

Accessing Information from the Alberta Netcare Portal (ANP) for Research Purposes

Health Care Providers: Employees of Alberta Health Services and **affiliates** (physicians appointed to the AHS Medical Staff and students in a health discipline/service program completing training in an AHS program/facility) have direct access to Netcare for the purpose of providing care and treatment to patients.

This access may also be used for research purposes once the following conditions (defined in the Information Exchange Protocol) have been met:

1. The research must be approved by one of the recognized health research ethics boards in Alberta
2. Written consent must be obtained from research participants prior to accessing their information
3. The researcher must enter into a research agreement / clinical trial agreement with the custodian (AHS) that specifies the data that may be collected and any conditions imposed on the researcher related to patient privacy and data security

Non Affiliated Clinical Research Assistants/Coordinators/Nurses: Research Personnel who are not AHS employees or affiliates may be granted direct access to Netcare (Clinical Level 5) if they are providing clinical treatment, care and/or monitoring of patients, and working under the supervision of a Principal Investigator who is also an AHS affiliated care provider.

These research personnel are acting as an extension of the Principal Investigator to provide clinical treatment, care and/or monitoring of patients enrolled in Clinical Research defined for this purpose as:

Research that is conducted on or for the treatment of human subjects that requires, as part of the research procedures, one or more of the following care components:

- *Prescription/administration of a biomedical intervention/treatment (drug, device, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine, biological agents, cognitive behavioral intervention, diagnostic test/device, surgery)*
- *Monitoring responses to treatment (as above) whether or not they were prescribed by the PI and providing feedback to the responsible physician so that treatment for each patient can be adjusted appropriately*
- *Collection of health history, lab, cardiac diagnostics and diagnostic imaging results to ensure that it is safe for the patient to start or continue with diagnostic tests or treatment that are part of the study procedure*

To apply for access, please provide the following information about **each** study you are working on:

- A copy of the study protocol/proposal approved by an Alberta HIA designated research ethics board
- A copy of your ethics approval letter (original and any re-approvals/amendments)

Please provide this information to:

Yvonne Jackson
AHS Research Administrator
Yvonne.Jackson@albertahealthservices.ca

A Research Advisor will review these documents against the criteria outlined. If the studies you are working on qualify, you will be advised to provide:

- The date that the Clinical Trial Agreement(s) was executed or a copy of the Research Agreement(s)

- A Signed Confidentiality & User Agreement available upon completion of the IT Security and Awareness video and online learning module located at: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/3962.asp>
- A telephone number where you can be reached

Yvonne will set up a telephone appointment with you to complete the Netcare application materials and provide you with a copy of the AHS Research Assistant Agreement for your signature and that of the study PI(s).

Note: Access for non-AHS affiliates must be renewed annually and may only be used for the studies listed in the agreement. Additional qualifying studies may be added to the agreement at any time by contacting Yvonne Jackson in AHS Research Administration.

Reactivation of expired accounts takes 1-3 days. New accounts are created by Alberta Health and may take up to 4 weeks to be activated. Applicants are notified by email when accounts are ready for use.

Non-Affiliated Researchers/Research Personnel: Study Personnel who are not AHS employees or affiliates (physicians or students) conducting studies that do not have an integrated care components as noted above, **cannot obtain direct access to Netcare**. However, information contained in Netcare can be made available with the completion of:

1. Research agreement(s) / clinical trial agreement(s) between the PI and the custodian (AHS) that specifies what data that may be collected and any conditions imposed on the researcher related to patient privacy and data security
2. Agreement from an AHS employee or affiliate who will print the information out prior to providing it to the researcher/assistant