



Connect Care Inquiry and Research

What is Inquiry and Research to Connect Care?

We participate in inquiry when we ask questions about what we do; and perform research when we use systematic approaches to answer those questions.

Connect Care is, at its core, about inquiry and research. The vision is to better healthcare with better information. The means is curiosity, inquiry and research. The Connect Care clinical information system (CIS) supports those means with tools for systematic data exploration, practice surveillance and hypothesis testing.

How will Connect Care Support Clinical Research?

Excellent care is inseparable from good inquiry. The Connect Care CIS allows care and inquiry to coexist in integrated workflows. Patients and providers can be aware of relevant studies, consider participation, and harmonize care with investigation. Many clinical research studies will be registered and ready in time for the November 2019 launch. To enhance patient safety, the medical records of patients participating in studies include a flag, note and link to information about any study participation. Clinicians can learn:

- The name and description of the registered study,
- Emergency contact details for the research team,
- Research-related orders and encounters that may inform clinical care.

How will Inquiry and Research Relate to Operations?

Connect Care will promote processes and workflows to perform, track, and report on inquiry and research performed in AHS facilities.

Ultimately, Connect Care will:

- **Enable inquiry** by training AHS staff and researchers to use tools and workflows that explore the impacts of how they do their work.
- **Enhance recruitment** using tools and functionality to increase opportunities for Albertans to know about and participate in research.
- **Provide reporting services** easing access to research teams, managers and monitors who oversee research studies.
- **Support billing** for research-related services (i.e. Lab, Diagnostic Imaging, Pharmacy, Medical Records).
- **Streamline study administration** with research record tracking, reporting and analytics.

How is the Inquiry and Research Community working with Connect Care?

Research and inquiry subject matter experts participate in:

- Direction Setting and Adoption & Validation sessions
- Clinical Improvement Support Committee (CISC), an oversight group that decides about scope, policy and implementation of in-system CIS research and analytics functions
- Clinical Inquiry & Research Working Group, a recommendation-generating group reporting to the CISC with insights from multi-disciplinary research subject matter experts
- Connect Care Area Councils and Specialty Workgroups

How can I Learn More?

The Connect Care Research team can be reached via CC.Research@ahs.ca
