

Identifying barriers and facilitators to accessing primary care services in Newfoundland and Labrador

Population	Patients and public accessing care in Newfoundland and Labrador
Intervention/Exposure	Identifying barriers and facilitators to accessing primary care services
Comparator	Collaborative care clinics and other healthcare services available other than a family physician
Outcomes	Health system outcomes; healthcare costs; provider experiences; access to primary care; barriers/facilitators to healthcare practitioners entering primary care practice; current status of primary care access in Newfoundland and Labrador

Interview Details:

Why did you choose this topic and why is it important to you?

- They have lived experience as a primary caregiver to an older parent with multiple complex conditions requiring ongoing care.
 - Parent lost access to family physician and was placed on a very long waitlist for a new doctor in their small community.
- Primary care provider access is an ongoing and significant issue in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL).
 - NL is geographically diverse with a population with varying healthcare needs (e.g., aging population, high burden of chronically ill patients).

What do you hope to learn from researching this topic?

- What is the current state of primary care access in NL, and how does it compare to other regions?
 - Barriers and facilitators to healthcare professionals entering primary care practice.
 - What are the current strategies to correct barriers; are they effective?
 - Measure the results of current strategies and action plans in NL (e.g., Health Accord NL).

- What solutions have been implemented in other areas (that NL can learn from)?

Who needs to know about the findings?

- Public
- Patient partners (across Canada)
- Policy-makers
- Healthcare providers
- Advisory council members

Is there anything that you feel a panel of patients, caregivers, healthcare providers, and policy-makers should keep in mind when reviewing this topic?

- Primary care access is an issue that is relevant across Canada.
 - Results of this work could inform future decision-making, and improve health outcomes for many people in NL and across Canada.

Feasibility Assessment Results

Summary:

No reviews were identified during the scoping literature search.

Conclusion:

There is scope to conduct further research in this area.