

### Background:

NSHA supports Health Homes with the implementation of Collaborative Care Practices - that delivers timely access; coordinated, comprehensive and continuous primary health care.

### Issue/Context:

The introduction of Collaborative Care Practices in Nova Scotia, however, has been challenged with full engagement of key primary health care providers and stakeholders.

### Research Sources:

A review of the medical literature as it relates to collaborative care, interviews with key stake holders including patients, physicians and pharmacists were undertaken to develop a guidance document to facilitate the implementation of collaborative care practices in Nova Scotia.

### Findings & Recommendations:

Key fundamental collaborative care pillars were identified as foundational principles to adhere to in order to support full implementation of collaborative care practices in Nova Scotia that delivers patient care which is timely, effective, safe, fiscally responsible and fosters satisfied stakeholders.

These Pillars of Collaborative Care include:

- Trust
- Leadership & Communication
- Patient Centered
- Accountability and Responsibility
- Education, Evaluation & Adaptability
- Resource & Funding

### Next Steps:

It is hoped that key stakeholders including NSHA and primary care providers support and utilized the pillars of collaborative care document as guidance in building the foundation necessary for full engagement of all stakeholders in providing effective collaborative care to patients.