

ABOUT THE NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR CENTRE FOR APPLIED HEALTH RESEARCH

The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research (NLCAHR) was established in September 1999 with core funding from the province's Department of Health and Community Services, Memorial University of Newfoundland and the Health Care Corporation of St. John's.

The Centre is located administratively within Memorial University and has a mandate that covers all faculties and schools of the university, as well as researchers employed in health and community services institutions in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

NLCAHR's mission is to contribute to the effectiveness of the health and community services system of Newfoundland and Labrador and to the physical, social, and psychological health and wellbeing of the province's population by supporting the development and the use of applied health research in this province.

NLCAHR works to:

- increase the capacity of researchers in Newfoundland and Labrador to carry out high-quality research on health matters with a relevance to public policy and clinical decision-making
- increase the amount of high-quality applied health research undertaken on issues identified by the Centre's major partners and stakeholders as having high priority to the province's health system and to the health and wellbeing of its population; and
- foster more effective use of research evidence in the province's health and community services system.

The research supported by the Centre is broad in scope and includes research in the areas of: health services delivery and evaluation; health economics and policy; healthcare utilization and systems; community and population health; health-related social sciences; and applied clinical research focusing on the process of delivering care.

WHAT WE MEAN BY 'APPLIED HEALTH RESEARCH'

Applied health research involves work in a wide range of disciplines and can be multi-disciplinary and collaborative. It can employ quantitative, qualitative or mixed methodologies. It is designed, unlike local quality assurance studies, to produce findings that can be generalized beyond the specific case or sample being studied.

Applied health research has defined for purposes of funding support by NLCAHR, is work on human individual and population health issues that is intended to have an impact on:

- the health of individuals
- the health population and communities
- decisions about government health policy
- health system organization
- health care delivery

Applied health research includes work on:

- health and community services and policies
- health systems organization
- population health
- public health
- community health
- epidemiology
- health technology assessment
- knowledge translation
- clinical practices