

Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Knowledge Translation and Exchange

Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) Conference

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Nancy Kennedy, Assistant Deputy Minister

Health System Strategy & Policy Division (HSSPD)

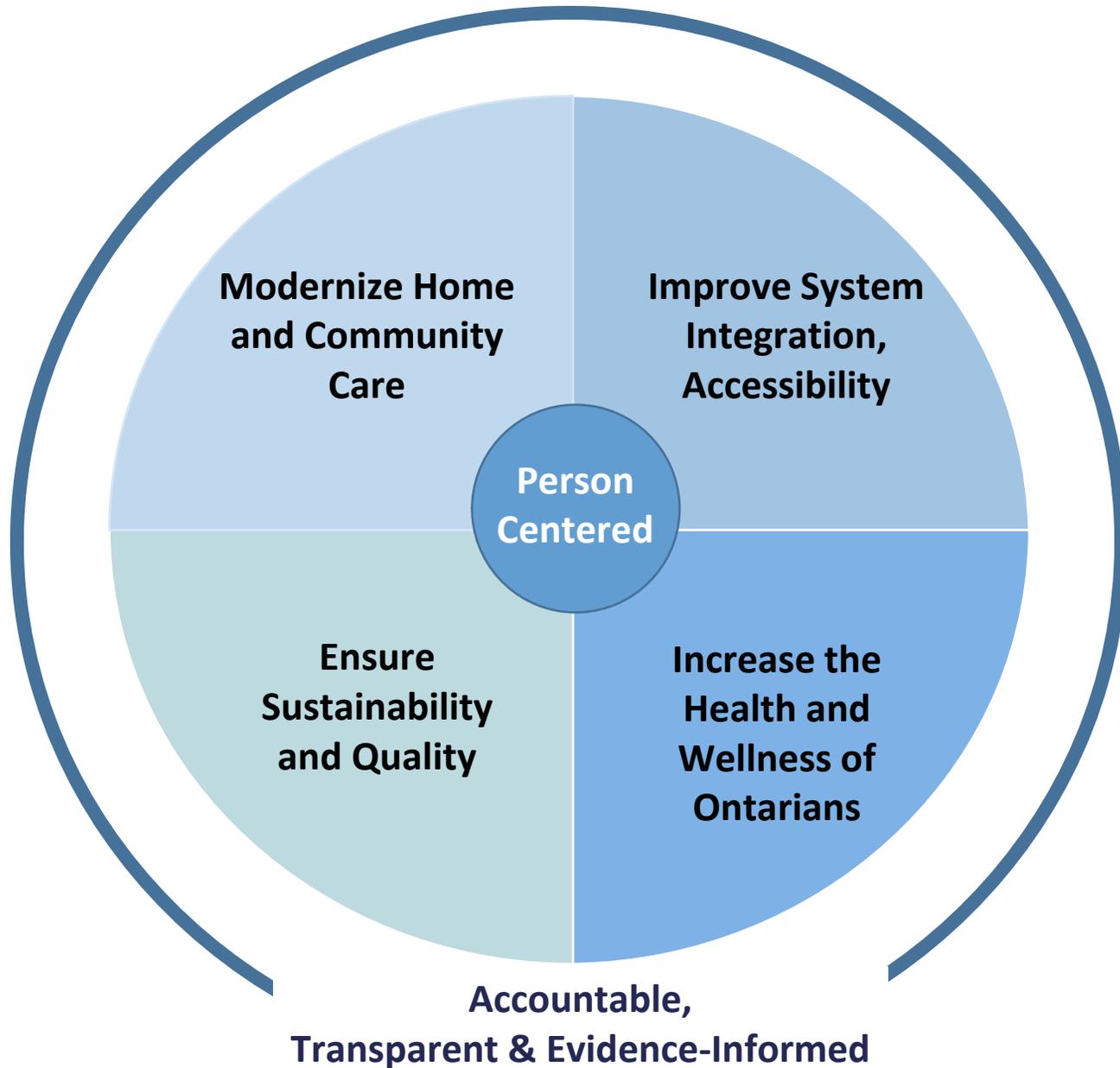
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC)



Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care

Government Promise	Open, transparent, accountable, effectively managed government that provides value for tax dollars			
Health Promise	Patients First <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>a caring, integrated experience for patients</i> • <i>faster access to quality health services</i> • <i>for all Ontarians at every life stage</i> 			
Access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing faster access to the right care 	Connect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing better home and community care 	Inform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing information to make the right decisions about your health 	Protect : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring our universal health care system is sustainable for generations to come 	
Policy Pillar:	Improve System Integration, Accessibility	Modernize Home and Community Care	Increase the Health and Wellness of Ontarians	Ensure Sustainability and Quality

Framework for Strategic Action

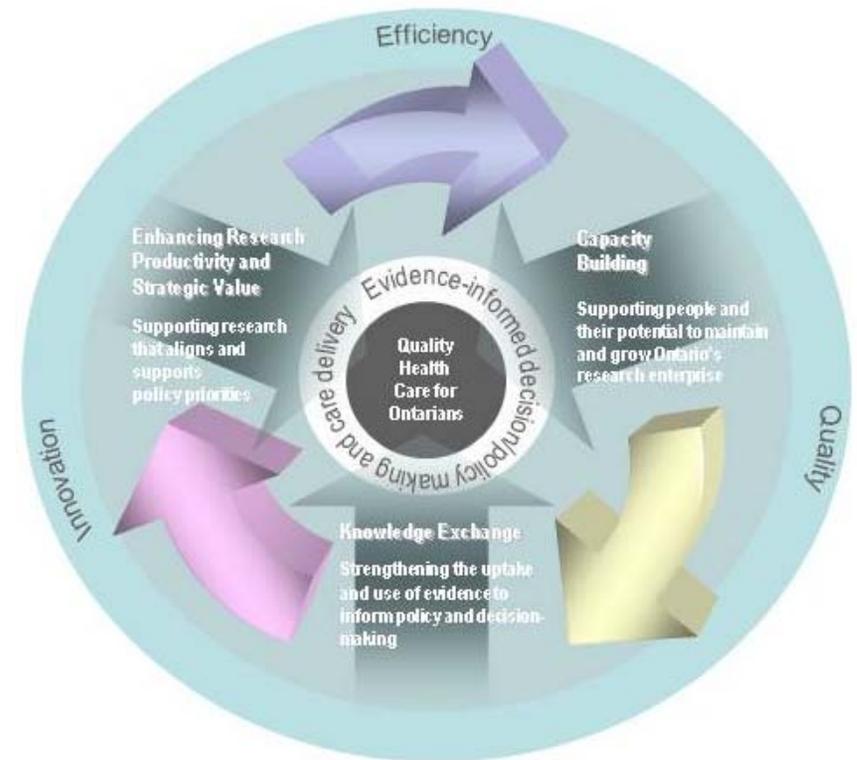


MOHLTC Health Research Strategy

The ministry's Health Research Strategy aims to ensure an innovative research environment where evidence informs policy development and decision making by supporting and sustaining local research capacity.

MOHLTC is both a direct funder and an end-user of research; in contrast, other Canadian jurisdictions fund research via external organizations/agencies.

Ontario invests in and collaborates with some of the national and global leaders in health research, including some of the most respected and successful scientists in the province.



Health System Research Fund

The HSRF supports research and knowledge translation and exchange activities to address important and complex health issues in Ontario. The HSRF is designed to offer a range of opportunities to researchers and teams across the province. The cornerstones of the HSRF are research excellence and policy relevance. Three main streams of support form the foundation of the fund.

Program Awards

Purpose: To promote collaboration and to support research and/or knowledge translation and exchange (KTE) that will have an impact within a 3-year timeframe

Details: Three-year investments in programs of health research and/or KTE

Capacity Awards

Purpose: To broker partnerships across health research funders and increase funding opportunities for Ontario researchers

Details: Small grant amounts for a large number of researchers and students

Specialized Research Centres

Purpose: To provide long-standing funding to specialized research centres/foundations

Details: Funding for the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), the Ontario Mental Health Foundation (OMHF) and the Women's College Hospital Women's Xchange

It is expected that KTE activities are integrated throughout the term of the HSRF grants.

Knowledge Translation and Exchange

Mechanisms to facilitate the connections between researchers and decision-makers

Policy Roundtables

Focused exchanges with decision-makers

HSRF Showcase

Dissemination to broad audiences

Research to Policy Dialogues

Two-way knowledge exchange

Applied Health Research Questions

Collaborating and co-creating

Policy Roundtables



Policy Roundtables

Focused exchanges with decision-makers to:

- Provide access to expert knowledge to enhance the quality, relevance and effectiveness of policies
- Provide an opportunity to discuss and identify solutions to strategic health policy issues
- Stimulate policy-relevant research on strategic priorities

➤ Recent roundtables have:

- **Helped to frame emerging policy problems using a strong evidence base, and guide strategy development**
- **Leveraged the expertise of a diverse range health system leaders, policy-makers and researchers in Ontario on shared topics of interest**

HSRF Showcase



HSRF Showcase

Dissemination to broad audiences so that:

- Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) and leaders in the broader health sector can access expert knowledge from ministry-funded researchers to support policy/program implementation
 - Researchers, ministry, government and LHIN/sector representatives have a chance to “discover and discuss” valuable research findings and identify solutions to implementation barriers
 - Ongoing relationships among researchers, ministry, government and LHIN/sector staff are built
- **The HSRF Showcase:**
- **Enabled networking and collaboration between a broad range of researchers and government staff**
 - **Highlighted how funded research aligns with government priorities**

Research-to-Policy (R2P) Dialogues

Research to Policy Dialogues



Two-way knowledge exchange through:

- Monthly events hosted by the ministry where guest researchers meet with decision makers and policy staff from relevant ministries and LHINs
- Direct engagement between policy staff and researchers during these sessions

➤ **These events contribute to:**

- **Increased knowledge and understanding of the topic/policy issue**
- **Strengthened uptake and use of evidence in policy and decision-making**
- **Relevant and evidence-informed health policy, program and service development and implementation**

Applied Health Research Questions

Applied Health Research Questions



Collaborating and co-creating:

- An AHRQ is a question posed by a health system policy maker or provider in order to obtain research evidence to inform planning, policy and program development that will benefit the broader Ontario health system
- An AHRQ requirement is built into all research programs/projects that the ministry funds (typically 25% of annual funding)

➤ **The AHRQ process:**

- **Provides capacity for researchers to respond to questions from knowledge users across Ontario, including ministries and LHINs**
- **Ensures policy-relevant research questions are being answered by researchers**
- **Enables collaboration between researchers and decision-makers in Ontario**

Presenting Research to Policy Makers

Maximizing the impact of their research on the policy process

The Right Focus

- **Strategic alignment:** supporting government priorities and helping to drive the policy agenda
- **Scalability:** extending findings to other contexts, or applying at a provincial/systems level (including costs)
- **Collaboration:** the necessary partners (e.g., policy makers, researchers, stakeholder groups) have been consulted

The Right Format

- **Clarity:** clear, concise summaries of research findings and their real world implications

The Right Timing

- **Policy windows:** an understanding of policy processes and timelines to be able to contribute to decisions in a formative way
- **Relationship building:** a willingness to build long-term relationships as an expert researcher in a particular field.

Questions?