



Seeking members of the general public for a Public Advisory Council

Project description: A research team at Memorial University and the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information is studying how genomic information can be integrated into a patient's Electronic Health Record.

A genetically-guided approach to screening and treatment could save time and money in the diagnosis of certain diseases. However, there are important patient concerns – such as the privacy of genetic information or who can access it – that must be addressed. The research team would like to create a public advisory council to help identify patient and public concerns as early as possible. The council will also give advice on the project as it goes on.

What is the time commitment?

One year, April 15, 2018-March 31, 2019

Who can take part?

Anybody with an interest in health research can volunteer for the council. No special knowledge or background is required. We will provide all the information necessary to take part.

We wish to include volunteers from around the province: two volunteers from each of the health authorities, for a total of 8 members. Volunteers can be from any part of the province.

What will you have to do?

The council will meet in St. John's twice during the project. St. John's meetings will be for 1-2 days. All travel costs will be covered. The council will also meet twice by teleconference. Teleconferences will be for an hour each time. Council members will be asked for their input on various parts of the project, such as what concerns the public might have about including genomic information in the electronic health record or reviewing patient education materials and informed consent documents.

Who do you contact?

If you would like more information about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Dr. Holly Etchegary, Memorial University. Reach Holly by email at holly.etchegary@med.mun.ca or by phone at 709-864-6605.

