaboratively, we will create an environment where Albertans feel supported as they navigate the healthcare system. At the same time, healthcare providers will be better equipped to address the complex needs of their patients.

A focus on community-based primary care services and system integration will create the opportunity to fully realize a patient centred medical home within a health neighbourhood where community and social supports are readily accessible.

● Our core functions

- Actively broker connections
- Champion innovative solutions to enhance care coordination and improve transitions
- Advance integration initiatives
- Participate in PCN Evolution and other planning activities
- Coordinate the reporting of progress and impact

● Examples of our work

- Discharge planning for patients with complex needs
- Specialty access (GI, general surgery, orthopedics)
- Community supports (dementia care)
- Technologies to enable transitions in care
- Physician portal and supports

As the PHCIN expands, there will be opportunities to address other additional and emerging PHC integration priorities.

If you would like more information, please contact us at PHC.IntegrationNetwork@ahs.ca or visit www.ahs.ca/phcin.

