Patient engagement in research on a case management intervention for patients with chronic diseases and complex care needs

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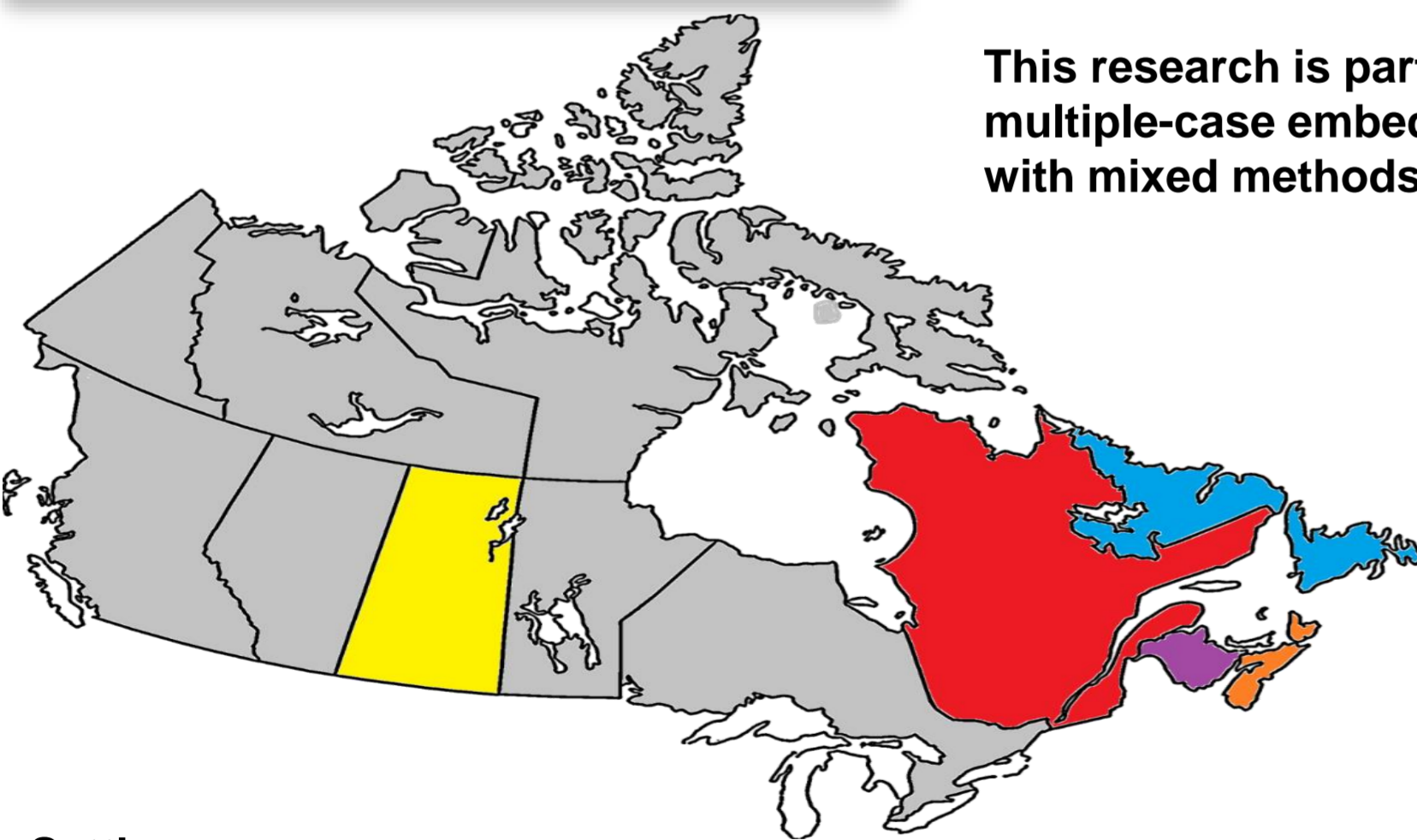
BACKGROUND

- A case management (CM) intervention (PriCare) for patients with chronic diseases and complex care needs will be implemented and evaluated in different Canadian primary care contexts.

- The proposed research takes a patient-oriented approach by engaging patients as partners in a multidisciplinary team and by focusing on patient priorities and desired outcomes in the planning and execution of the intervention.

- According to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the active participation of patients in health research leads to improved health outcomes and a better healthcare system[1]. However, little is known about how to engage patients in intervention research.

OBJECTIVE

- To describe patient engagement strategies in a multi-jurisdiction research study using a CM intervention.
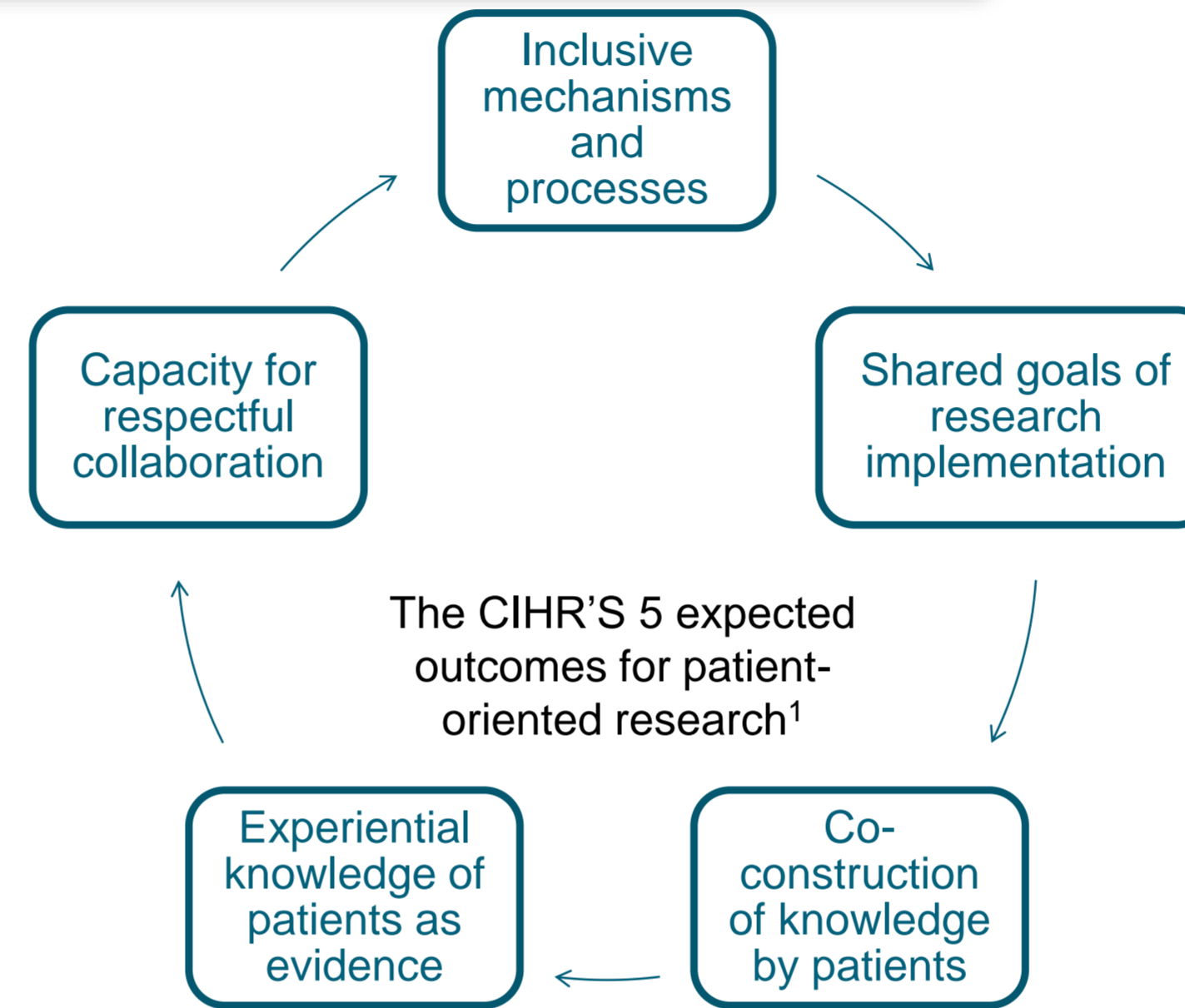
PriCare CM Project

This research is part of a multiple-case embedded study with mixed methods data.

Setting
A multidisciplinary team including patient partners has been established in five Canadian provinces (Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Québec and Saskatchewan) implementing the CM intervention.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The CIHR'S 5 expected outcomes for patient-oriented research[1]

- Inclusive mechanisms and processes
- Capacity for respectful collaboration
- Shared goals of research implementation
- Experiential knowledge of patients as evidence
- Co-construction of knowledge by patients

1. Planning/pre-implementation
2. Implementation and data collection
3. Analysis and knowledge translation

METHODS

Using a temporal bracketing strategy (Langley 1999) the patient engagement strategies used in the research project on CM will be described and categorized according to the CIHR's 5 expected outcomes at **three distinct phases of the CM research:**

1) The planning/pre-implementation stage of the CM intervention;

2) The data collection/implementation stage of the CM intervention, which includes the data collection; and

3) The analysis and knowledge translation stage

Temporal bracketing[2]

- An analysis method used in case study research

- A way to organize process data based on distinct temporal phases

- Well-suited to analyzing complex and dynamic phenomena

Data collection
- Document analysis: of research study protocols and planning tools

- Participant observation: of patient partner and research coordinator meetings and interaction

- Focus group discussions: based on a guided questionnaire co-constructed with researchers and patient partners

Data analysis
- A thematic analysis of the data based on the CIHR framework

EXPECTED RESULTS

The patient engagement strategies used in each province will be described and categorized at three distinct temporal phases based on the CIHR's five expected outcomes for patient oriented research.

CONCLUSION

This research will lead to a better understanding of the strategies used to engage patients in a multi-jurisdiction intervention study in five Canadian provinces.

References:
1. Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research-Patient Engagement Framework: Government of Canada. Available from: http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48413.html.
2. Langley, A. (1999). Strategies for Theorizing from Process Data. *The Academy of Management Review*, 24(4), 691-710