

February 23, 2016

Mr. David O'Toole  
CEO, Canadian Institute for Health Information  
495 Richmond Rd,  
Ottawa, ON K2A 4H6

**RE: Letter of support for the Canadian Institute for Health Information to work with the Canadian Cardiovascular Society for pan-Canadian cardiovascular quality indicator reporting**

Dear Mr. O'Toole:

I am offering this letter of support on behalf of the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness in backing the continuation of the work that that Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) has been doing with the Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS) in developing and reporting pan-Canadian cardiovascular quality indicators.

Given that the economic burden of cardiovascular disease in Nova Scotia is expected to reach \$1.1 billion in 2015, the province of Nova Scotia supports CIHI's collaboration with the CCS in the following areas of cardiovascular quality indicator development:

1. CIHI participation in the annual CCS Cardiac Quality Collaborative meeting that brings together the cardiovascular community including: clinicians, scientists and provincial cardiovascular care program managers
2. CCS clinical input and participation in the development and knowledge dissemination of CIHI's annual Cardiac Care Quality Indicators report
3. CIHI participation in cardiovascular quality indicator workshop(s) at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress to engage the clinical community in collection, analysis, reporting and knowledge dissemination of cardiovascular quality indicators

This important work will help support enhanced measurement, reporting and the delivery of cardiovascular care in Nova Scotia. It is work such as this that will enable enhanced surveillance and ultimately benefit Canadians requiring management of their cardiovascular disease. This work will also allow the province of Nova Scotia to compare performance and address areas of common concern in the future.

Cardiovascular Health Nova Scotia will continue to incorporate the CCS definitions and indicators into its work provincially, as appropriate. This letter does not place any future obligations on the Department of Health and Wellness in relation to this research and no financial or kind support will be provided.

Yours truly,

  
Dr. Peter W. Vaughan, CD, MA, MD, MPH  
Deputy Minister