



NB-IRDT

New Brunswick Institute for
Research, Data and Training

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My Background

- Health Geography/Environmental Epidemiology
- Studying links between exposures to ambient air pollution and mortality, and incidence of cancer
- Benefits of greenspace and greenness to longevity and mental health

MSSU:

Supporting Patient Oriented Research

- Health research infrastructure to support all facets of patient oriented health research in the Maritimes
- Collaboration: Departments of Health, researchers, clinicians, RHAs, patient representatives, & health research foundations

IRDT



- Secure data facility at UNB in cooperation with GNB
- Officially launched May 2015
- Supported financially by:
 - Government of New Brunswick
 - Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR)
 - NB Health Research Foundation
 - Canada Foundation for Innovation



Purpose of the IRDT

- Host administrative data from GNB departments in prepared, but linkable form
- Make those data available to researchers in an anonymized and highly secure fashion
- Conduct research to support GNB planning and policy development
- Attract researchers and develop research capacity in the province

Data...

Department of Health data:

- Hospital discharge abstracts
- Citizen database
- Vital statistics
- Physician billing
- Cancer incidence registry, cancer screening registry
- Diabetes registry
- Healthy toddler assessments

Data preparation underway at PETL, SD:

- Long term care
- Immigrant landing records

Master data sharing agreement with Horizon & Vitalité

Research...

- For research purposes only
- All proposals: research ethics review, scientific peer review, privacy review
- Government initiated and MSSU-supported projects can access NB-IRDT data at no additional cost; other research based on cost recovery
- Research support options available

- Surgeon volume, hospital volume, and mortality
- Associations between breast cancer incidence, tumour characteristics, & screening participation
- Impact of rural hospital closures on distance to acute care and health outcomes

Training...

- Topics:
 - Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
 - R statistical programming language
 - Data analysis for making policy decisions
 - Cost-benefit analysis
- Liaising with GNB to solicit topics of interest

Thank You

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