

Earlier this afternoon, PANL delivered a presentation, *Evidence-Based Solutions to Transform Health and Health Care*, to the Health Accord NL taskforce.

Dr. Tiffany Lee, PANL Vice President, was joined by Dr. Ross Tsuyuki, University of Alberta, for the presentation to members of the various sub-committees.

Our presentation offered evidence-based solutions to a number of the problems highlighted by the Health Accord, specifically:

**Problem:** That compared to Canada, Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are more likely to have a chronic disease and are more likely to die from heart disease and stroke;

- **Solution:** To address chronic disease, trials have demonstrated that pharmacist care reduce BP by 18/6, A1c in people with diabetes by an absolute value of 1.8%, and cardiovascular risk by 21%

**Problem:** That healthcare spending in this province is up 232%, is considered the worst health care performance in Canada, that we spend more per person than any other province and that it just isn't working; and,

- **Solution:** To address costs, based upon the evidence above, pharmacist care could result in net healthcare savings of \$335 million for hypertension and \$206 million for cardiovascular risk over a patient's lifetime compared to usual care.

**Problem:** Finally, that there is a lack of community focus in the way healthcare is delivered.

- **Solution:** Pharmacists are accessible healthcare providers who can help to address the need for a greater focus on community-based care, using an existing infrastructure which is already available in communities throughout our province. In fact, researchers have shown that patients see their pharmacist 1.5 to 10 more times a year than they see their physician. Pharmacists practicing to full scope is also preferred by patients.

Our [solutions to these problems](#) are founded on enabling pharmacists to practice to their **FULL SCOPE** – which is evidence-based, improves outcomes, saves health care dollars and is strongly supported by patients.

Joining Dr. Lee to provide the evidence supporting these statements was Dr. Ross Tsuyuki - a Professor of Medicine in Cardiology at the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta. He is also the President of Hypertension Canada.

A full scope of pharmacist practice can help with Health Accord NL's identified problems in the areas of chronic disease, heart disease and stroke, health spending, and community care focus.

The presentation is available [online](#).