



# DE-IMPLEMENTING LOW-VALUE CARE PROJECT

## Project Summary + Changes Due to Covid-19 Pandemic

### WHAT IS LOW-VALUE CARE?

➤ Unnecessary tests/treatments

Tests and treatments where strong scientific evidence shows that they are not always helpful to patients or can even expose patients to harm.

### THE PROJECT

Develop and test theory-based interventions to reduce two areas of low value care, while not negatively reducing patient outcomes, across three provinces: Newfoundland, Ontario, & Alberta.

### PRIMARY PARTNER



Choosing Wisely Canada (CWC) is the national voice for reducing low value care in Canada

CWC receives funding from:

- The Canadian Medical Association
- Health Canada
- Provincial and territorial ministries of health

### REDUCING TWO KEY AREAS OF LOW VALUE CARE

Reducing  
imaging for low  
back pain



Reducing  
pre-operative  
testing for low-risk  
surgeries



# THE PROCESS

Each province planned to follow the same process for developing interventions.

➤ An intervention refers to taking action or making a change in a process

## STEP 1

Identify barriers and enablers to stopping low-value care using the Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF)

## STEP 2

Mapping behavior change techniques to the TDF domains found to be important in Step 1

## STEP 3

Developing an intervention using the information from Steps 1 and 2

## STEP 4

Testing this intervention in a trial across hospitals and/or healthcare professionals in a province



An essential part of the project

## PATIENT ENGAGEMENT

Researchers working with patients at every step to develop and validate these positive changes.

## Patients choose their level of involvement

### INFORM

Researchers keep patients informed about the project and help them to understand the research

### CONSULT

Researchers keep patients informed and get their feedback on the research

### INVOLVE

Researchers work directly with patients to ensure their views are considered in the research

### COLLABORATE

Researchers look to patients for advice in designing and conducting the research

# CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

1

A hold and reduction of trials in all 3 provinces

2

The addition of new CWC recommendations to focus on

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES BY PROVINCE



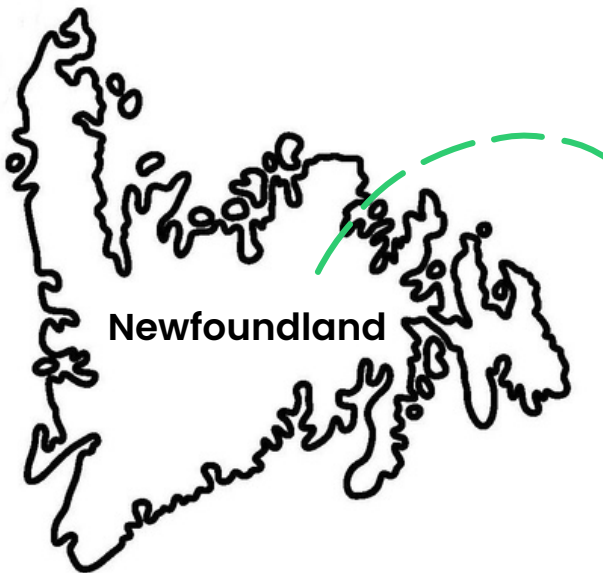
Continuing ahead as planned



Discontinued



New addition



Newfoundland

*Studies led by: Dr. Amanda Hall, Memorial University*

### Reducing pre-operative testing for low-risk surgeries

- Barriers assessment (Physician interviews) ✓
- Intervention design ✓ trial ✗
- Pre-operative environmental scan/interrupted time series +

### Reducing imaging for low back pain

- Barriers assessment
  - Physician interviews ✓
  - Patient interviews ✓
- Intervention design & trial ✓

### Appropriate antibiotic prescribing

- Barriers assessment (systematic review & interviews) +

*Study lead: Dr. Kyle Kirkham, University Health Network*

### Reducing pre-operative testing for low-risk surgeries

- Intervention scale up & trial ✓

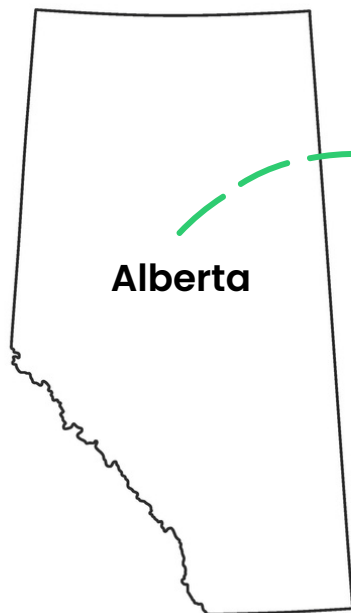
*Study lead: Dr. Kathleen Norman, Queens University*

### Reducing imaging for low back pain

- Barriers assessment
  - Physician interviews ✓
  - Patient interviews ✓
- Intervention design & trial ✗



Ontario



Alberta

*Studies led by: Dr. Shannon Ruzycki, University of Calgary*

### Reducing pre-operative testing for low-risk surgeries

- Barriers assessment (Physician interviews) ✓
- Intervention design & trial ✓
- Pre-operative testing process environmental scan +

### Reducing imaging for low back pain

- Barriers assessment
  - Physician interviews ✓
  - Patient interviews ✓
- Intervention design & trial ✗

The De-Implementing Low Value Care project is funded to continue until March 31, 2025.

## FUNDERS & PARTNERS

