

## **Provincial Health Research Priorities**

### **A Healthy Population and Strong Healthcare System**

A healthy population improves quality of life and reduces preventable disease and illness, and a strong healthcare system supports timely access to quality care, and innovations in delivery and research. The following are ways in which research may align with this provincial priority area.

#### **Research on health issues that affect Nova Scotians:**

Discovery or applied projects that improves understanding of biology, disease, and factors that affect human health, including sciences, and social sciences.

#### **Research that improves the well-being of Nova Scotians:**

Projects that helps to contribute to, improve understanding of or sustain the well-being of Nova Scotians, including:

- Mental health and addictions
- The social determinants of health and factors beyond individual choice that impact the well-being of individuals and groups (including poverty, inequality, accessibility)
- Trends and behaviours with negative impacts on personal health that are overrepresented in Nova Scotia's population, including for example, smoking, vaping, alcohol and drug use
- Food security and nutrition
- Issues concerning special or aging populations.

#### **Research that improves delivery of healthcare and services to Nova Scotians:**

Projects that improve the ability of Nova Scotians to access the healthcare services they need in a timely and efficient way:

- Innovation supporting a modern, integrated, sustainable healthcare system
- Continuing, long-term care, home care, palliative care, transitions of care
- Community care
- Improved access to high-quality care
- Patient-centred approaches
- Healthcare delivery innovation
- Digital health
- Rural population health.

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