

Dementia Strategy Action Plan

The action plan envisions a three year timeframe for implementation. Monitoring and evaluation activities are included to measure progress and ensure accountability. The strategy will remain flexible and responsive throughout, informed by the experience of implementation and ongoing health system planning.

3-Key Priority Areas <i>(✓ indicates when work will begin)</i>	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Facilitate Early Diagnosis, Treatment, Care, and Support			
Build a best practice toolkit, targeting diagnosis, treatment, management and long term care planning	✓		
Enhance the First Link program		✓	
Continue working on the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) to facilitate sharing of medical records among health providers		✓	
Develop an assessment approach for families and caregivers		✓	
Enhance dementia protocols as part of 811 service	✓		
Increase access to home and facility based respite care		✓	
Review programs and services offered by the departments of Health and Wellness and Community Services to improve accessibility and coordination		✓	
Revise Supportive Care (Year 1) and Caregiver Benefit (Year 2) Programs to improve access for caregivers of people living with dementia	✓		
Work with the provincial palliative care strategy team to enhance end of life care	✓		
Coordinate Care and Supports Across the System			
Review & revise policies, procedures & practices within the Department of Health and Wellness and the Nova Scotia Health Authority with a dementia lens		✓	
Work with the Nova Scotia Health Authority to inventory current programs and services to ensure accessibility and coordination		✓	
Build a dementia care pathway across the system			✓
Establish and evaluate collaborative primary health care demonstration sites		✓	
Examine community-based support roles			✓
Identify core competencies for relevant health care providers, incorporate into training and professional development opportunities			✓
Engage underrepresented populations to identify needs and develop culturally specific programs and supports	✓		
Enhance Awareness and Understanding About Dementia			
Work with partners to develop an education campaign	✓		
Work with the Health Care Innovations Working Group in the development of a series of Pan-Canadian webinars and a National Dementia Symposium	✓		
Evaluate and inventory existing information resources		✓	
Provide appropriate training for families and caregivers through the Alzheimer's Society		✓	
Explore feasibility of providing practical skills training to caregivers	✓		
Ensure accessible and appropriate education for relevant health care providers		✓	
Facilitate information sharing among organizations		✓	
Facilitate access to information sources like the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging, brainXchange and the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (among others)		✓	
Supporting all Priority Actions			
Evaluate the dementia strategy		✓	
Determine appropriate data to collect	✓		
Develop dementia related research priorities	✓		