

Provincial Appropriateness of Care Program Inventory

Improving Appropriateness of Care (AC) has been a priority for the provincial healthcare system for the last few years. The provincial AC program team has been working collaboratively with the Ministry of Health, the Health Quality Council (HQC), the Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA) and health regions to build the system's capacity to support clinicians to lead and participate in improving clinical appropriateness.

Efforts include development and testing a provincial AC framework, initiating several provincial AC projects, collaborating with Choosing Wisely Saskatchewan, providing physicians with opportunities to improve their knowledge and skills for leading and participating in clinical quality improvement (QI) projects through the Clinical Quality Improvement Program (CQIP) and the SMA's Appropriateness of Care Initiative (SACI).

There is growing interest from health regions and physicians in improving AC in Saskatchewan. The Provincial AC Program Team has collected information on AC/clinical QI projects underway at the regional level to develop a provincial AC inventory. The following criteria for AC/Clinical QI projects were provided to health regions to identify their projects:

- Projects led or participated in by clinicians, taking place in clinical settings (no administrative improvement);
- Projects aligned with clinical quality improvement goals such as:
 - Reducing inappropriate/unnecessary treatments, testing and screening;
 - Increasing uptake/uses of clinical best practices, guidelines and decision support tools supported by scientific evidence;
 - Reducing clinical variation; and
- Reducing medical errors/patient harm related to clinical practices.

The AC inventory will be used to better coordinate and align AC efforts across the system, facilitate replication of successful projects, identify where the gaps exist, and provide better support to build capacity for improving clinical appropriateness.

If you have any questions or concerns about the AC Inventory or information provided in the Inventory, please contact Deb Gudmundson at Debra.Gudmundson@gmail.com or Yoon Suk Cho at ycho@health.gov.sk.ca

Appropriateness of Care Inventory for 2017-18

 Regional Priority

 Provincial AC Project

 ED Waits & Patient Flow

 Provincial Outcomes

 Choosing Wisely Canada

 Clinical Quality Improvement Program (CQIP)

Region	Project	Project Lead	Alignment
Five Hills	Design a supportive and coordinated process for key COPD interventions and education for the 6-12-week post discharge period.	Project Lead: Kathy Rossler, Shelley Polos, Pauline Bistrizan Project Team: Linda Pawelke, Shauna Lewis (no longer on project team), Jennifer Gillies, Vanessa Spence, Carla Hallborg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regional Priority ● Provincial Outcomes (PHC, Seniors) ● ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Increase amount of elective joint replacement Patients that go through shared decision making provincial hip and knee pathway	Project Lead: Kathy Rossler Project Team: Dr Ogle, Dr DeJager, Dr Thorpe, Cindy Hopkins Krukoff, Jared Dormer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	MRI L-Spine Checklist (completed and move to audit)	Regional Lead: Patti Shirkey Provincial Clinical Development Team (orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, family physicians, a chiropractor, 2 patient advisors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provincial AC Project ● Choosing Wisely Canada
	CT L-Spine Checklist	Regional Lead: Patti Shirkey Provincial Clinical Development Team (orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, family physicians, a chiropractor, 2 patient advisors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provincial AC Project ● Choosing Wisely Canada
Heartland	VTE Prophylaxis Compliance (Implement a standard physician order writing process for VTE prophylaxis)	Project Lead: Dr. Lyle Williams Project Team: Carrie Dornstauder, Lisa Philips, Vern Appel, Vikash Patel, ACWG, CTMS (7 acute sites), Lisa Froystad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Choosing Wisely Canada ● Regional Priority (Patient Safety) ● Other (Accreditation ROP)
	Connected Care Network (Rosetown Health Centre) to improve flow of patients from ER & Acute to Home Care, LTC, Community Paramedicine or other community programs	Project Lead: Carrie Dornstauder Project Team: Mike Morrill, Lyle Williams, Krista Remeshylo, Ruth Miller, Deb Kurulak-Milne, Physician lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regional Priority (HHR Strategic Priority) ● ED Waits & Patient Flow

Region	Project	Project Lead	Alignment
Heartland	Ensuring Home Care RNs have the appropriate client information prior to administrating care to reduce medication errors related to therapeutic drugs	Project Lead: Lynda Brazeau Project Team: Carla Nodwell, Anika Becker, Annette Fetch, Chris Wiens, Nicole Gerein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Patient Safety, Home Care)
Kelsey Trail	Management of CAUTI/UTI in LTC to improve clinical assessment of patients/residents prior to contacting MD/NP and to reduce routine urine testing (Culture and Sensitivity) unless symptomatic for UTI/CAUTI	Project Co-Lead: Erin DeLaet (Pharmacy) Vi Burton (Infection Control) Project Team: Tammy Parlee (LTC-NMP-MoN), Tanya Ingram (LTC-Parkland-MoN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choosing Wisely Canada Provincial Outcomes (Seniors' Care)
	Medication Reconciliation across transition points in Acute Care (uses of standardized tools to ensure accurate and comprehensive medication information is communicated consistently across transitions of care).	Project Lead: Darin Walter (pharmacy) Anna Dawn Hewitt (nursing) Project Team: Facility Administrators, Nurse Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Outcomes (Patient Safety) ED Waits & Patient Flow
PA Parkland	Medication Reconciliation on Discharge (educate staff and providers in community and in Region to improve the quality of Med Rec, thereby decreasing harm to patients)	Project Lead: Lori Friesen (Director of Pharmacy) Project Team: Karen Grenier (Nurse Educator), Deb Winge (NUM), Drs. C. Ryan & J. Harris (Family Physician), Darcy Blahut, Stacey Smith Coleman (Quality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priorities (Improve access & safety AND reduce ED) Provincial Outcomes (AC, Patient Safety) ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Surgical Site Infection (eliminate post-operative infections in hip surgeries)	Project Lead: Sheila Cooper (Nursing Supervisor)/Ian Johnson (Quality) Project Team: Debbie Winge (NUM), Marc Delisle (Manager), Darci Climenhaga (Director) Dr. Friesen (Sponsor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priorities (Improve access & safety AND reduce ED) ED Waits & Patient Flow
	COPD Care Program (comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach to COPD management to reduce unmanaged COPD patients ended up in ED)	Project Lead: Lori Friesen (Director of Pharmacy) Project Team: Physician champion, community pharmacists, respiratory therapists and nurse practitioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priorities (Improve access & safety AND reduce ED) ED Waits & Patient Flow

Region	Project	Project Lead	Alignment
PA Parkland	Pre-operative evaluation (implement pre-operative evaluation guidelines based on Choosing Wisely Canada for low-risk surgical patients (ASA 1 & 2))	Project Lead: Dr. Sriram/Dr. Lumb Project Team: Dr. Friesen, Carol Gregoryk, Pat Stuart, Dr. Ryan, Cynthia Leschyshyn, Zenon Markowski (Patient Rep)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC project Choosing Wisely Canada Regional Priorities (Improve access & safety AND reduce ED)
Prairie North	Improve HIV Testing	Project Lead: Dr. Erin Hamilton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CQIP
	Improve Charting on Medical Unit	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CQIP
	Transfusion Appropriateness (Completed March 2017 & continues to be audited)	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada
	Pre-op testing for all surgeries	Project Lead: Rachelle O'Keefe, Dr. Craib Gordon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC project Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada
	CT L-Spine Checklist	Regional Lead: Cheryl Mitchell Provincial Clinical Development Team (orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, family physicians, a chiropractor, 2 patient advisors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC project Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada
Regina Qu'Appelle	Appropriate use of Laboratory resources - Vitamin D Test Ordering (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. Ted Alport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada
	Appropriate use of Laboratory resources - H. Pylori Testing (initiated in 2015-16)	Project Lead: Dr. Ted Alport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada
	Appropriate use of Laboratory resources - Lab System Vendor (BI solution to extract ordering practices by physician from LIS)	Project Lead: Dr. Ted Alport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	Avoid inappropriate bladder catheterization (completed and move to audit)	Project Team: Dr. Fink, Dr. Ene, Dr. Blignaut, Dr. Taylor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada

Region	Project	Project Lead	Alignment
Regina Qu'Appelle	Surgical Site Infection – best practice for caesareans and hysterectomy (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. Corrine Jabs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness, Patient Safety) ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Review/Update Travel, Immunization and Communicable Disease manuals; immunization coverage (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. Tanya Diener Dr. Maurice Hennick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	HIV perinatal transmission	Project Lead: Dr. Tanya Diener Dr. Maurice Hennick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	Appropriate use of urine drug triage tests for patients presenting to ER with psychiatric presentations	Project Lead: Dr. Damodharan Dr. Terry Ross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) ED Waits & Patient Flow Provincial Outcomes (Mental Health & Addictions) Choosing Wisely Canada
	Reduce the number of unnecessary investigations for critically ill patients (data analysis on # of ECG exams pre- and post-intervention)	Project Lead: Dr. Jeff Betcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada
	Appropriate pre-operative testing for all patients (Orthopedic and Gynecology)	Project Lead: Dr. Theo Leroux	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC Project Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada
	Appropriate screening for Pulmonary Embolism (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. Ledingham Dr. Ross/Dr. Kaban	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Compliance for appropriate use of Stroke and Prostate Pathways	Project Lead: Dr. Rehman - stroke Dr. Tse/Verma - prostate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Compliance with obtaining consent for transfusion of blood products (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. Ledingham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	Standardization of sets and trays (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Surgical Section Heads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness, Patient Safety)

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Regina Qu'Appelle	Development of Delirium Care Pathway	Project Lead: Dr. Terry Ross- ED Dr. Jeff Betcher - CC Dr. Sentil Damodharan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness, Patient Safety) • ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Pediatric Asthma Management - appropriate use of investigations, management and discharge education	Project Lead: Dr. Juliet Soper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) • Provincial Outcomes (PHC) • ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Appropriate Use of OR rooms - booked time vs actual time used (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. John Tsang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) • ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Appropriate Use of OR rooms - what caused the slate to run overtime	Project Lead: Dr. John Tsang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) • ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Cutaneous Abscess review (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. Ross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) • Choosing Wisely Canada
	Use of admission to Medical Inpatient Unit PPO (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. Abdulla, Dr. Ene Dr. Blignaut, Dr. Taylor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	Appropriate timing of discharge summaries completed by physicians (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. McCutcheon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) • ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Admission history and physical documented in patient chart (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. McCutcheon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	Plan of care identified within 24hrs and charted in patient chart (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. McCutcheon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	Barriers to Discharge (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. McCutcheon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) • ED Waits & Patient Flow
“Don’t perform stress cardiac imaging or advanced non-invasive imaging in the initial evaluation of patients without cardiac symptoms unless high-risk markers are present.”	Project Lead: Dr. Zimmerman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) • Choosing Wisely Canada 	

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Regina Qu'Appelle	Realignment of Cardiac Outpatient Services (appropriate ordering of Nuclear Stress Test & Echocardiography)	Project Lead: Dr. Zimmerman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	Reduce inappropriate referrals for patients with varicose veins and provide shared decision making to ensure that patients make informed decision with their physician	Project Lead: Dr. Kopriva	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Provincial Outcomes (Wait 1)
	Trauma program	Project Lead: Dr. Rao	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Enhance recovery after surgery (ERAS) pilot program for elective colorectal patients	Project Lead: Dr. Stephen Pooler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	COPD pathway	Project Lead: Dr. Hansia, Dr. Williams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) ED Waits & Patient Flow Provincial Outcomes (PHC, Wait 1)
	Adolescent Mental Health Pathway	Project Lead: Jamie Ash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) ED Waits & Patient Flow Provincial Outcomes (PHC, Mental Health & Addictions)
	Adult Mental Health Pathway	Project Lead: n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) ED Waits & Patient Flow Provincial Outcomes (PHC, Mental Health & Addictions)
	Appropriate use of Blood Products - Packed cells	Project Lead: Dr. Ledingham Dr. Lett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness) Choosing Wisely Canada
	MRI L-Spine Checklist (completed and move to audit)	Regional Lead: Medical Imaging Department Director Provincial Clinical Development Team (orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, family physicians, a chiropractor, 2 patient advisors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC Project Choosing Wisely Canada

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Regina Qu'Appelle	CT L-Spine Checklist	Regional Lead: Medical Imaging Department Director Provincial Clinical Development Team (orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, family physicians, a chiropractor, 2 patient advisors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC Project Choosing Wisely Canada
	Antimicrobial Stewardship	Project Lead: n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Patient Safety) Choosing Wisely Canada
	PPE - Proper glove use and Hand Hygiene	Project Lead: n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Patient Safety)
	Accountable Care Unit Optimization and Replication	Project Lead: Dr. Ron Taylor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ED Waits & Patient Flow Regional Priority
	Anemia Prevention and Management	Project Lead: Dr. Ron Taylor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Clinical Appropriateness)
	Implement a common pediatric mental health referral pathway using a pooled referral process and enhancing collaboration between pediatricians and child psychiatrists	Project Lead: Dr. Senthil Damodharan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Outcomes (Wait 1, Mental Health & Addictions) CQIP
	Improve patient handover/discharge process from hospital to community by improving time-lag between patient discharge and discharge summary dictation	Project Lead: Dr. Milo Fink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ED Waits & Patient Flow CQIP
Saskatoon	Standard Practice in Pathology Reporting process to decrease turnaround time for pathology reporting (outcome: decreased patient wait time for results) with an initial focus on breast specimens and to improve quality and consistency of pathology reporting (outcome: decrease in # of consults).	Project Lead: Dr. Henrike Rees Project Team: Dr. Fergall Magee (project sponsor), Patient Advisor, Barb McGarry, CQIP Project Coordinator, Lab Information Systems Team, QI/Research Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CQIP
	MRI L-Spine Checklist (completed and move to audit)	Project Lead: Dr. Paul Babyn Provincial Clinical Development Team (orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, family physicians, a chiropractor, 2 patient advisors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC Project Choosing Wisely Canada
	CT L-Spine Checklist	Project Lead: Dr. Paul Babyn Provincial Clinical Development Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC Project Choosing Wisely Canada

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Saskatoon		(orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, family physicians, a chiropractor, 2 patient advisors)	
	Pre-Operative Testing in Elective Hip / Knee Surgery to decrease the number of unnecessary pre-op tests in this population by 50%	Project Lead: Dr. Rabia Shahid Project Team: Cindy Graham (project sponsor), Patient Advisor, Drs. Malone Chaya, Kevin Wong, Brian Taylor, Jennifer Link, Barb McGarry, QI/Research Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provincial AC Project ● Choosing Wisely Canada ● CQIP
	Appropriate VTE Prophylaxis in Surgery (implementing VTE prophylaxis as a standard of care to ensure patients discharged following abdomino-pelvic surgery are on appropriate VTE prophylaxis)	Project Lead: Dr. Niroshan Sothilingham Project Team: Heather Miazga (project sponsor), Patient Advisor, Brenda Thiessen, Paul Robinson, Jennifer Zerff, Barb McGarry, Joanne Franko, QI/Research Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CQIP ● ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Broad Spectrum Antibiotic Usage in the ICU to influence the nature of prescribing antibiotics in the ICU (issue: inconsistent selection of antimicrobials in the ICU)	Project Lead: Dr. Shaqil Peermohamed Project Team: Justin Kosar, Vahid Niazmand, Patient Advisor, Barb McGarry, QI/Research Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CQIP ● Regional Priority (Better Care)
	Assessing the Impact of Early Sepsis Consideration in Differential Diagnoses and Responses: A Chart Audit of a Single Surgical Ward in Saskatoon	Project Lead: Dr Mark James Lead Project Team: Petrina McGrath (sponsor), QI/Research Support including as needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CQIP ● Regional Priority (Patient Safety)
	Standardize Follow Up for Endovascular Aortic Aneurysm Repair (EVAR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Standardize follow up during the first year post EVAR ● Continue follow up after one year with ultrasound rather than CT angiograms 	Project Lead: Dr. Nicolette Sinclair, Dr Paul Babyn Sponsor Project Team: Ultrasound Tech at SPH and Wall Street Clinic, Vascular Surgeon, Barb McGarry, QI/Research Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CQIP
	Reduce unnecessary preoperative ultrasound for inguinal surgery	Project Lead: Dr Maurice Ogaick, Dr Michael Harington (sponsor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CQIP ● Provincial AC Project (?)
	Improve Teamwork and Communication using Team STEPPS tools and pediatric early warning score to reduce # of unanticipated admissions to PICU and to increase psychological safety by standardizing process regarding	Project Lead: Tamara Lucus, Dr. Ayisha Kurji, Dr. Vicki Cattell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regional Priority (Patient Safety) ● ED Waits & Patient Flow

Region	Project	Project Lead	Alignment
Saskatoon	escalation of the declining patient		
	Implement Patient Assessment Scoring System (PASS) to decrease the numbers of code blues on Surgery 5000 and to decrease the numbers of ICU transfers	Project Lead: Norma Noesgaard/Surgery 5000 at RUH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priorities (Patient Safety, Decreasing Length of Stay, Cost Savings, Improving Patient Experience) ED Waits & Patient Flow
Sunrise	Outpatient COPD Care (goals: to increase referrals from ER to community pulmonary rehab program and to reduce repeat visits to the ER and in long term decrease admission rates for COPD)	Project Lead: Dr. Marcie Heggie Project Team: Dr. Lawale, Jackie Kentel, Cara Murray, Kerry O'Donnell, Kelly McNeil, Roberta Wiwcharuk, Kristin Keller, Vic Surjik, Cherise Mosiondz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CQIP Provincial Outcome (PHC) ED Waits & Patient Flow
	Pulmonary Embolism (Mistake Proofing Project) to ensure proper timing of diagnosis of pulmonary embolism	Project Lead: Lisa Alspach Project Team: Justin Ruf, Maria McLaren, Darlene Onslow, Karen Choptuik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority (Respond to two critical incidents) ED Waits & Patient Flow
Cypress	Pediatric Clinical Pathway for Acute Bronchiolitis in Children	Project Lead: Dr. Shamsuddin Fakhir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CQIP ED Waits & Patient Flow
U of S	Mental Health Care for U of S Students	Project Lead: Dr. Chantal Ansell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CQIP
SCA	Radiotherapy for Bone Metastases	Project Lead: Dr. Philip Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CQIP
	Improving the Quality of Care for Patients Requiring Colonoscopy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce variation in endoscopy quality through improving physicians' endoscopic skills and knowledge; and Improve patient flow through development and implementation of a provincial triage form for referral to colonoscopy and a central booking system 	Project Lead: Dr. Lawlor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial AC Project