

# FACT SHEET

## WHAT IS AN ACADEMIC HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATION?

- A patient care organization with a publicly stated tripartite mandate of care, training and research. There are approximately 40 such organizations in Canada.
- Academic healthcare organizations include research hospitals, academic regional health authorities, and their research institutes. They may be single or multi-site corporations.
- They can be specialized by segment of the population, disease area, phase of care, and/or contain a general and far-reaching patient care mandate.
- While under provincial jurisdiction, academic healthcare organizations are considered national resources because of the roles that they play in highly specialized care, research, innovation, and commercialization.
- The significant research and innovation function of an academic healthcare organization affects its structure, function, governance, culture, and performance.
- When considered in the context of the university-healthcare partnership, they are referred to as academic health sciences centres, and more recently, academic health sciences networks.
- Each academic healthcare organization is necessarily affiliated with at a least the Faculty of Medicine, but often many other faculties as well.
- HealthCareCAN is currently developing a set of formal credentialing indicators for academic healthcare organizations. Indicators will be available for consultation in the fall and finalized in the winter of 2016.

## OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT ACADEMIC HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS

Seminal publications about these organizations, including world firsts and spin off companies can be found on the HealthCareCAN website: [www.healthcarecan.ca](http://www.healthcarecan.ca).