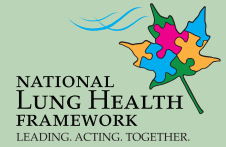


Featured Health Human Resources Programs



How the National Lung Health Framework's Database Can Help You

Many programs and initiatives currently listed in the National Lung Health Framework's Respiratory Resources Canada (RRC) database promote strong partnerships, develop and apply best practices, and may be implemented in your area.

Educators and health care professionals are eager to cooperate by sharing their experiences. Your health region, organization, or program may benefit from the experience of others. By connecting with successful programs, health human resources programs can be established more quickly and successfully than if they were developed in isolation.

The Challenge

In Canada today

- Over 3 million Canadians aged 12 and up live with chronic asthma or COPD.
- In four provinces (NL, PE, NS and MB), there is one respirologist for over 100,000 people.
- There are no respirologists in any of the territories.
- Only one province (QC) has a respirologist-to-population ratio lower than the national average.
- Seventy percent of Canada's respirologists are in Ontario and Quebec. [but approx 70% of population is in these provinces too]

It is known that poor management of chronic respiratory disease leads to costly interventions and poor health outcomes.

The Response

The **National Lung Health Framework** is a Canadian initiative designed to improve lung health across the country by promoting collaborative and coordinated action among health care professionals, policy makers, researchers, clinicians, advocates and others.

Efficient use of human resources depends on appropriate planning and training. Planning is accomplished at the federal and provincial levels. Governments, professional associations and societies, educational and training institutions all play a role in forecasting human resource requirements and ensuring that the appropriate learning structures are provided. Interdisciplinary, collaborative solutions can be attempted.

The **National Lung Health Framework** encourages the professional development of healthcare providers as a means of improving the care provided to patients. Professional development examples include training and certification in smoking cessation or asthma education techniques for allied health care professionals such as nurses and respiratory therapists.

Policymakers and advocates are encouraged to redefine the roles of physicians and other health care professionals, and work with professional regulatory bodies and educational institutions to increase HHR capacity.

The **National Lung Health Framework** encourages strategies and programs that:

- **identify** local/regional/provincial needs for specific respiratory health professionals;
- **build** capacity to train respiratory health professionals and to provide continuing education;
- **ensure** that trained health care providers are available to the patients that need them and;
- **certify** that the skills of respiratory health professionals meet guidelines.

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS

In various places in Canada, there are programs that aim to provide trained health care professionals where their skills are required. Here is a small sample of successful programs in action, from the **Respiratory Resources Canada** database. These are examples only; check **RRC** for other programs!

Certification for Asthma and Respiratory Educators (CAEs and CREs) National

Many healthcare professionals such as nurses, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, physiotherapists, dieticians, and medical doctors have chosen to become certified as asthma and/or respiratory educators. Certified Asthma and Respiratory Educators teach Canadians about their asthma and COPD, and how to live with them.

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Health Human Resources Make a Difference

The TEACH core course was a comprehensive training with focused on multiple aspects of tobacco addiction and treatment. I appreciated the expert knowledge and experience of the various presenters, as well as the opportunity to network with and learn from other participants.

—Stephanie, TEACH participant

Educators are certified after successfully writing the national Certified Asthma Educator (CAE) or Certified Respiratory Educator (CRE) exam. These exams are based on Canadian Network for Respiratory Care (CNRC) National Learning Objectives as well as the most up-to-date Canadian asthma and/or COPD consensus guidelines. They test educator proficiency in two integral aspects of asthma and respiratory education:

- up-to-date knowledge about asthma and COPD (“what to teach”) and;
- better understanding on the part of educators about educational theory and process (“how to teach”).

Cheryl Connors, Canadian Network for Respiratory Care (CNRC)
(905) 880-1092 · cconnors@cnac.net · <http://cnrhome.net/whatitis.html>

Health Force Ontario (HealthForceOntario) Ontario

In Ontario, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities are working in partnership to deliver the HealthForceOntario (HFO) strategy. HFO is the province’s strategy to ensure that Ontarians have access to the right number and mix of qualified health care providers, now and in the future.

HealthForceOntario works to:

- identify and address Ontario’s health human resource needs;
- introduce new and expanded provider roles to increase the number of providers working in health care and build on the skills of those already in the system and;
- engage partners in education and health care to develop skilled, knowledgeable providers and create the health care delivery teams that will make the most of their abilities.

Lynn Bury, HealthForceOntario
(416) 862-2200; 1 (800) 596-4046 (N.Amer) · AccessCentre@healthforceontario.ca
www.healthforceontario.ca

Training Enhancement in Applied Cessation Counselling and Health (TEACH) Project Ontario

The Training Enhancement in Applied Cessation Counselling and Health (TEACH) Project is geared toward training health care professionals in the public, private and non-profit sectors who provide counselling services to people who use tobacco. Funded by the Ministry of Health Promotion in Ontario, the program is designed to enhance the knowledge and skills in the delivery of intensive tobacco cessation interventions.

- The TEACH Project offers accredited continuing education courses in tobacco cessation and health behaviour change which are open to all health and allied health practitioners who work with clients who use tobacco.
- Clinicians who plan to offer tobacco cessation programs can apply to take the full Certificate Program in Intensive Cessation Counselling (40 instructional hours, available in both English and French), or apply to register in specific courses.
- Upon completion of all requirements of the TEACH Certificate Program, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion in Continuing Education in Intensive Tobacco Cessation Interventions, from the Department of Continuing Education and Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.
- Participants who fulfill the TEACH Project requirements become part of a provincial Community of Practice group. This allows professionals to develop and maintain sustainable knowledge transfer and exchange by giving them the opportunity to participate in bi-monthly teleconferences, receive regular updates, and network with colleagues who are also engaged in cessation counselling.

Megan Barker, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
(416) 535-8501 ext. 1600 · teach@camh.net · www.teachproject.ca/about.htm



Health Human Resources Make a Difference

I have found this to be very professionally rewarding. The doctors are referring patients to me, successful quitters are referring other smokers and word of mouth has got out that I really can offer smokers something to really help them be successful.
—PACT Pharmacist

RespTrec® (the Respiratory Training and Educator Course) National

The national professional development program for practicing health care providers in Asthma, COPD, and Spirometry, RespTrec prepares participants to challenge the national certification exam administered by the Canadian Network for Respiratory Care (CNRC). RespTrec trains health care professionals to use best practices in training patients to manage their conditions.

- Course content is based on the most recent Canadian evidence-based Guidelines, with development and content for the courses guided by clinical experts, Canadian guidelines committee members, respiratory educators, education consultants, researchers and individuals representing various health care professions.
- Health care professionals from fields such as nursing, pharmacy, respiratory therapy have opportunity for interdisciplinary knowledge exchange.
- Facilitates a consistent message to patients about managing their conditions.

Jan Haffner, RespTrec Executive Director
(306) 343-9511 · Jan.Haffner@sk.lung.ca · www.resptrec.org

PACT—Partnership to Assist with Cessation of Tobacco Saskatchewan

The PACT program workshops train Saskatchewan pharmacists to provide smoking cessation interventions to their clients. At training workshops, pharmacists learn about:

- tobacco addiction and the benefits of cessation;
- pharmacotherapy and behaviour change techniques for tobacco cessation and;
- resources and tools for cessation counselling.

Four levels (from Bronze to Gold) provide for different levels of intervention with clients. Pharmacists with training in the more intensive levels receive payment from the provincial health plan.

The program's White Ribbon Journey provides a tool for Aboriginal people to stop smoking while acknowledging the use of sacred tobacco.

Janice Burgess, Pharmacists' Association of Saskatchewan
(306) 586-1700 · janice.burgess@skpharmacists.ca · www.skpharmacists.ca/Quit%20Smoking · www.makeapact.ca



Training for Aboriginal Licensed Practical Nurses Manitoba

Assiniboine College's Aboriginal LPN program trains First Nations and Métis students as Licensed Practical Nurses. The two-year diploma course prepares graduates to work in remote nursing stations where the LPN deals with a wide range of diseases and conditions. Aspects of respiratory care include:

- health assessment, including chest sounds;
- pediatric respiratory (e.g. asthma);
- health promotion, including smoking cessation;
- administering oxygen;
- tracheotomy care and;
- chest trauma.

Students can take the theory portion of the program in their home communities, followed by practical training in larger centres in Manitoba.

Remote communities and students benefit from this program. Communities have increased healthcare capacity, while students benefit from improved career opportunities.

Karen Hargreaves, Dean, School of Health and Human Services, Assiniboine Community College
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How You Can Make a Difference

If you would like to help make a difference and improve the lung health of Canadians there are things you can do.

Promote what is happening in your field and in your community. Share information about successful activities with others across Canada through the **Respiratory Resources Canada** database. The information will be seen by people across the country working in respiratory health.

Make it happen. Have you wanted to start a much-needed initiative in your community and were not sure where to get started or how to make it happen? Make use of **Respiratory Resources Canada**. It is a searchable database where you can find out what is happening all across Canada. You can also use the database to connect with individuals who can provide you with helpful information and share their own successes.

Go to www.lunghealthframework.ca for more information on the database and what it can do for you.

The National Lung Health Framework is chaired by and housed at The Lung Association, with the support of a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee.



For more information on RRC and what it can do for you, visit lunghealthframework.ca