



GLOSSARY

Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit





The MSSU supports the conduct and implementation of patient-oriented research in the Maritimes. This document – the Glossary – provides simple definitions for words and acronyms commonly used in health research, as well as a few terms that are specific to the MSSU and the Maritimes. The Glossary was created by a panel of MSSU Patient Partners and staff and is intended for use by anyone involved in health research.

Many of these definitions were adapted from glossaries created by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), INVOLVE UK, Research Data Canada, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, New Brunswick Institute for Research Data and Training (NB-IRDT), and Building Research for Integrated Primary Health Care Nova Scotia (BRIC NS).

Have a suggestion?

Is there a word or acronym that you'd like to add? A suggestion to make a definition more clear? An example to illustrate what a word means? Email us at info@mssu.ca.

Abstract	A brief summary of a research study and its results—why the study was done, what the study tried to show, how the researchers went about it, and what they found.
Acute Care	Care provided in a hospital or a psychiatric facility.
Administrative Data	Information collected primarily for administrative (not research) purposes. This type of data is collected by government departments and other organizations for the purposes of registration, transaction and record keeping, usually during the delivery of a service.
Advisory Group	Many research studies have an advisory group that helps to develop, support, and monitor the study. In patient-oriented research (POR), the group often includes patients, caregivers, researchers and other health and social care professionals, who can provide relevant advice. There may also be other types of advisory groups or committees that come together to share ideas and feedback on a wide range of topics.
Analysis	A structured review of the data collected by a research study. It involves using specific methods to examine and process information to identify patterns and draw out the main themes. The analysis should be designed to answer the research question(s) that the study is trying to address. It is often done with specialist computer software for example SPSS Statistical Software or NVivo Qualitative Data Analysis.

<p>Associate and Affiliate Scientist (MSSU)</p>	<p>A member of the MSSU Associate and Affiliate Scientists program. Members are engaged in patient-oriented research and committed to the research goals of the MSSU.</p>
<p>Basic Research</p>	<p>Research that aims to improve knowledge and understanding, rather than finding a solution to a practical problem. It usually involves work in a laboratory, for example to find a gene linked to a disease or to understand how cancer cells grow. This kind of research can sometimes provide clues as to which avenues to explore to develop new treatments and/or solutions.</p> <p>(Sometimes called Lab or Bench Research)</p>
<p>Bias</p>	<p>Bias is a type of error that may cause a person to interpret the results of a study in a particular way. Biases can occur when the researcher doesn't adhere to standards in designing and conducting the study, analysing and interpreting the evidence, or reporting the study results. Biases can also result from circumstances beyond a researcher's control, for example when there is an uneven number of some characteristics between groups (for example number of females versus number of male participants).</p>
<p>Big Data</p>	<p>A term used to describe large datasets. Big data are distinguished by "the three Vs": volume (the amount of data), velocity (the speed at which data is collected and analyzed), and variety (the format, structured or unstructured, and type of data).</p>

Biomedical Research	Study of human function from the level of cells and molecules all the way up to the whole body. Basic biomedical researchers do their work in a laboratory using test tubes, cell samples, microscopes, chemical analysis, and other applicable tools or methods.
Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR)	An agency of the Government of Canada that provides federal funding for health and health-related research in Canada. The CIHR is made up of 13 Institutes that work with partners and researchers to support the ideas and discoveries that improve the health of Canadians and strengthen the health care system.
Capacity Building	The process by which people or organizations gain new skills, knowledge, tools, equipment or other resources that allows them to better perform certain tasks or functions. Training is a common form of capacity building.
Clinical Research	Health research on people, typically to evaluate how well drugs, medical devices and practices are working. It may involve researchers asking questions, administering drugs, taking blood or tissue samples, or checking the progress of patients as they take a treatment according to the study's instructions. Clinical research studies often have specific criteria to define who can be a participant in the study.
Clinical Trials	A clinical trial is a specific type of research study used to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of a treatment. For example, a clinical trial might compare a new drug to a sugar pill that has no effect on an individual (a placebo), or to a drug already used to treat the condition (a comparator).

	<p>Once the safety of the new drug or treatment has been demonstrated in tests on animals, it goes through multiple testing processes (Phase I trials - Phase IV trials) to determine its safety and efficacy in treating humans. If a drug or treatment shows success in one phase, the evaluation moves to the next phase. Once Phase III trials have been successfully completed, the drug or treatment is considered ready for use. These phases test a single drug or treatment but usually involve different researchers and different patients, and may be carried out several years apart. All clinical trials conducted in Canada must first have Health Canada approval.</p>
Cohort	<p>A group of people who have been included in a study and share a defining characteristic that the research team is interested in. For example, a group of participants who were all cigarette smokers in the last year.</p>
Co-Investigator (Co-I)	<p>A person on a research team who will be making a significant contribution to a research project. While the Principal Investigator (PI) has ultimate responsibility for the project, the Co-Investigator(s) will typically have plenty of research experience and also responsible for making sure the research project is following the right processes, laws and guidelines.</p>
Collaborator	<p>A person or organization that is involved with or supports a research study. A collaborator's role may be large or small. The contributions that collaborators make will vary from study to study, and even during different parts of a single study. Collaborators may be involved in every aspect or a single stage of the study.</p>

Comorbidity	When two or more disorders or illnesses occur in the same person, for example a person who was diagnosed with Anxiety and Depression.
Community of Practice (CoP)	A knowledge network of individuals with a shared passion or concern that engage in a process of collective learning, broaden their knowledge, improve their skills and guide best practices.
Confidentiality	Confidentiality is a set of practices, rules, and obligations that are followed to meet an ethical and/or legal responsibility to protect information. This includes protecting information from unauthorized access, use, loss or theft. Researchers must have data protection measures to keep the information collected about research participants confidential.
Controlled Variable	A factor that does not change during a study. They are sometimes referred to as a constant variable. Controlled variables help keep the study environment and participants as similar as possible. An example of a controlled variable is the number of times per day that each participant takes the study medication.
Curriculum Vitae (CV)	Curriculum Vitae, Latin for "course of life," is a written record of a person's career and can be required from research team members for some types of funding.
Data	Any structured information. Data can include written information, numbers, sounds and pictures. In health research, data describes the information collected during a study.
Data Curation	The activities and processes necessary to ensure the quality and usefulness of datasets.

Data Disposition	The process for physically disposing of data at the end of a predetermined time period or when a study is finished. This could include archiving or securely destroying data.
Data Lifecycle	The stages for managing data from its creation and collection through to its storage, access and use, followed by how it is shared with others, and its final disposal. Research studies plan for each stage in the data lifecycle.
Data Linking	When two or more datasets are connected or combined for research purposes.
Data Platform	A collection of de-identified administrative data that can be accessed by application. De-identified data is data in which any information that can identify a person's identity has been removed, such as their name. Data platforms may also be used to describe the organizations that maintain the data, for example the New Brunswick Institute for Research, Data and Training (NB-IRDT).
Dataset	A collection of data or samples that is gathered and stored in a structured and consistent way.
Decision-makers	People who make or influence decisions about health policies and practices.
Dependent Variable	The factor(s) which is being measured or studied during an experiment. Some research studies only look at one dependent variable, while others may look at many. The research aims to understand if another factor(s) is influencing the dependent variable. An example of a dependent variable is how tall someone is at different ages.

<p>Dissemination</p>	<p>Any form of sharing or communicating about a research study and its results. For example, researchers may want to share results with people who participated in the research study, other researchers, decision-makers, and patients and caregivers. Communications could be face-to-face (presentations at conferences, seminars, briefings, etc.), written (journal articles, blogs, etc.), audiovisual (podcasts, videos, graphics and pictures).</p>
<p>Diversity</p>	<p>Differences in the lived experiences and perspectives of people that may include race, ethnicity, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, family status, physical disability, mental disability, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, class, and/or socio-economic situations.</p> <p>Related terms: Person with lived/living experience, equity/equitable, inclusion.</p>
<p>Effectiveness</p>	<p>How well a drug, treatment or intervention performs under “real world” conditions.</p>
<p>Efficacy</p>	<p>How well a drug, treatment or intervention performs under ideal and controlled circumstances. Efficacy is often measured in clinical trials.</p>
<p>Eligibility Criteria</p>	<p>In health research, eligibility criteria are a set of characteristics that determine whether or not a person can participate in a study. These include inclusion criteria (characteristics a participant must have) and exclusion criteria (characteristics a participant must not have). For example, a study might only accept participants who are above or below certain ages.</p>

<p>Epidemiology</p>	<p>The study of patterns of health and disease in groups or populations of people. These types of studies are important in understanding infectious diseases, like the flu, and for studying social and environmental factors that influence health and wellness. Knowledge gained from these studies can help answer important public health questions and, in turn, help to improve the health of a community or population.</p>
<p>End-of-Grant Knowledge Translation (End-of-Grant KT)</p>	<p>End-of-Grant KT focuses on dissemination strategies used to share research findings to different audiences such as patients, decision-makers, researchers and health care professionals. The information is adapted and delivered in a way that is useful and relevant to the target audience. For example, a researcher may develop a visual summary (infographic) of their study's findings to share their findings with the public.</p>
<p>Equity/equitable</p>	<p>Equity refers to fairness. Equity in health means that peoples' needs guide the distribution of opportunities for well-being. Equity in health is not the same as equality in health status. Inequalities in health status between individuals and populations may be the result of genetic differences and/or social and economic conditions known as the social determinants of health (SDOH). For more information on SDOH see: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/population-health/what-determines-health.html</p> <p>Inequities occur as a consequence of differences in opportunity, which result, for example in unequal access to health</p>

	<p>services, nutritious food or adequate housing. In such cases, inequalities in health status arise as a consequence of inequities in opportunities in life.</p> <p>Related terms: diversity, inclusion.</p>
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)	Please see separate definitions for equity, diversity and inclusion.
Evaluation	The careful and complete collection of information about a program or process in order to determine its value and worth. Both research and evaluation have features that center on answering a question but the purpose of evaluation is to improve an existing program, while research is intended to test a theory or hypothesis.
Evidence Base	Collection of all the research currently available about a topic, such as how well a treatment or a service works.
Evidence Synthesis	Evidence synthesis (also known as knowledge synthesis) involves gathering information on a particular topic from multiple sources. There are many different kinds of evidence synthesis but they all provide structured ways of understanding what evidence exists and identifying any gaps in our knowledge.
Experimental Research	<p>An approach where researchers change or manipulate one or more variables to see if it has an effect on other variables. The primary purpose of using this method is to see if there is a relationship between two or more variables. A research question using this method may look like "What is the effect of _____ on _____?". This method is widely used in research about health (physical and social), education and psychology.</p> <p>Related term: variable.</p>

Exclusion Criteria	Criteria which excludes specific individuals from participating in a study. The reasons for considering exclusion can range from scope of the study, safety issues, potential difficulties in management of particular participants or the need to control variables within the study. Exclusion criteria must always be defended ethically to guard against discrimination.
Focus Group	A small group of people brought together to talk. The purpose is to listen and gather information. It is a good way to find out how people feel or think about an issue, or to come up with possible solutions to problems.
Funder	An organization providing funding for a study through agreements, grants or donations.
Grey Literature	Documents that are less formal than an article in a peer-reviewed journal or a chapter in a book. It includes reports, committee minutes, conference papers, factsheets, newsletters and campaign materials. Some of this material has been developed by community groups on a particular issue for a specific group of people or of a local context.
Health Care Providers (HCPs)	Someone a person sees or communicates to when they need care or advice about their health. Examples include a family doctor or general practitioner, medical specialist, pharmacist or nurse practitioner.
Health Data Nova Scotia (HDNS)	Health Data Nova Scotia (HDNS) is a data repository that provides access to administrative health data and analysis for research and health service assessment purposes in a secure, controlled environment.

Health Systems and Health Services Research	Research that seeks to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of health professionals, such as doctors, nurses, or physiotherapists, or the health care system itself through changes to practice and policy.
Hypothesis	A possible explanation for something. A scientific hypothesis can never be absolutely proven correct, because there is always the possibility that the real explanation is beyond our present scope of knowledge.
Implementation Science	Implementation Science is a part of Knowledge Translation (KT) that study's what strategies are useful in promoting the uptake of research findings and evidence into policy and practice in aim to improve health care and services. For example, a study could involve understanding the barriers and facilitators to accessing primary care and developing targeted interventions based on the findings. Related term: Knowledge Translation (KT).
Inclusion	A process to address imbalances in power and privilege, and build a respectful and diverse community that ensures welcoming spaces and opportunities for all in the population to thrive. Related terms: equity, diversity.
Inclusion Criteria	Specific criteria that determines which individuals can participate in a study, for example individuals within a certain age range, with a specific condition, etc.

Independent Variable	A factor or characteristic in an experiment that is manipulated by the experimenter. An example could be giving the same medication in three different doses.
Informed Consent	In any study involving humans, participants must voluntarily agree to take part in the research, with a full understanding of the possible benefits and risks associated with participating in the study and their rights, including the right to withdraw at any time without penalty. Researchers have an ethical obligation to share information about the study in a way that is understandable to participants, so that they can give their free and informed consent.
Intervention	An action that aims to make a change and is tested through research. For example, giving a drug, providing a counselling service, improving the environment or giving people information and training are all described as interventions.
Integrated Knowledge Translation (iKT)	Integrated KT is an approach to research where knowledge users are part of each stage of the research process from the development of the study, to the sharing of findings. This approach aims to ensure the research findings are useful for those who will use it and more likely to be used in policy and practice.
Journal	A publication in which researchers formally report the results of their research to people who share a similar interest or experience. Each journal usually specializes in one particular topic area. The Canadian Medical Association Journal, CMAJ), British Medical Journal (BMJ) are examples of journals.

<p>Knowledge Translation (KT)</p>	<p>Knowledge Translation (KT) is the term used for all the activities and strategies used to move research into the hands of those who need it most such as patients, health care professionals, and decision-makers. In simple terms, it is getting the right information to the right people at the right time and in the right format to influence decision-making.</p>
<p>Knowledge Broker</p>	<p>An intermediary that develops relationships and networks with, among and between producers and users of knowledge. Knowledge brokers provide connections, knowledge sources and, in some cases, knowledge itself, to organizations and stakeholders within their network.</p>
<p>Knowledge Users</p>	<p>An individual who is likely to be able to use research results to make informed decisions about health policies, programs, treatments and/or practices.</p>
<p>Lay Person</p>	<p>A person without professional or specialized knowledge in a particular subject. In research, it refers to the people who are neither academic researchers nor health or social care professionals.</p>
<p>Lay Summary</p>	<p>A brief summary of a research project or a research proposal that has been written for members of the public, rather than researchers or professionals. It should be written in plain English, avoid the use of jargon and explain any technical terms that have to be included.</p>

<p>Learning Health System (LHS)</p>	<p>A way of delivering health care services that actively learns through evaluation and research, and responds through system delivery or service improvements to the needs of the many people involved in providing and receiving care. In a Learning Health System, health research is integrated at all levels to create a culture of rapid learning and improvement. This approach recognizes different sources of knowledge generated through research and data resources, but also through the experience and expertise of health care providers, policy- and decision-makers, and, importantly, the patients and caregivers who experience health care first-hand.</p>
<p>Literature Review</p>	<p>Summaries of literature on a given topic or research question (e.g. the Background section of a peer-reviewed journal article or report). While still important for understanding a research topic, they are more informal than evidence syntheses such as systematic reviews because their methods usually lack transparency and rigour, and are subject to bias.</p> <p>Related terms: evidence synthesis, systematic review.</p>
<p>Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit (MSSU)</p>	<p>The Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit (MSSU) is a research support unit with offices in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. We collaborate with government stakeholders, health authorities, the research community, and patients and caregivers. Together we engage in patient-oriented health research. We are one of 11 Support for People and Patient-Oriented Research and Trials (SUPPORT) units that form an integral part of the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR), a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) initiative.</p>

Methodology	The specific techniques and tools used in a research study to recruit participants, collect and analyze data, and share the study's results.
Morbidity	The rate of a specific disease or health condition within a population. For example, how many people are living with diabetes in Canada.
New Brunswick Institute for Research, Data and Training (NB-IRDT)	An institute that facilitates research to inform public policy by hosting and providing access to secure, privacy-protected, person level data in New Brunswick. NB-IRDT also provides other services including data management, data curation, capacity building, program evaluation and knowledge translation.
Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness (DHW)	The Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness (DHW) supports programs and services that protect and promote health, and treat illness for Nova Scotians and their families.
Nova Scotia Health (NSH)	Nova Scotia Health provides health services to Nova Scotians and some specialized services to Maritimers and Atlantic Canadians. The NSH operates hospitals, health centres and community-based programs across the province. The legal name for NSH is the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA).
Outcome Measures	Outcome measures are measurements of the effects of a treatment or service. They might include physical measurements, for example blood pressure, or psychological measurements, for example measuring people's sense of well-being.

Open data	Data that is freely available to the public and published in a manner in which anyone can use, share, and manipulate for any purpose without restriction.
Participant	A person who takes part in a research study. Commonly referred to as a research "subject."
Participatory Research	<p>This is a type of research where researchers partner with knowledge users such as patients, caregivers and/or communities to do research. The research addresses an issue of importance to the knowledge users, who are involved in the design and conduct of the research, and the way the findings are made available. This isn't a research method, it's an approach to research and using very similar principles to integrated Knowledge Translation (iKT).</p> <p>Related terms: knowledge users, integrated Knowledge Translation (iKT).</p>
Patient	A patient is anyone with experience of a health condition or receiving health care. This can include caregivers, family members, friends, communities and members of the public.
Patient Partner	<p>Someone who has experience with a health condition, health experience or receiving health care. Patient Partners become part of the research team to help develop and implement the research study. The main role of a Patient Partner is to provide an expert perspective based on their lived/living experience. Patient Partners are not participants in a research study.</p> <p>Related terms: patient, patient engagement, persons with lived/living experience.</p>

<p>Patient Engagement</p>	<p>Meaningfully and actively engaging people with lived/living experience with a health condition on a research team. Activities can include creating the research question, selecting research methods like which survey to use, and developing strategies on how best to share the research results. Research teams may also engage people who bring the collective voice of specific affected communities.</p> <p>Related terms: patient, Patient Partner, persons with lived/living experience.</p>
<p>Patient-Oriented Research (POR)</p>	<p>Patient-oriented research or POR is health research that engages patients as partners. It prioritizes questions and measures outcomes that matter to patients. POR is conducted in partnership with health care providers, decision-makers and other relevant groups, and aims to apply the knowledge generated to improve healthcare systems and practices.</p>
<p>Peer Review</p>	<p>A reviewing process for checking the quality and importance of reports of research. For instance, a research team may want to share their results or something they learned by publishing an article to a journal. Before a journal decides to publish something, they may have a group of experts review it to check it meets the standards for research in that area.</p>
<p>Personal Health Information (PHI)</p>	<p>Identifying details about a person, their medical or health history.</p>
<p>Persons with Lived/Living Experience</p>	<p>Patients and caregivers who are experts through their experience of illness or disability and/or use of health services.</p>

Pilot Study	Pilot studies are smaller scale studies that tell researchers if a larger study can be done, if it should be done and what changes should be made before the larger study starts. Pilot studies are important because they help improve the main study before it has even started.
Placebo	A placebo is a drug, treatment or procedure with no active ingredients used in a clinical trial. It is sometimes referred to as a "sugar pill." A placebo is meant to make a patient believe that a medical procedure or treatment has taken place. Placebos are used so that participants who receive them are unable to tell if they have received an active drug or treatment. Using a placebo helps researchers know if the treatment or procedure being tested has real effects.
Predatory Journal	Predatory journals are fake academic journals that may look a lot like a legitimate peer-reviewed journal but they fail to follow best practices. They typically charge fees to authors and readers alike, without providing editorial services or checking the quality of the research.
Principle Investigator (PI)	The person on a research team who will be responsible for the research team doing the study. This person should have plenty of research experience and they are responsible for making sure the research project is following the right processes, laws and guidelines.
Privacy	The right of an individual to determine for themselves when and how information about them is used and shared with others.

Quality Improvement (QI)	Quality improvement is similar to research in that it often collects data to help solve a problem or issue. However it is different from research in that it does not require careful review by a research ethics board, is often focused on one or a few sites, and is not meant to inform larger conversations about the topic. Quality improvement is very common in healthcare settings.
Qualitative Research	Qualitative research is used to explore and understand people's beliefs, experiences, attitudes or behaviours. It asks questions about how and why. Qualitative research might ask questions about why people want to stop smoking. It won't ask how many people have tried to stop smoking. It does not collect data in the form of numbers.
Quantitative Research	In quantitative research, researchers collect data in the form of numbers. They measure things or count things. Quantitative research might ask a question like how many people visit their family doctor each year, or what proportion of children have had a particular vaccine, or whether a new drug lowers blood pressure more than the drugs that are usually used.
Questionnaire	A prepared set of written questions used to obtain information from research participants. Questionnaires can be completed on paper, using a computer or with an interviewer.
Randomized Control Trial (RCT)	A controlled trial that compares two groups of people: an experimental group who receives the new treatment and a control group who receives the usual treatment or a placebo. The control group allows the researchers to see whether the treatment being tested is any more or less effective than the usual or standard treatment.

	In a randomized controlled trial, the decision about which group a person joins is made at random (based on chance) by a computer, not the researcher or the participant.
Research Ethics Board (REB)	A group of researchers, community members, and others with specific expertise (for example in ethics) that are appointed by an institution like a health authority or university. The REB is responsible for reviewing proposed research studies to ensure that research involving humans is conducted according to ethical principles and best practices.
Research Proposal/Protocol	A detailed outline of a research study. It describes what the researchers will do, why they want to do it and how they plan on doing it. A research protocol needs to be developed and finalized before the study can begin.
Research	A detailed study of a topic in order to discover information or achieve a new understanding of it.
Researcher	A person who studies a subject or topic so that they can discover new information or understand the subject better.
Research Grant	A research grant is any amount of money given to a research team to support a particular research project. Grants can be given by research funders, organizations and public agencies. The research team will put together a research grant proposal where they describe the research study and how they would use the money if they received the grant.

<p>Research Team Members</p>	<p>Individuals who actively support a research project. A research team can have many team members or can be just a few people. There can be many different roles on a research team, including doctors, clinical staff, educators, government workers, and Patient Partners.</p>
<p>Secure Island Data Repository (SIDR)</p>	<p>A data repository in PEI that provides access to administrative health data and analysis for research and health service assessment purposes in a secure, controlled environment. This repository is currently in development.</p>
<p>Sex and gender-based analysis plus (SGBA+)</p>	<p>In the context of research, Sex and gender-based analysis plus (SGBA+) is a process used to examine how differences in identity factors, such as sex, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age and mental or physical disability, affect the outcomes of research and the impacts of research findings. The purpose is to promote research that considers these factors so that the results are impactful and relevant to the diversity of the population.</p> <p>Related term: diversity.</p>
<p>Social, Cultural, Environmental and Population Health Research</p>	<p>This research works to enhance people’s health by understanding how social, cultural, environmental, work-related, and economic factors affect people’s health. It also involves the evaluation of certain health interventions such as the effect of tobacco control programs.</p>
<p>Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR)</p>	<p>Launched in 2011, the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) was developed by the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) to help make patient-oriented research a reality in Canada. CIHR formed</p>

	<p>funding partnerships with provinces and territories, organizations, universities, and health charities to implement the strategy across Canada.</p> <p>Related term: Patient-Oriented Research (POR).</p>
<p>Support for People and Patient-Oriented Research and Trials (SUPPORT) Units</p>	<p>Support for People and Patient-Oriented Research and Trials (SUPPORT) Units consist of different types of researchers and facilitators who specialize in research methods, policy development, and patient engagement. These Units provide expertise and support to patient-oriented research in their area, as well as assist with decision-making in health services. There are 11 SPOR SUPPORT Units in Canada. The MSSU is the only SPOR SUPPORT Unit that serves more than one province.</p>
<p>Survey</p>	<p>A tool researchers use to collect information from study participants. Surveys can include many kinds of questions. In some surveys, participants answer questions and the answers can be recorded as numbers on a scale, for example, "On a scale of 1-10, how important is this topic to you?". Surveys can also ask participants to write about personal experiences or opinions. Surveys can be conducted in-person, online, by mail or over the phone.</p>
<p>Statistics</p>	<p>Statistics are a set of numbers (quantitative data) obtained through research. For example, the average age of a group of people or the number of people using a service.</p> <p>Related term: quantitative research.</p>

Statistical Analysis	A procedure used after collecting data to analyze and summarize the research results. Statistical analysis uses a set of mathematical rules to analyze quantitative data. It can help tell researchers what the data from their research means.
Systematic Review	A systematic review is a process where researchers collect all of the evidence about a certain topic to examine the quality of the evidence and see if the different studies agree with one another about the question being asked. Relying on only one study may only give a small piece of the bigger picture, so combining the results from a number of trials may give a clearer idea about what the evidence is telling us.
Terms of Reference (ToR)	A terms of reference document describes the way a group is set up, how they will work together, and what their responsibilities are. Many, but not all groups, have terms of reference, such as research teams or advisory groups.
Traditional Knowledge (TK)	Traditional knowledge (TK) refers to ways of knowing, skills, innovations or practices within a community or culture that are sustained from generation to generation. TK can include the content of knowledge itself as well as traditional cultural expressions including distinctive signs and symbols.
Tri-Council Policy Statement (TCPS)	The Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS) is a joint policy of the three federal research agencies: the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). In order to receive funding from

	<p>these agencies, research that involves people must follow the ethical standards that are laid out in the policy. This policy states that health research must be based on a fundamental moral commitment to protecting and advancing human welfare, knowledge, and understanding, while also examining cultural dynamics. The policy contains Guiding Ethical Principles indicating that research should respect free and informed consent, vulnerable persons, privacy and confidentiality, justice and inclusiveness. Ethical health research should always work to maximize benefits while minimizing harm.</p>
<p>Two-eyed seeing</p>	<p>Two-Eyed Seeing is the Guiding Principle brought into the Integrative Science co-learning journey by Mi'kmaw Elder Albert Marshall in Fall 2004.</p> <p>Etuaptmumk is the Mi'kmaw word for Two-Eyed Seeing.</p> <p>Etuaptmumk - Two-Eyed Seeing refers to learning to see from one eye with the strengths of Indigenous knowledges and ways of knowing, and from the other eye with the strengths of Western knowledges and ways of knowing and learning to use both these eyes together, for the benefit of all. Elder Albert indicates that Etuaptmumk - Two-Eyed Seeing is the gift of multiple perspective treasured by many Aboriginal peoples.</p>