



Oncology Nurses' Readiness to Provide Patient Support and Information About Genetics and Genomics in Newfoundland and Labrador: A Study Proposal

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Introduction

- Newfoundland and Labrador (NL) has the **highest cancer rates in Canada** (Canadian Cancer Advisory Committee et al., 2021) and a unique genetic architecture (Zhai et al., 2016)
- Individuals with (genetic) cancer predisposition syndromes have an **increased lifetime risk of cancer**
- Uptake of screening and preventative surgeries saves lives in this population, but many are **unidentified and under-supported** (Tindale et al., 2022) in the current dominant model of cancer genetic care
- Nurses play central roles in the cancer care continuum; however, moderate research suggests that nurses have limited confidence and competence to apply genetics and genomics in their practice (Bottorff et al., 2005; Dewell et al., 2020; Hebert et al., 2022; Swadas et al., 2022)
- The cancer care workforce must be ready to provide cancer genetic care that **responds to the needs of this population**
- This mixed-methods study will explore **“Are NL Oncology Nurses Prepared to Provide Support and Information Individuals and Families about Genetics and Genomics?”**

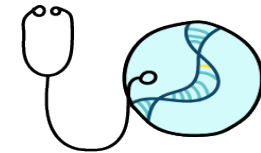
Methods

- 1. Qualitative Interviews (Interpretive Description):** With 25 individuals living with cancer-predisposing genes in NL to determine their preferences for supportive nurse-led cancer genetic care
- 2. Genomic Nursing Concept Inventory® Validated Survey:** Will be distributed to all nurses in the NL Cancer Care Program to assess their genetic/genomic learning targets
- 3. Integration:** The two data sources will be analyzed to make recommendations for policy and patient-centered genetics/genomics education for NL oncology nurses

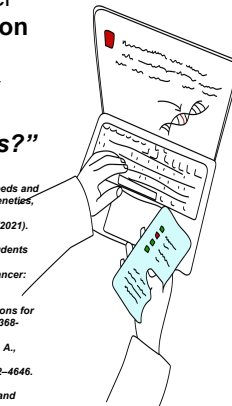


Potential Impacts

- Education to be delivered to NL oncology nurses informed by evidence and patients' lived experiences
- NL oncology nurses will be better prepared to deliver **high quality cancer genetics care in new service delivery models that saves lives**
- Findings will inform a future study of a nurse-led patient navigation model of inherited cancer risk management



Planned Knowledge Translation



→ **Healthcare providers:** Educational materials to be developed for NL oncology nurses based on survey findings and patients' lived experiences

→ **Researchers:** Findings to be published in an academic journal and presented at the International Society of Nurses in Genetics International Conference

→ **Patients and Public:** Public virtual town hall, plain language infographic for social and traditional media (e.g. Newspaper article, Television and Radio appearances)

→ **Policy Makers:** Meetings with decision-makers, policy brief summaries

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