

Expanding Access to Care for COPD Patients



Reduced Pulmonary
Function Test Wait Times



Early Identification of COPD Patients



Improved Health
System Navigation



Improved
Access to Care



Support for
Primary Care

The Research, Innovation and Discovery team is partnering with The INSPIRED COPD Outreach Program to create an evidence-based Proof-of-Concept (“PoC”) that builds upon the INSPIRED model to improve access to care for Nova Scotians living with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (“COPD”). This will consist of:

- Building capacity within community-based spirometry testing facilities (e.g., staffing and utilization of Portable Spirometry Booths), enhancing access to care and earlier identification of COPD
- A new offering to support Nova Scotians with mild-to-moderate COPD. The PoC will leverage the learnings and successes of INSPIRED and with the support of community Respirology, drive access to preventative, proactive care

The PoC will be implemented in the *Eastern Shore* community. Feedback will be gathered to inform future innovation and expansion.

Key Details:

The PoC will create a pathway for mild-to-moderate COPD patients, consisting of the following:

- Central referral, triage, and increased capacity for community-based spirometry testing
- Navigation support to existing programs (e.g., smoking cessation)
- Access to COPD & Advance Care Planning Education and support via the INSPIRED team
- Access to centralized, online self-management resources
- Access to personalized COPD Action Plans via INSPIRED and Primary Care

How Does This Affect Primary Health Care Providers?

- Referral process for Pulmonary Function Testing does not change as a result of the program
- Spirometry has resumed at the Tri-Facilities. The new referral form can be found [HERE](#)
- Primary healthcare providers can follow the same [referral process](#) for COPD patients that meet INSPIRED criteria. *For Eastern Shore, mild-to-moderate patients are now included in the criteria and are eligible for the PoC initiative.*
- Feel free to contact the PoC Coordinator at 902-476-1584 with any questions