

# Evidence in Context

Health research —  
synthesized & contextualized for  
use in Newfoundland & Labrador.

## Evidence in Context

Health research — synthesized and contextualized for use in Newfoundland & Labrador

### Age-Friendly Acute Care in Newfoundland & Labrador

Belinda Parks, Stephen Bornstein, Robert Keen, Maigan MacKenzie, Karen McGrath

## Evidence in Context

Health research — synthesized and contextualized for use in Newfoundland & Labrador

### Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Difficult Wound Healing in Newfoundland & Labrador

Public Health, Stephen Bornstein

## Evidence in Context

Health research — synthesized and contextualized for use in Newfoundland and Labrador

### Options for the Development of a PET/CT Program in NL

**Context**  
About NLCAHR's  
Contextualized Health  
Research Program  
The Newfoundland and Labrador  
Centre for Applied Health  
Research is a research and practice  
center that provides evidence-based  
information and guidance  
to health care providers and  
decision makers in the province.  
This center is the first of its kind  
in Newfoundland and Labrador.  
Health Research Program  
NLCAHR provides a unique  
research and practice  
center that provides evidence-based  
information and guidance  
to health care providers and  
decision makers in the province.  
This center is the first of its kind  
in Newfoundland and Labrador.

# CHRSP:

Engaging with health system  
partners to support evidence-  
informed decision making

*An Innovative Newfoundland and Labrador Approach*

Stephen Bornstein, Director, NL Centre for Applied Health Research  
Kelli O'Brien, Vice President, Long Term Care and Rural Health  
Western Health

CUExpo 2013 | June 14, 2013

Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research  
[www.nlcahr.mun.ca/chrsp](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca/chrsp)

# Key challenge for health research units:



Newfoundland & Labrador Centre for  
**APPLIED  
HEALTH  
RESEARCH**  
[www.nlcahr.mun.ca](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca)

*“How can we get scientific evidence used more frequently and more effectively by the healthcare system?”*

# Key challenge for health system leaders:



*“How can we locate and use the best scientific evidence as one input among many into decision making?”*

# Today's presentation

4

Newfoundland & Labrador Centre for  
**APPLIED  
HEALTH  
RESEARCH**  
www.nlcahr.mun.ca

# Evidence *in* Context

**Collaborating**  
with provincial decision makers

**Identifying**  
priority research questions

**Gathering**  
relevant research

**Synthesizing**  
the best available evidence

**Interpreting**  
for a Newfoundland and Labrador context

**Supporting**  
evidence-informed decisions

**Answering**  
important questions about health

**Communicating**  
the results of our work

Contextualized Health Research Synthesis Program

# CHRSP

Health research - synthesized and contextualized for use in Newfoundland and Labrador

[www.nlcahr.mun.ca/chrsp](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca/chrsp)

# Who is involved?



Newfoundland & Labrador Centre for

## APPLIED HEALTH RESEARCH

[www.nlcahr.mun.ca](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca)

Our mission:

*to contribute to the effectiveness of the health system of Newfoundland and Labrador and to the physical, social, and psychological health and well-being of the population by supporting the development and use of **applied** health research*

# Who is involved?



Western  
Health



Eastern  
Health



Labrador - Grenfell  
Health



Central  
Health



Newfoundland  
Labrador

Department of Health and Community Services



# Our approach:

- focus on specific issues rather than broad themes
- have the system leaders identify issues of importance
- use NLCAHR's expertise to formulate each issue as a researchable question
- do research synthesis rather than primary research
- focus on review literature rather than individual studies
- shape the questions and the syntheses to the local context (challenges, capacities)
- report on the results quickly and in usable formats

# How does CHRSP Work?



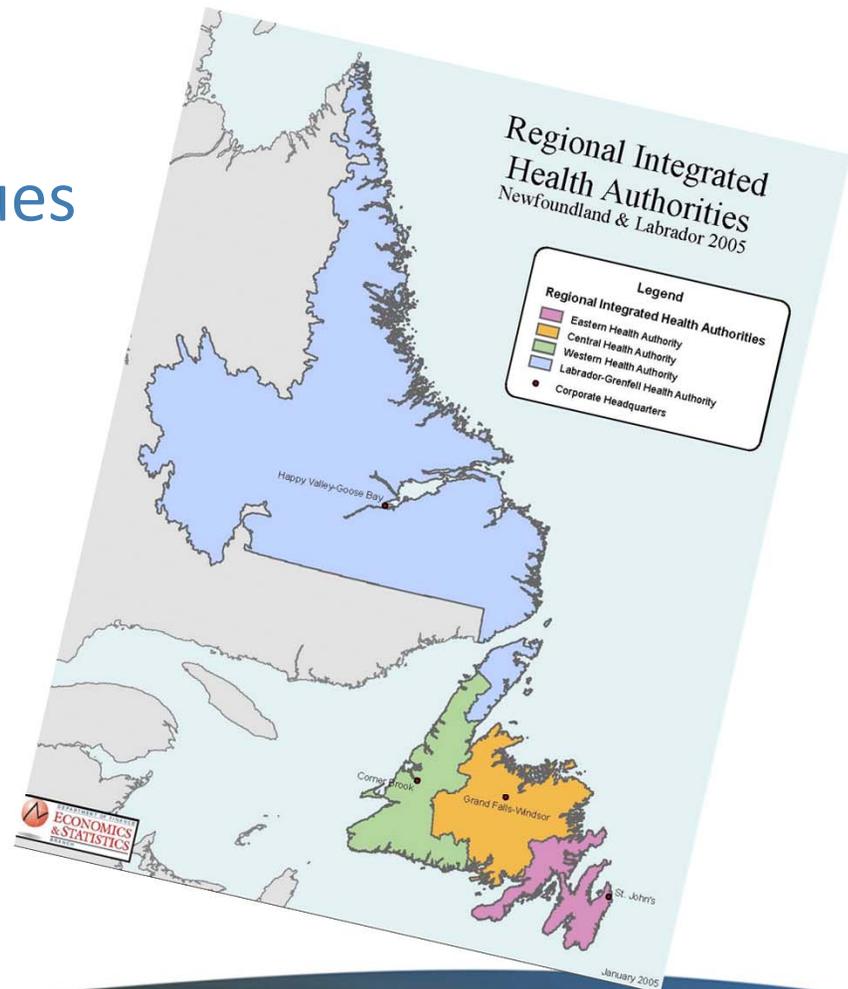
# 7 Steps in the Program



# STEP 1:

## CHRSP works with stakeholders

- To identify important issues
- **CHRSP Champions** play advocacy role
- Filtering Criteria



# Who are CHRSP Champions?

- Decision makers in the RHAs, DHCS who assist Health System Leaders (HSLs) in CHRSP process

CHRSP Champions 2011-2012	
<b>Department of Health and Community Services</b>	
Wanda Legge	Director, Policy Development
Bev Griffiths	Director, Board Services
Eleanor Swanson	Director, Health Promotion and Wellness
Dr. Larry Alteen	Director, Physician Services, Medical Services Branch
<b>Eastern Health</b>	
Dr. Mike Doyle	Director of Research
Janet Templeton	Program Director, Medicine
Elaine Warren	Program Director, Surgery
Krista Butt	Research Analyst
<b>Central Health</b>	
Vanessa Mercer Oldford	<i>Regional Director, Corporate Improvement</i>
<b>Western Health</b>	
Lisa Hoddinott	VP, Quality Management & Research
Anne Lynch	Regional Director, Planning & Research
<b>Labrador-Grenfell Health</b>	
Carol Brice-Bennett	Director, Aboriginal Health Programs & Research

# *CHRSP Filtering Criteria*

- Importance
  - Population affected, potential to improve health outcomes, cost implications, multiple stakeholders view topic as important
- Timeline
  - Semi-urgent: Need to know – but not today!
- Feasibility
  - Is it a researchable question? Can it be reformulated?
- Availability of evidence
  - Is there sufficient high-level research evidence
- Availability of a team
  - Team leader, local systems experts, context team

# STEP 2: Set Priorities

- CHRSP Team meets with HSLs
- Priority-setting process
- End result:
  - High-priority topics are studied as '*Evidence in Context Report*' or as '*Rapid Evidence Report*'



# STEP 3: Build a Project Team

Members
Team Leader
CHRSP Program Coordinator
CHRSP Project Coordinator
Health System Co-investigator(s)
Local Academic Co-investigator(s)
Other Context Advisors
Expert(s) in research synthesis, HTAs, and systematic reviews
Health Economist
CHRSP Research Assistant



# STEP 4:

## Locate, assess, synthesize evidence

- a. Devise, execute a search strategy
- b. Critically appraise & summarize the evidence
  - Quantity: Does it exist?  
*Is it up to date? Is it on topic?  
Is it accessible?*
  - Quality: How good is it?  
*What is the methodological quality  
of the review literature? (AMSTAR)*



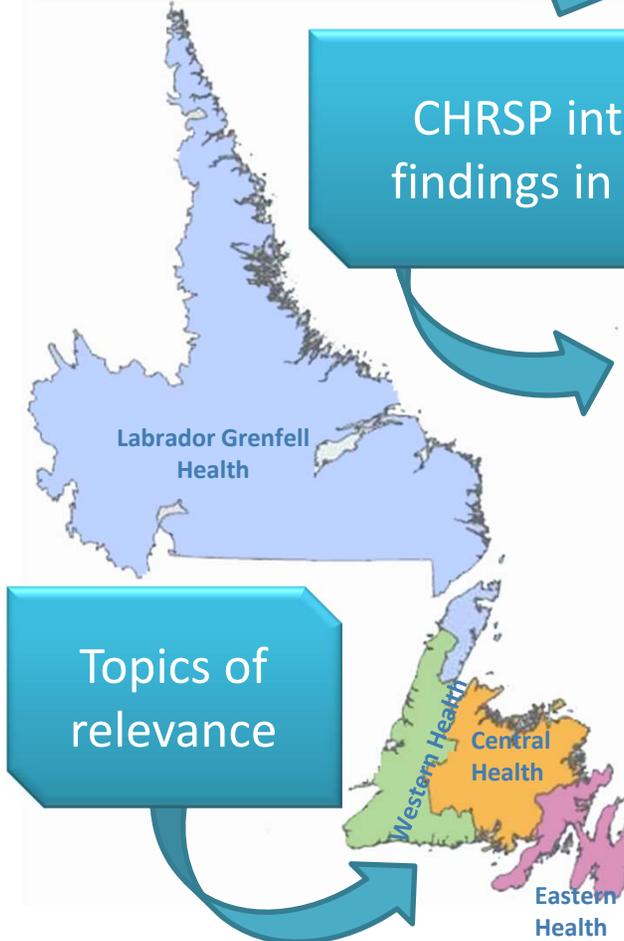
# STEP 5: Contextualize the evidence

CHRSP tailors its synthesis to the **context** of Newfoundland & Labrador at all stages of the project

Contextual factors may effect health outcomes and/or cost effectiveness.

CHRSP identifies contextual factors.

CHRSP interprets findings in context.



## Levels of Contextual Factors:

 Patient populations

 Other System Factors

 Site of service and/or the service design,

 Economics

 Health human resources

 Politics

 Organization and delivery of services

More about context here:  
[www.nlcahr.mun.ca/res](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca/res)

# STEP 6: Implications

- Interpreting the evidence
- Summarizing implications for decision makers



# STEP 7: Report

- External review: validity
- Report released as
  - Full EIC with:
    - Executive summary (4 p)
    - Lay/media summary
    - Other multi-media products, or
  - Rapid Evidence Report
- Dissemination & uptake
- Feedback and follow-up



# CHRSP Project Types:



## 1. The 'Evidence in Context' Report

- A full synthesis of research evidence on a topic identified through our solicitation process as being of high priority to decision makers in the province.
- Deliverables include a 35 to 50-page full report, a four-page executive summary, a one-page lay summary, and other multi-media products



## 2. *Rapid* EVIDENCE *Reports*

- Expedited, brief synthesis of a high-priority research topic, including:
  - a statement of the issue
  - background
  - a description of the scope/nature of the literature;
  - a summary of the principal features of the available evidence;
  - a comprehensive list of research literature from the past five years, as well as policy reports and other grey literature on the issue; and
  - a brief analysis of the types of issues that might influence the applicability of the evidence to the Newfoundland and Labrador context

# CHRSR projects 2008-2012

- The provision of dialysis services in rural and remote NL
- Interventions to prevent and treat childhood overweight and obesity in NL
- The development of a PET/CT program in NL
- Youth residential treatment options in NL
- The reprocessing and reuse of single-use medical devices in NL
- Hyperbaric oxygen therapy for problem wounds
- Telehealth for specialist consultations in cardiology and dermatology
- Interprofessional team-based care for chronic disease management
- Age-friendly acute care
- Community-based service models for seniors
- Mobile mental health units for Western Health (RER)
- Safe patient handling for Eastern Health (RER)

# CHRSR projects 2013

## 2013 projects currently in progress

- Point-of-Care Testing -EIC
- Falls Prevention for seniors in LTC/acute care settings- EIC
- Flu Vaccination for healthcare workers -RER

## Other 2013 projects identified in 2013 Topic Selection

- Effectiveness of short-term health promotion strategies - RER
- Outpatient chronic disease services –RER
- Diabetes screening
- Managing aggression in dementia patients

# Distinguishing features of CHRSP



- focus on specific urgent questions identified by system not the researchers
- use both local and external expertise
- build teams that combine researchers and decision makers
- contextualize
- work quickly
- communicate effectively

**Does it work?**



# It does.

- topic selection complex but workable
  - each side has learned how to work together
- contextualization is feasible and helpful
- leading external experts fairly easy to recruit
- teams work well together
- the results have been produced fairly quickly
- the results have actually been used:
  - dialysis decision template
  - Youth Residential Treatment planning
  - Single-use Medical Devices policy
  - considerations for development of PET
  - patient handling protocols in Eastern Health

# Contact Us

[www.nlcahr.mun.ca/research/chrsp/](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca/research/chrsp/)

- Web: [www.nlcahr.mun.ca](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca)
- Phone: (709) 777-6993
- Email: [nlcahr@mun.ca](mailto:nlcahr@mun.ca)
- Location: 95 Bonaventure Avenue, Suite 300

Stephen Bornstein: [sbornste@mun.ca](mailto:sbornste@mun.ca)

Evidence  
*in* Context

Health research —  
synthesized & contextualized for  
use in Newfoundland & Labrador.

Newfoundland & Labrador Centre for  
**APPLIED**  
**HEALTH**  
**RESEARCH**

[www.nlcahr.mun.ca](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca)

Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research  
[www.nlcahr.mun.ca/chrsp](http://www.nlcahr.mun.ca/chrsp)