Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit

VISION

The vision of the Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit is to use scarce research resources efficiently to build capacity that addresses critical health issues in patient-oriented and health services research. The Unit will provide infrastructure and expertise for evaluating and improving health care outcomes comprising a suite of services including strategic and technical expertise in observational and experimental research, consultancy services, training, and access to a common data repository. The Unit will include patients, governmental policy-makers, health authority decision-makers, health care professionals, lay citizens, and researchers in New Brunswick (NB), Nova Scotia (NS), and Prince Edward Island (PEI). It will consolidate and build on existing infrastructure and regional collaborations.

The mission is to enhance the amount, quality, and relevance of patient-oriented and health services research in the Maritimes and beyond. This will include:

- improving health outcomes and enhancing patients’ health care experience through the integration of evidence at all levels in the health care system and clinical trials;
- addressing the high levels of disease burden in a lower-income region with few existing resources for research;
- making health data easier to access, easier to collect, and easier to analyze;
- enhancing the impact of patient-oriented research performed in the Maritimes through the design and evaluation of evidence-based implementation strategies;
- providing data and methodological support to patient-oriented health care research;
- developing a platform for measuring and improving health care quality; and
- providing resources to perform health economic and health technology assessments.

SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit includes:

- increased engagement of stakeholders including patients and lay citizens;
- greater culture of inquiry among decision- and policy-makers;
- increased collaboration among policy- and decision-makers, researchers, patients, and lay citizens;
- better information and knowledge for health care decision-making; and
- improved access and quality of care at an affordable cost.