Module 2: Fundamentals of Health Research in Canada

The goal of this module is to provide patients and other non-researchers (e.g. care providers and system decision-makers) with the necessary contextual knowledge to enable them to participate in various roles related to the health research enterprise including governance, committee work, peer review, and the conduct of research itself.

"As my knowledge about health research in Canada grew, it gave me confidence and helped me to feel that I really could participate meaningfully and actively in the various roles I was interested in taking on." – Patient Partner

Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this module, participants will be able to:

- Describe the purpose of health research
- Describe who typically conducts health research studies and the traditional role of patients as study subjects
- Describe the diversity of health research topics and studies
- Develop an awareness of different research designs and methodologies
- Describe the stages of a research study
- Describe the role of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and other health research funders
- Describe the characteristics of a good research question using the FINER acronym (feasible, interesting, novel, ethical and relevant)
- Describe the ethical considerations for health research and how ethical practices are assured
- Describe the peer review process
- Define knowledge translation/knowledge exchange