

Provincial Evaluation Update

September 2018

The Primary Health Care Opioid Response Initiative (PHC ORI) grant proposal has secured a provincial evaluation budget. The key deliverables for the evaluation will focus on Provincial level reporting. Based on the short timeline and a multi-layered approach to the grant, the opportunity to run a multi-layered robust evaluation at a variety of levels (macro or systems level, meso or zone level & micro or PCN) is not possible. We are striving for high participation rates and a multi-layered approach will impact the overall participation rates.

Evaluation principles

Principles that are guiding the development of a provincial evaluation include:

- 1) We want to learn from others, including other evaluations that have been funded through the Minister's Opioid Emergency Response Commission (MOERC).
- 2) We want to align this evaluation to other provincial (including MOERC as well as across Canada) work when possible.
- 3) A collaborative evaluation approach (Cousins et al, 2015) is guiding this evaluation, a "made in Canada" approach. What does this mean as it rolls out initially? A provincial Evaluation Advisory Committee has been struck in July 2018. In August, zone/PCN representatives are being invited to participate in the provincial Evaluation Advisory Committee (EAC) and/or working groups.
- 4) Provincial data sources, sampling methodology, and embedded "data capture" in training activities will be relied upon whenever possible. For example, the benefit of having the informative data reports being produced by AH allows us to establish baselines and to allow for a standardized way to report on the key indicators moving forward. This will reduce data capture burden at the clinic, PCN and zone service areas as well as bring rigor to the results.
- 5) There is a recognition that measurement /survey fatigue exists in the primary care. A thoughtful and "slim" methods approach will guide the evaluation work.
- 6) There will be no "surprises" regarding the findings. A robust and regular communication plan will be used to share updates on a regular basis through the grant's collaboration forum.
- 7) This is really IMPORTANT work for primary health care. What we learn along the way will be of interest to both our funder as well as other provinces.

These principles will be revisited on an ongoing basis. If we are missing any, please let Sandy or Judith know (see their roles and contact information below).

Key deadlines

- Provincial evaluation logic model – completed by September 28, 2018
- Zone PCN evaluation support plan – completed by October 12, 2018
- Provincial evaluation approach (two pages, high level approach identified) – completed by November 2, 2018
- Provincial evaluation framework – completed by November 30, 2018
- Interim report – submitted by April 1, 2019
- Final evaluation report – submitted by March 31, 2020

For more information on the provincial evaluation approach as it unfolds and/or the Evaluation Advisory Committee, please contact one of the co-chairs:

Sandy Berzins, Ph.D.

Senior Evaluation Lead

PHC Opioid Response Initiative

Sandy.Berzins@ahs.ca

Judith Krajnak, Ph.D.

Director of Evaluation & Analytics

Primary Health Care Program, AHS

Judith.krajnak@ahs.ca

If you would like to invite one of the co-chairs from the Evaluation Advisory Committee to present to your working group as the evaluation is advancing, please follow up and a presentation can be arranged.

Related Evaluation Work (*Service Planning around Priority Populations*)

This work, in the area of PHC response around opioid use disorder, is an example of a *new* way to engage in “rapid” service planning involving zones/Primary Care Networks (PCN) in Alberta. There will be separate evaluations to capture learnings from this work, generally happening in the spring of future years.