

Better health. Better health care.

The O'Brien Institute for Public Health at the University of Calgary supports excellence in population health and health services research, realizing the benefits of such research by informing community, policy and health-practice stakeholders.

As an Institute, we share a vision of "better health and health care," reflecting our two priority research areas of improved population health and enhanced health systems performance.

The institute's success in brokering broader external relationships, with provincial and national interest groups, policy makers, research agencies, the media, philanthropists, and community stakeholders, further extends the reach and impact of our members' significant research outputs.



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
O'Brien Institute for Public Health

obrieniph.ucalgary.ca

Patient and Community Engagement Research

pacerinnovates.ca





“PaCER is unleashing a powerful patient research voice that is impacting the way we define health care, the way we deliver care, and the way we think about health research.”

Dr. Nancy Marlett, Director, PaCER

In our quest for sustainable and effective care, the Patient and Community Engagement Research (PaCER) unit at the O’Brien Institute for Public Health is working to transform the role of patients in health and health-care delivery in ways that are breaking new ground.

Working with Alberta Health Services through the Strategic Clinical Networks (SCNs), PaCER, led by Dr. Nancy Marlett from Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies at the University of Calgary, has become a social enterprise that empowers patients and informs health-system research.

Recognized as an innovator in research

engagement, PaCER puts informed patients at the table to co-design and inform new strategies and innovations in care.

In response to the emerging demand for patient-led research, the Continuing Education certificate program is a year-long course that trains people to become patient researchers and leaders. The program is offered at the University of Calgary and throughout Alberta, with some students in B.C. and Ontario.

PaCER is also forging new community research opportunities through a novel Indigenous internship, supported by the Population, Public and Indigenous Health Strategic Clinical Network in Alberta.

After successfully completing the program, PaCER researchers can:

- Volunteer as advisors on SCNs and other health and community bodies
- Work under contract to co-design and conduct research, health-care innovations and quality improvement strategies
- Work with other researchers and teams
- Use PaCER skills in an existing career
- Mentor new interns entering the PaCER program

To learn more about PaCER, visit pacerinnovates.ca