

# “Peeking Over the Garden Wall”

## Integration and Health Links

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**Susan Fitzpatrick**

Associate Deputy Minister  
Health System Delivery and Implementation  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

# Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care

On February 2, the Minister announced *Patients First*, the next phase of Ontario's plan for changing and improving Ontario's health system. It exemplifies the commitment to put people and patients at the centre of the system by focusing on putting patients' needs first. This plan focuses on four key objectives:

## Access

Improve access - providing faster access to the right care

## Connect

Connect services – delivering better coordinated and integrated care in the community, closer to home

## Inform

Support people and patients – providing the education, information and transparency they need to make the right decisions about their health

## Protect

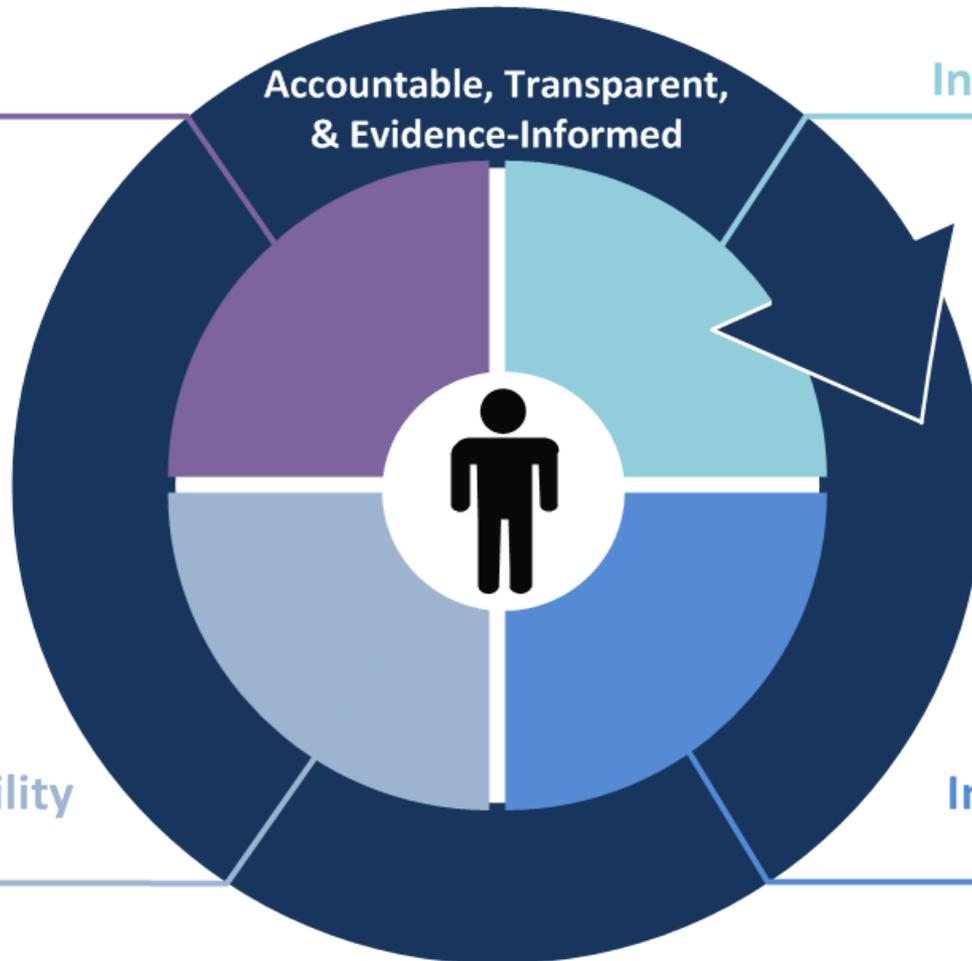
Protect our universal public health care system – making decisions based on value and quality, to sustain the system for generations to come

The next phase of Ontario's plan for changing our health system reflects our commitment to **put people and patients at the centre** of the system, and focuses on putting patients' needs first.

# Framework for Strategic Action

Home and  
Community Care

Improve System  
Integration, Accessibility



Ensure Sustainability  
and Quality

Increase the Health and  
Wellness of Ontarians

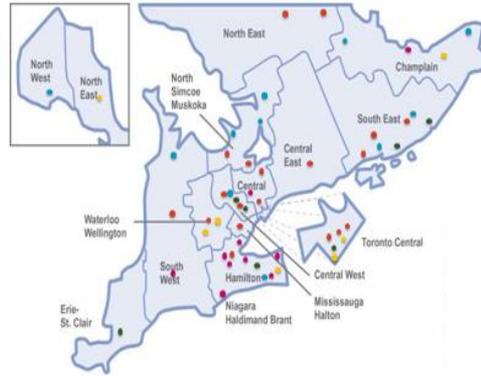
# How Health Links are evolving

**69** HEALTH LINKS

**26** Early Adopter Health Links

Additional **43** approved and being established

**1,500+**  
Partners



**4,291**  
CARE PLANS  
PRODUCED



- Since Health Links' inception, incremental gains and improvements have been seen with respect to **coordinating care** for complex patients and **improving transitions** between services
- Care planning is evolving to respond to vulnerable populations such as individuals with **mental health and addictions** issues, requiring **palliative care**, as well as **frail older adults**

# Health Links Integration

## From the perspective of Primary Care

### Improve System Integration, Accessibility

Importance of ***primary care*** teams at the centre of the delivery system

Integration of care promotes seamless sharing of care and/or transitions



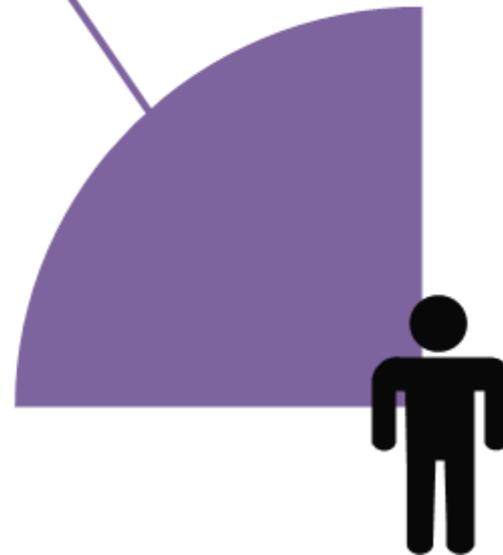
# Health Links Integration

## From the perspective of Home and Community Care

### Home and Community Care

Creating capacity for flexible, multidisciplinary ***community-based*** care

Support testing and adoption of integrated funding mechanisms to facilitate integrated care



# Health Links Integration

## From the perspective of Population Focused Care



Focus on improving outcomes and experience for vulnerable patient sub populations such as ***frail older adults*** and individuals with mental health and addictions challenges

**Increase the Health and  
Wellness of Ontarians**

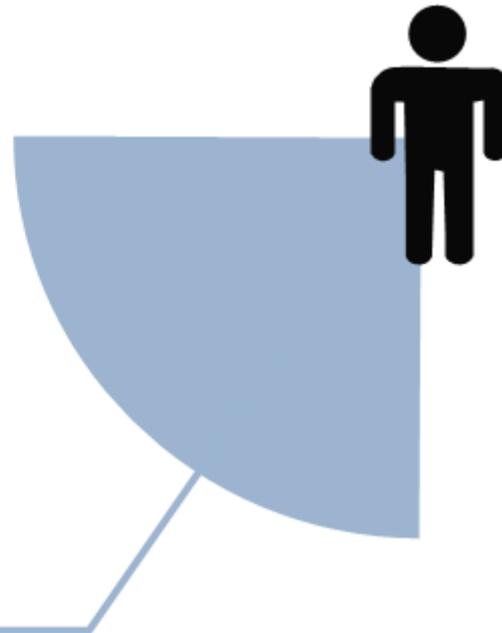
# Health Links Integration

## With a consistent aim of Sustainability and Quality

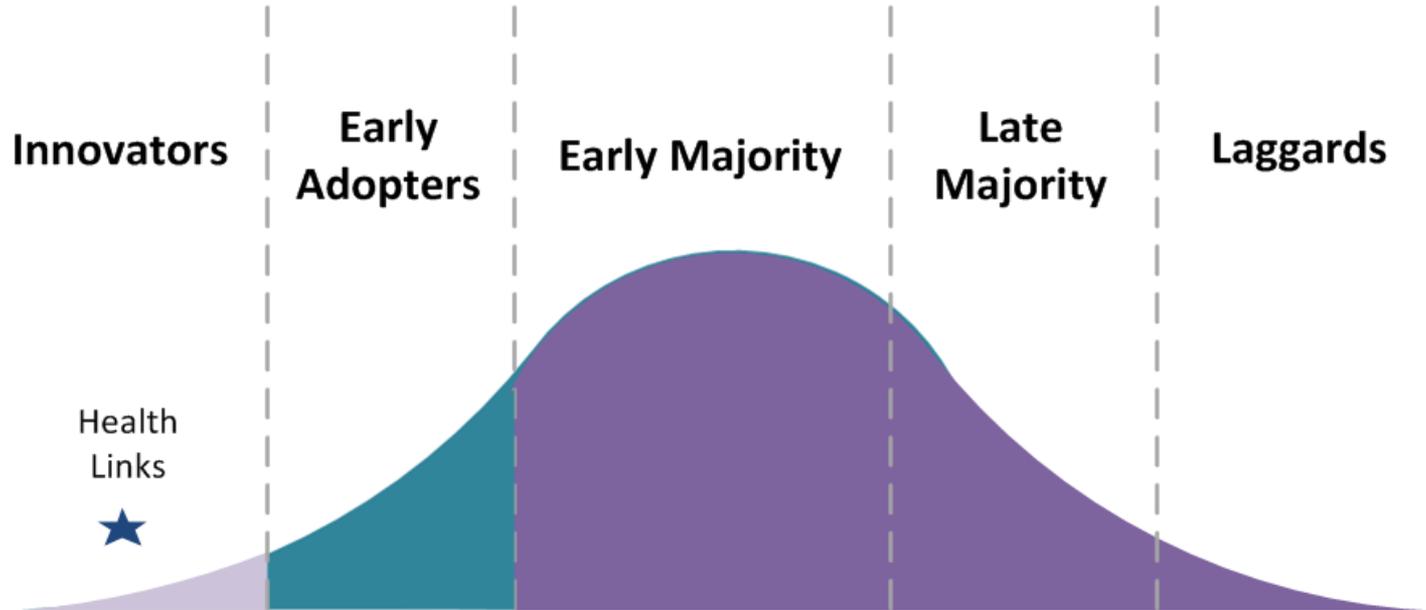
Improved integration and shared care for the right individuals increases quality and improves outcomes

Improved care for seniors through development of new ways to deliver services

**Ensure Sustainability  
and Quality**



# Sector Leadership and Excellence are Critical



- To bridge from pockets of excellence, existing tools need to be strengthened to support greater spread:
  - **Meaningful patient engagement** to co-design transformation
  - **Expand quality improvement** efforts beyond acute sector
  - **Scale up initiatives** where investments have shown results
  - **Deepen funding reform** and review benefits
  - **Strengthen accountability** agreements and oversight to drive results
  - **Manage pace** of change by ensuring change supports are in place
  - **Leverage champions** from the sector
  - **Position strong leaders** at the forefront who can deliver on the vision