



Purpose

The Evaluation of the Primary Care Initiative (PCI) will assess changes in primary care delivery as a result of the 2003 trilateral agreement between the Alberta Health Regions (now Alberta Health Services), the Alberta Medical Association, and Alberta Health and Wellness. The goal of the evaluation is to yield objective information that will assist in enhancing primary care capacity in Alberta; help to set future direction for primary care, show value for resources invested in the PCI; and help to build a sustainable health care system.

Below is a summary of the current status and next steps of the evaluation. The project timeline is provided to the right. Note that, the focus of this up-date is on the first (formative) phase of the evaluation. This phase will include consultation with PCNs and other key stakeholders on establishing a PCN and processes.

Activities Completed

- The Formative Evaluation was completed in the Fall of 2009. This phase looked at the process around creating and the operation of a Primary Care Network.
- Work on preparation of the report coming out of the Formative Evaluation continues and is scheduled to be presented to the Primary Care Initiative Committee at their meeting January 12th and 13th, 2010.
- In addition, work continues on defining a process for identifying patients to participate in the second phase – the Summative Phase – of the Evaluation.

Next Steps

- Work is also starting on the development of tools, including a patient survey, to be used in the Summative Evaluation. This phase looks at the impact of PCNs on the health system. It is expected that this survey will be implemented in the New Year.
- A final report on the entire Provincial Evaluation of Primary Care Network is due by the end of 2010.

**PCI Evaluation Timelines
2009-2010**

2009			
JAN	Methodology Development	Phase 1 Evaluation	Finalization of research activities
FEB			
MAR			
APR	Phase 2 of evaluation begins		Development of data collection instruments
MAY			
JUN			
JUL			
AUG			PCN & stakeholder site visits
SEP			Phase 1 Evaluation report being drafted
OCT			Phase 1 reporting completed
NOV		Finalize Phase 2 evaluation activities	Review and analysis of existing data from various sources
DEC			
2010		Consultations with PCNs, patients, and other stakeholders	
JAN			
FEB			
MAR			
APR			
MAY			
JUN			
JUL			
AUG	Final and summary report being drafted		
SEP			
OCT			
NOV			
DEC	Final and summary reporting completed		