

Sustainability & Resilience in the Canadian Health System

Capitalizing on Innovation to Improve Treatment and Care



There is an unprecedented opportunity to develop medicines and technology that could transform our health system for the better, but only if we create a strong connection between breakthrough ideas and the impact they have on Canadian lives. A new research report from The Partnership for Health System Sustainability and Resilience (PHSSR) in Canada highlights the importance of putting knowledge into practice.

Insight as a Foundation for Optimizing the Health System

The urgency to contain COVID-19 sparked a sharp increase in government spending on research and led to the rapid development of life-saving vaccines. As we move forward, Canada needs to learn from the pandemic by investing in ongoing efforts to answer some of healthcare's most complex questions. This includes how to act on the data gathered through clinical trials and other evidence-based medicine initiatives. Bolstering a commitment to research and development could also help us unlock greater value in technologies such as electronic medical records to empower healthcare workers and patients alike.

The Innovation Imperative

A healthcare system built for the future requires that society is able to access scientific innovation in health technologies. These are some of the ways to ensure we don't miss out on them:



Take a patient-centric approach to allocating resources for research

Funding for applied research needs to be strengthened at regional, provincial and national levels, but particularly in areas that demonstrate a tangible return. In other words, research that raises the standard of care to benefit all Canadians.



Build greater capacity to make the right medicines available to Canadians

A pan-Canadian pharmaceutical alliance working to improve the way drugs are procured is just one example of collaboration within the sector. Other ways to work better together include a move to explore a national public drug formulary, which could create greater alignment and consistency in care across Canada.



Re-ignite the mission to offer a truly interoperable electronic health record system

While the potential for EMRs to improve quality of care needs further study, bolstering the integration of disparate platforms will streamline physician workflows and offer a clearer picture through unified data, while improving access and reducing confusion among patients.

There are **seven domains** researched in this study:

- GOVERNANCE
- FINANCE
- WORKFORCE
- **TECHNOLOGY & MEDICINE**
- SERVICE DELIVERY
- SOCIAL DETERMINANTS
- ENVIRONMENT

Learn more about the research findings and key recommendations by reading the full report, *Sustainability and Resilience in the Canadian Health System*, or contact the PHSSR at PHSSR@hkstrategies.ca

