

Seniors Health Strategic Clinical Network Priority Areas for Grant and Studentship Applicants

The mission of the Seniors Health Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) is to make improvements to healthcare services and practices that enable Alberta's seniors to optimize their health, well-being, and independence. Three platforms have been identified as areas of priority: *Healthy Aging and Seniors Care*, *Aging Brain Care*, and *Anticipating an Aging Alberta*. The Seniors Health SCN champions the pursuit of research to synthesize, generate, and translate knowledge related to these platform areas. We support grant and studentship applications that demonstrate both a strong alignment to our platforms and a high potential to impact seniors and the healthcare system.

Healthy Aging and Seniors Care

The *Healthy Aging and Seniors Care* platform identifies and incorporates evidence-informed strategies to prevent and make it easier to live with conditions that restrict health and functional abilities. Research relevant to this platform includes, but is not limited to, promoting healthy aging and preventing frailty, ensuring seniors receive quality care at end of life, and adopting elder-friendly approaches to care across the system.

Aging Brain Care

The *Aging Brain Care* platform incorporates evidence-informed strategies to prevent and slow cognitive changes that limit ability to maintain independent living. Research in this platform may include improvements to the diagnosis, treatment, and management of dementia and cognitive disorders, promoting the best possible care and services for seniors with dementia and their caregivers, and addressing and correct myths about how the brain ages.

Anticipating an Aging Alberta

The Seniors Health SCN proactively addresses the opportunities and challenges of Alberta's aging population. Research within the *Anticipating an Aging Alberta* platform may include health and social resource planning and policy, workforce preparedness, and demographic projections relevant to addressing the needs of an aging population.