

## MOBILIZING RURAL, REMOTE AND URBAN PATIENT PERSPECTIVES TO ENHANCE ACCESS TO CHRONIC BACK PAIN CARE

Little is known about barriers and facilitators to health care access among rural, remote and Indigenous people with back pain compared to urban and/or non-Indigenous people. With approximately 30% of Saskatchewan's population living in rural and remote settings and 16% of the province's population being Indigenous, this is a critical gap to address.

The main goal of this project is to explore and apply the experiences of rural, remote and urban Indigenous and non-Indigenous people with chronic back pain to develop a deeper understanding of health care access barriers and facilitators across rural, remote, and urban communities.

Our team will also investigate which indicators of access and effectiveness of back pain care are most meaningful to rural, remote and urban patients. This information will inform the development of comprehensive measures that will be sensitive to geographical location and relevant to culturally diverse people with chronic back pain. These measures will be used in future studies to evaluate community-based chronic back pain interventions and cross provincial/ national comparisons, ultimately leading to enhanced access to more patient-centred care for chronic back pain.

Our diverse research team includes 3 patient members, Bertha Carnegie, Stacey McIntosh and Marie Custer who are from rural and Indigenous communities and provide unique knowledge based on their lived experiences with chronic back pain. Other research team members include: Brenna Bath, Stacey Lovo, Veronica McKinney, Sarah Oosman, Terrence McDonald, Nazmi Sari, Katie Crockett, Catherine Trask and Alison Irvine



*First team meeting (over zoom) on April 3rd, 2020 From left to right. Top: Brenna Bath, Stacey Lovo, Stacey McIntosh. Middle: Catherine Trask, Alison Irvine, Katie Crockett. Bottom: Bertha Carnegie, Sarah Oosman, Nazmi Sari.*

### STUDY PUBLICATIONS

Stay tuned- data collection has not started yet.

For project details, including team members please see the [CIHR](#) page.

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