



BRIC NS provides a unique opportunity for funding agencies and philanthropists to support research that will make an almost-immediate yet long-lasting impact on the quality of health care that people experience here in Nova Scotia and even in other parts of Canada.

STRENGTHEN THE FOUNDATION OF HEALTH CARE

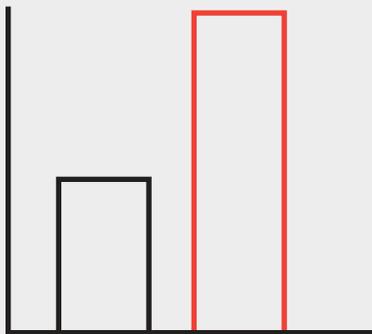
High-quality, accessible primary health care is the foundation of an effective health care system. Research shows that countries with the strongest primary health care systems have the healthiest, longest-living populations and highest quality of life. This is because good primary health care enables proactive prevention and management of disease, minimizing serious problems that can lead to invasive interventions, hospitalization, disability, suffering and/or premature death.

Supporting research aimed at improving the efficiency, availability and quality of primary care—and its integration with community-based services and other levels of care—is an investment in the very foundation of our health care system and the good health of our population.

Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research

SPOR
Putting Patients First 

DOUBLE THE RETURN ON YOUR INVESTMENT



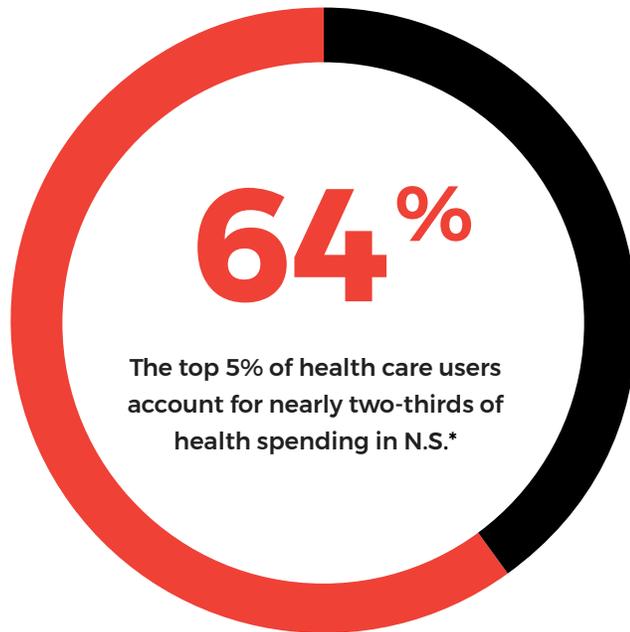
-  Your investment
-  Your \$ with CIHR match

When you commit funds to a BRIC NS project, you double the value of your contributions to health research. Through its Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) will match every dollar you provide when the project's grant application is successful.

Approximately 70 per cent of the potential CIHR funding to BRIC NS was left on the table between 2015 and 2016, due to lack of local matching funds. With your support, we can capture more of these federal research funds.

TAP INTO OPPORTUNITY

CIHR is offering tens of millions of research dollars to primary health care research teams across Canada through its SPOR Network for Primary and Integrated Health Care Innovations. BRIC NS is the Nova Scotia part of this "network of networks." Supporting BRIC NS research projects with matching funds opens the door to an unprecedented opportunity to build a stronger primary health care system.



*Source: Small Area Variation in Rates of High-Cost Healthcare Use Across Nova Scotia (SARV) report

ALLEVIATE THE HIGHEST COSTS

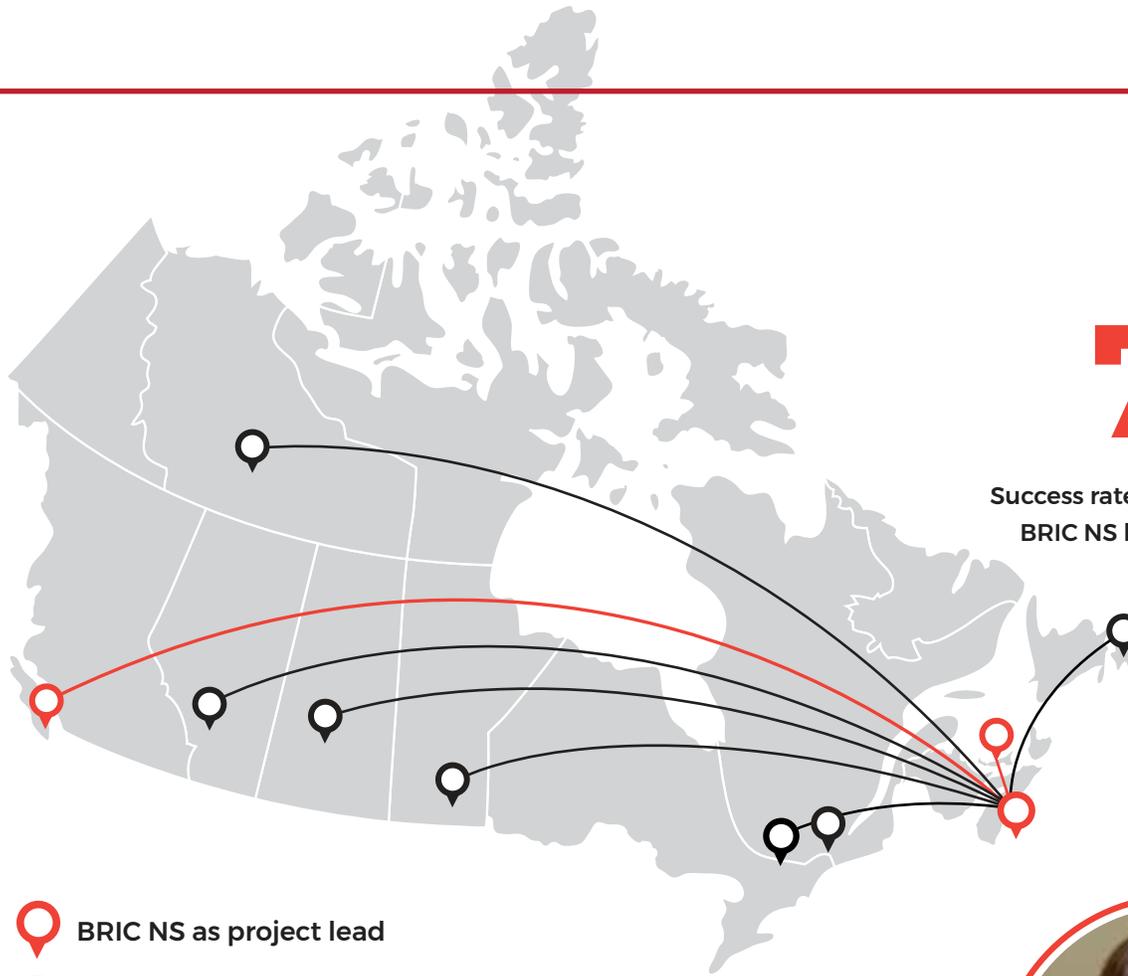
In Nova Scotia, the patients with complex health care needs who make up the top five per cent of health system users cost the province 64 per cent of its annual health care budget. Most of this is for hospital stays, many of which could be avoided with more proactive and well-integrated care.

Research to explore more efficient ways to deliver care to high-needs patients is an investment in the health of Nova Scotia's people and its fiscal health. A five per cent reduction in costs would save the province \$36 million per year, while a 30 per cent reduction in costs would save \$213 million.

Meet the greatest needs

BRIC NS is mobilizing research efforts to improve the design and delivery of primary health care services to this top five per cent. These are the people who need the services most—people who live with complex chronic health conditions that require ongoing management and care.

Supporting BRIC NS members' research will help ensure that high-needs patients receive efficient and effective care. Proactively managing these patients' care—and preventing illness in people at risk—will avert potentially devastating downstream complications. This will prevent needless suffering, improve quality of life, save money for families and the health care system, and allow the health care system to function more efficiently for the benefit of everyone.



74%

Success rate in applications involving BRIC NS between 2015 and 2016

-  BRIC NS as project lead
-  BRIC NS as collaborator

MAKE A NATIONAL IMPACT

By providing matching funds to BRIC NS projects, you can make an impact far beyond Nova Scotia. As part of CIHR SPOR Network for Primary and Integrated Health Care Innovations (PIHCI), BRIC NS is connected to sister networks all across Canada. The goal of this 'network of networks' is to create an efficient, comprehensive and coordinated national research response to the most pressing issues in primary and integrated health care nationwide.

For every project that BRIC NS members undertake, they must involve collaborators from at least one other PIHCI network in the country. This approach:

- encourages the sharing of ideas and findings among provinces
- fosters the development of intra and inter-provincial research collaborations
- explores new models and new approaches to care in different provincial contexts
- takes what is learned in one province and finds how best to adapt and apply it in another province
- avoids duplication of effort
- addresses major gaps in the knowledge base regarding the design and delivery of primary health care services and their integration with community-based services and other levels of health care.



Support patient-oriented research

BRIC NS involves patients like Kylie Peacock in shaping the primary care research agenda. As a person with type 1 diabetes, Kylie has been intensely involved with the health care system for many years, as a patient, advocate and fundraiser. She jumped at the chance to join the BRIC NS advisory council.

"BRIC NS research covers such a broad spectrum, from prevention to chronic disease management, across the lifespan," she says. "It's exciting to see the researchers in academia working with the decision makers in the health care system, and involving people like me, to develop research initiatives that will make a real impact."

WHY SUPPORT US?

Supporting BRIC NS with matching funds is a wise investment of research dollars for many reasons:



Leading researchers

Nova Scotia researchers have been on the forefront of primary health care research in Canada for more than 20 years. They are recognized internationally for the quality and impact of their work.



Strong odds for success in funding competitions

Funding requirements for SPOR PIHCI projects are so stringent, there is a small pool of competitors and high chance of success. Almost all BRIC NS projects supported with local matching funds have succeeded in national funding competitions.



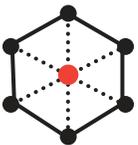
Meaningful real-world impact

BRIC NS employs a three-way leadership model, with scientific, clinical and health care administrative leads. This ensures the research is scientifically sound, clinically relevant and practically feasible, so applying the findings produces tangible improvements in practices, systems, outcomes and health.



Aimed at top priorities

BRIC NS involves health care researchers, clinicians, policymakers, administrators, trainees, patients, and the public in addressing the most pressing patient and health system priorities—in particular, the need to improve access to high-quality care for people with (or at risk of developing) complex chronic health conditions.



Mutual benefits

Through its involvement in the SPOR PIHCI network, BRIC NS is helping other provinces advance, while also learning from them how to improve care in Nova Scotia.



Double your donation

CIHR will match every dollar, up to the specified limit of each funding opportunity, provided by local sources to successful funding applications.

BRIC NS operations are supported by CIHR, NSHRF and Dalhousie University



PARAMEDICS AND PALLIATIVE HOME CARE

A BRIC NS project is evaluating the role that paramedics can play in providing home-based palliative care to people nearing the end of their lives.

“Paramedics typically stabilize and then transfer patients to hospital,” notes project lead, Dr. Alix Carter, an emergency physician and research leader with Dalhousie Medical School, Nova Scotia Health Authority and N.S. Emergency Health Services. “We trained paramedics to deliver emergency care in crisis end-of-life situations, such as breathlessness and pain, to see if we can avoid unnecessary transfers and support better quality of life.”

Funds secured with help from BRIC NS are allowing Dr. Carter and her collaborators to evaluate the impact of the program and work with British Columbia to determine how such a program could be modified for rollout there.