

# #ResearchAtHorizon: Current COVID-19 Studies

The below article contains a list of current COVID-19 studies active at Horizon (as of June 5, 2020). If you have any questions about any of the studies you see listed, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Research Services.

When one thinks of clinical research, it is likely about the interventional studies that compare one potential treatment to another.

Recently, Horizon researchers at Saint John Regional Hospital, The Moncton Hospital, and Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital in Fredericton have partnered to recruit to CATCO – Canadian Treatments for COVID-19, a national study that will contribute to the World Health Organization’s SOLIDARITY trial that investigates possible treatments (lopinavir/ritonavir, hydroxychloroquine or remdesivir) compared to standard of care.

In some of the other COVID-19 studies currently active at Horizon, the focus is on how the novel coronavirus impacts those with existing chronic health conditions, such as:

- rheumatoid arthritis (The COVID-19 Global Rheumatology Alliance);
- inflammatory bowel disease (Surveillance Epidemiology of Coronavirus Under Research Exclusion);
- those who have had a ST-elevated

myocardial infarction (North American COVID-19 ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction); or

- those who have undergone cardiac surgery (New Brunswick Heart Centre’s Coronavirus Disease 2019 Heart Outcomes Study) or cancer surgery (CovidSurg-Cancer).

*These studies create data registries and collect additional information from patients during a regular appointment or scheduled procedure, and will help us to understand how the virus is impacting a wide range of people living with these conditions or experiences.*

Registry studies can also look at the general population and collect data on how the public is using the health care system and its services differently (or not) during a public health emergency. Our researchers are currently collecting data on:

- Who is visiting the Emergency Department (Canadian Emergency Department COVID-19 Registry);
- How the virus has impacted broader social determinants of health (NB Social Pediatrics’ *Understanding the Psychosocial Impact of the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic on New Brunswickers* study); and
- How the virus has impacted children and youth with complex care needs, their caregivers and their care providers (a study led by partners at University of New Brunswick Saint John’s Centre for Research in Integrated Care).

There are also observational studies interested in understanding the clinical characteristics of having COVID-19, looking at both outcomes (the TRIPLE-C NB study being led by Dr. Dan Smyth of Horizon’s The Moncton Hospital) and at leftover biological samples from testing people who have had the illness (a biobank study led by researchers out of the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont University Hospital Centre).

What these examples show is that to truly understand a disease or identify the best possible treatments, it takes significant collaboration within and outside Horizon – and these past four months have been no exception.