



## A Refreshed Strategic Plan for the Initiative

The Long-Term Care Quality Initiative (LTC-QI) team has revisited and refreshed strategic directions, in partnership with stakeholders and advisors in each health authority. The [refreshed, high level strategic plan](#) builds on progress made over the past two years.

The overarching core purpose of the LTC-QI is now defined as:

*“To enhance the quality of resident, family and staff experience in long-term care by bringing evidence to practice through meaningful connections between research and operations, in line with the principles of a Learning Health System.”*

Unchanged are the LTC-QI guiding principles:

- Meaningful engagement, especially with those who live, visit, and work within the BC LTC community
- Evidence-driven to guide actions and improvement in the LTC sector
- Alignment with BC's health system priorities

The team is finalizing the detailed work plan to support implementation of the new strategies, with focus on two priority areas:

- Integrated knowledge mobilization
- Data to drive actions and align practices.

## BC INFORM LTC Cohort Progress

As shared in the October 2022 Update, the Initiative successfully recruited a cohort of LTC homes to participate in the first LTC-QI provincial initiative, BC INFORM (knowledge translation of TREC's INFORM research study). Each of the homes chose to work on one of three areas: (a) improving communication between care aides and other health professionals; (b) improving staff wellbeing; or (c) improving relationships with residents' families.

Having participated in a series of workshops in 2022, [21 of the LTC homes will partake in culmination workshops in February 2023](#). The agenda will include opportunities to share progress on their work as well as experiences and learnings from their involvement with BC INFORM.

As BC INFORM is now in its final stage, the LTC home teams will also be able to take part in focus groups about their experiences with BC INFORM. Their feedback will contribute to the BC INFORM process evaluation to be completed in March 2023.

---

The Long-Term Care Quality Initiative (LTC-QI) aims to embed research and translate knowledge into evidenced-based best practices in BC's Long-Term Care (LTC) sector.

The LTC-QI is a collaborative partnership between Michael Smith Health Research BC, the BC Ministry of Health, health authorities, and research and academic communities.

## Regional Practice Leads Support LTC Homes in 2023 Reimagining LTC QI Program

In October and November 2022, the five LTC-QI Regional Practice Leads (RPLs) worked in partnership with the BC Patient Safety and Quality Council to support LTC homes in applying for the Healthcare Excellence Canada 2023 Reimagining LTC QI program. A total of **79 BC homes were accepted into the program.**

The program provides funding and QI programming that facilitates collaboration to build better care with and for people living and working in long-term care in Canada. The 2023 program focuses on [Enabling a Healthy Workforce to Provide Person-Centred Care](#). Participating LTC homes will receive funding (up to \$10,000 per home) plus implementation and capacity-building supports (such as coaching and monthly webinars).

BC LTC homes receiving funding will largely focus on improving the appropriate use of antipsychotics. The RPLs will continue to provide support to participating homes in their regions during the one-year program (Jan-Dec 2023).

## Office of the Senior's Advocate Survey puts RPL Focus on Quality of Life

In response to the BC's Office of the Senior's Advocate (OSA) second province-wide survey of long-term care quality of life launched May 2022, the team of RPLs has stepped forward as a key resource to help with regional quality-of-life assessment and data interpretation.

The OSA survey with LTC residents and their most-frequent visitors gathers self-report

experience and outcome data to support improvement in BC's LTC sector. Survey topics include food, safety, comfort, medications, staff responsiveness, and activities.

Guided by the health authorities' LTC leadership, the RPLs will play a key role in identifying data and evidence-informed improvement opportunities and will become the health authority leads in driving the focus on Quality of Life in the LTC sector.

## LTC-QI Provincial Data Initiative Progress

To support the RPLs' role in using and interpreting the OSA survey results, the LTC-QI data team is examining data from the first OSA survey done in 2016/2017. Using this historical data set as a 'test run,' the team is working within the Health Data Platform (HDP) environment, linking responses to other data sets like facility characteristics and clinical assessment data (e.g. quality of life data is being grouped by health authority, facility size, and owner type to examine differences in physical and mental health scores.)

This preliminary analysis is providing insight into the data set structure and key fields that allow it to be linked to other datasets. It will inform the approach the LTC-QI team will take with the new data, available later in 2023. The RPLs are also reviewing the work to understand how it can help them support LTC homes in identifying priorities.

## Coming in the Spring Update:

- Results from BC INFORM
- Introductions to regional evidence-driven improvement initiatives
- LTC-QI evaluation plans
- Inventory of LTC research in BC