

Canadian Health Services Research Foundation

Funding Opportunities and Involvement Patient Safety & Quality



Patient Safety and Quality Research in Canada - Retreat
February 28 – March 1, 2005, Toronto

Susan Law, Director - Research Programs



Vision & Mission

Our vision is a strong Canadian healthcare system that is guided by solid, research-based management and policy decisions.

Our mission is to support evidence-based decision-making in the organization, management and delivery of health services through funding research, building capacity and transferring knowledge.



Who we are - profile

- private (non-governmental), non-profit charitable foundation
- \$110 M endowment includes Nursing Research Fund
- approx. \$15 M annual operating budget
- Board of Trustees (15)
 - regional reps; researchers and decision makers
- 46 staff
- 'linkage and exchange' philosophy and approach



Strategic Objectives (4):

1. To enhance the quality and quantity of research that responds to the needs of health system decision makers.
2. To get needed research into the hands of health-system managers and policy makers in the right format, at the right time, through the right channels.
3. To help health system managers, policymakers and their organizations to routinely acquire, appraise, adapt and apply relevant research in their work.
4. To bring researchers and decision makers together regularly to understand each other's goals and professional culture, influence each other's work, and forge new partnerships.



What we do

Fund research: **Programs of research (REISS)**
Policy syntheses & Commissioned research
Listening for Direction
Theme-based knowledge networks

Develop capacity in applied health services research:
CADRE program – Chairs (12), RTCs (5), PDFs, CRAs, Harkness
Organizational Capacity Development

Prepare products and develop capacity for research use (KT&E):
Mythbusters
EXTRA program
Knowledge Brokering program
Research Use Weeks

Linkage and exchange activities:
Annual workshop
Annual Invited Exchange – Deputy Ministers



Involvement in Patient Safety and Quality

1996 – 2004:

- Not one of specified themes, but ..
- Open Grants Competition (OGC) – projects and programs
- Mythbusters
- Executive Training for Research Application (EXTRA)
 - Intervention projects
- Knowledge Brokering Program
 - Demonstration sites



OGC Projects and Programs

Past themes:

- HHR, managing continuity, defining the medicare 'basket', access for rural and remote communities, centralization and aggregation of services, informed public participation in decision-making

Related to patient safety and quality:

- very few directly related to patient safety
- many related in general to 'quality' theme



Mythbusters - titles

Related to patient safety and quality:

- We can eliminate errors in healthcare by getting rid of the “bad apples”. (2004)
- The public uses health-system report cards to make decisions about their care. (2003)
- Seeing nurse practitioner instead of a doctor is second-class care. (2002)
- A parallel private system would reduce waiting times in the public system. (2001)



EXTRA – Intervention Projects (2004)

Related to patient safety and quality:

- HR management strategies and quality of care (NFLD)
- Creating a patient safety culture (ONT)
- Reducing risk related to falls and adverse events (QC)
- Quality-security-continuity models (QC)
- Patient safety from theory to practice (BC)



Knowledge Brokering

- Objectives:
 - to stimulate the implementation of structures, processes or people in DM organizations dedicated to linking researchers and DMs;
 - to increase the appropriate use of research in DM
- Six demonstration sites funded in 2004
- One initiative directly related to patient safety:
 - Patient safety and quality in rural health care (Alberta)



Involvement - 2004-2007

- 'Managing for quality and safety' (May, 2004)
 - one of four foundation priority themes
 - others: primary healthcare, healthy workplace, nursing
 - Research, Exchange & Impact for System Support (REISS)
 - theme officer appointed – April 1, 2005
 - plan to develop 'knowledge network'
 - nurse staffing and patient safety synthesis underway
 - Roundtable: February 2005
 - RFA: March 2005
 - planned environmental scan and scoping document (?)
 - knowledge transfer and exchange activities and products



Research, Exchange & Impact for System Support (REISS) – 2005 competition

- new programs competition – 4 themes
- 4 components – R, KT&E, capacity development, 'products'
- \$500K maximum over 4 years; matching funds required
- numerous applications for the quality and safety theme
 - Deadline: December 2004
 - MRP: Feb 2005
 - Invitation for full scale applications: March 15 (due August 15)
 - Notification: November 2005
- one per theme area in 2005 allocation



CHSRF Commitment

- To lead initiatives that aim to enhance evidence-based decision-making at the health system level (organization, management and policy) for quality and patient safety
- To collaborate with other national and provincial 'knowledge' organizations to ensure complementarity and synergy of activities around this theme



For further information/comments:

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