Call for DFM Participation: Point-of-Care Testing Research Advisory Committee

A collaborative team of health-care, academic and community partners is seeking a Department of Family Medicine faculty member to join the Research Advisory Committee for a funded proof-of-concept project introducing point-of-care diagnostic testing in an Ontario retirement home.

The project aims to reduce avoidable emergency department transfers by enabling trained providers to conduct rapid bedside testing for concerns such as infection, breathing difficulties, chest pain, confusion and diabetic emergencies. Results would support timely physician decision-making, treatment in place when appropriate and more informed transfers when hospital care is required.

The participating faculty member would:

- Participate in three to four virtual meetings, each lasting approximately 30 to 45 minutes
- Provide expertise in areas such as primary care research, health services evaluation, quality improvement, digital health, aging or congregate care
- Offer methodological guidance related to study design, evaluation frameworks, outcome selection, data interpretation and knowledge translation

Meetings are expected to take place in **September and December 2026, March 2027 and, if required, May or June 2027.**

There may also be an optional opportunity to supervise a Master's or practicum student supporting evaluation and knowledge translation activities.

Funding is available to support eligible DFM contributions related to research oversight, methodological guidance, data analysis or evaluation leadership.

The project is being developed in collaboration with Cogir Senior Living, the Ottawa West Four Rivers Ontario Health Team, Queensway Carleton Hospital, uOttawa and other health system partners. Implementation is planned for fall 2026, with the final evaluation expected by March 31, 2027.

For further details on the full scope of the Research Advisory Committee, or to express interest, please contact **Dr. Fabian Schwarz** at fschwarz@uottawa.ca by **Thursday, August 20, 2026**