

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Atlantic Health Institute?

The Atlantic Health Institute (AHI) is Horizon's hub for research, innovation, and better health. It brings together research, clinical expertise, partnerships, and innovation to develop and implement solutions that improve patient care, health outcomes, and health system performance.

By fostering strategic partnerships and creating opportunities for collaboration across sectors, the institute helps accelerate the development, evaluation, and adoption of innovative solutions that improve health and health care for the people of New Brunswick and beyond.

Why was the Atlantic Health Institute created?

The institute was created to accelerate research, innovation, and collaboration across the health system. By connecting evidence, ideas, and patient care, the institute helps ensure promising discoveries and innovations are translated into real-world improvements that benefit patients, providers, and communities.

How does the institute benefit patients?

The institute creates opportunities for patients to access new treatments, technologies, clinical research opportunities, and innovative models of care. It also helps improve quality, safety, efficiency, and health outcomes by applying research and evidence directly to patient care.

How will the institute improve health care in New Brunswick?

The institute supports the development, testing, and implementation of evidence-based solutions that address priority health challenges. Through collaboration, research, and innovation, it aims to improve patient outcomes, modernize models of care, and strengthen the overall health system.

What is the institute's role within Horizon?

The institute serves as Horizon's central hub for research and innovation. It brings together previously separate research and innovation activities into a coordinated model that strengthens collaboration, reduces duplication, and accelerates impact across the organization.

How does the institute support Horizon's strategic priorities?

The establishment of the institute is a key commitment within Horizon's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan and supports Horizon's goal of becoming a Trusted Partner in Research and Innovation. Its work also aligns with the Provincial Health Plan.

What organizations and groups work with the institute?

The institute works with a broad network of partners, including:

- » Clinicians and health care providers
- » Researchers and scientists
- » Academic institutions
- » Industry partners
- » Government organizations
- » Foundations
- » Community organizations
- » Patients and families

What makes the institute different?

The institute combines research, innovation, strategic partnerships, and care delivery in one integrated model. It focuses not only on generating new knowledge but also on implementing proven ideas and measuring their impact to ensure meaningful benefits for patients and the health system.

How does the institute ensure research and innovation deliver real results?

The institute is grounded in rigorous scientific standards, strong governance, structured evaluation processes, and real-world measurement of outcomes. This approach helps ensure that research and innovation lead to measurable improvements in patient care and health system performance.

What are the institute's priorities?

The institute will focus on:

- » **Strengthen research operations** by building efficient infrastructure, processes and support services to enable high-quality research
- » **Embed research into clinical care** and our learning health system to drive evidence-informed improvements
- » **Deepen and grow partnerships** across universities, foundation, industry, provincial organization and other collaborations
- » **Accelerate innovation** by creating pathways to translate ideas into innovative solutions that improve patient care and health system performance
- » **Accelerate real-world improvements in care** through collaboration, cutting-edge research and technology
- » **Attract new research funding, partnerships and health care talent** to the province

Who leads the Atlantic Health Institute?

The institute is co-led by:

- » **Dr. Susan Brien**, Senior Vice President, Medical, Academic and Research Affairs
- » **Jennifer Sheils**, Vice President, Strategy, Transformation and Chief Innovation Officer
- » **Dr. Paul Atkinson**, Chief Scientific Officer

What partnerships has the institute established?

AHI has established significant partnerships with organizations that share its commitment to advancing research, innovation, and better health outcomes. It builds on Horizon's longstanding relationships with academic partners, including Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick and the University of New Brunswick, as well as partnerships with Abbvie, CAN Health, and the C.D. Howe Institute.

How will the institute support researchers and innovators?

The institute will provide infrastructure, processes, expertise, and support services to enable high-quality research and innovation. It will also help connect researchers, clinicians, industry partners, and academic institutions to accelerate collaboration and implementation.

Will the institute attract research funding to New Brunswick?

Yes. One of the institute's goals is to attract new research funding, strategic partnerships, and highly skilled health care and research talent to the province, helping strengthen New Brunswick's position as a centre for health innovation.

How can organizations or individuals partner with the institute?

Organizations, researchers, industry partners, and others interested in collaboration can contact the institute to explore partnership opportunities, research initiatives, innovation projects, and other areas of mutual interest.

How can I learn more or get in touch?

To learn more about the Atlantic Health Institute or discuss partnership opportunities, contact:
AtlanticHealthInstitute@HorizonNB.ca