

# An Update on the Health Innovation Pathway

Presentation to  
Hamilton Regional Ecosystem

November 24, 2025

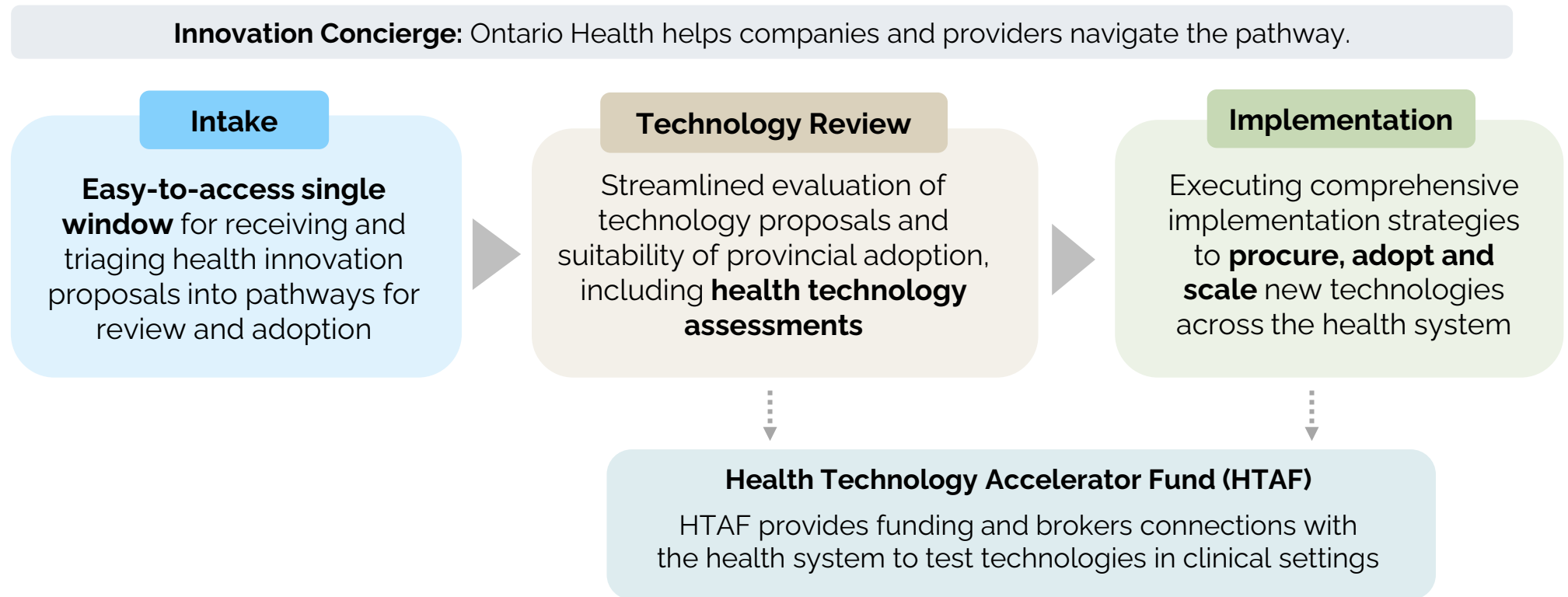
# Designing the Health Innovation Pathway

The Health Innovation Pathway is a streamlined process to **bring promising innovations into the health system faster** – improving patient outcomes, driving economic growth and helping Ontario's health system reach its full potential.

## Former State

Ontario lacked a consistent process for adopting health innovations – a key part of creating a sustainable health system and improving patient care.

## Current State with the Health Innovation Pathway



# Benefits for Patients, Communities and Local Businesses

Through greater use of innovative technologies, patients will benefit from improved care and better patient experiences – for example, less invasive procedures, care closer to home and digital health solutions that help clinicians and patients stay connected.

The pathway will support greater access to new technologies, introducing new features and connections across the health system. Economic impact will be considered through intake and technology review processes.

## Patient and Community Benefits



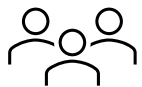
Improved patient experience



Improved population health



Improved clinician experience



Advanced health equity

## Innovator Benefits



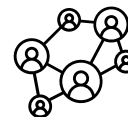
Navigational and advisory services



Connections to health service providers



Support for Ontario's economy



More procurement opportunities in Ontario

# Scope of Technologies for the Health Innovation Pathway

The following technologies are in scope for the Health Innovation Pathway process:

- **Medical devices**
- **Digital health technologies**, including software as a medical device, tools for treating/diagnosing medical conditions or guiding care choices, and system services intended to save costs or staff time
- Medical and surgical **procedures**
- Medical **imaging and screening** programs
- **Lab testing** and genetic testing
- Complex **health system interventions**, such as models of health care delivery

Out of scope: pharmaceutical drugs and vaccines, health information systems, health human resources and health infrastructure.



Technologies must have received relevant regulatory approvals (including Health Canada, if appropriate) demonstrating safety and/or risk mitigation,

Technologies must be at [technology readiness level 8](#) or higher, indicating the technology is mature and meets operational requirements.

# Partners Across Government and Agencies

The Health Innovation Pathway is an all-of-government collaboration between Ontario Health, the Ministry of Health, Supply Ontario, the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement.

## Ontario Health

- Leads day-to-day operations of the pathway, working with partners to guide innovations from intake through to adoption
- Manages Innovation Concierge service, providing advisory services and navigation support at every step

## Ministry of Health

- Coordinates with ministry programs to support technology review and implementation
- Executes policy, funding and physician reimbursement changes to support provincial scaling

## Supply Ontario

Leads market engagement and supports strategic procurement of new innovations

## Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

Leads analysis of economic development opportunities that support the growth of Ontario companies

## Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement

Leads procurement modernization for government, ensures procurement policies enable innovation

The Health Technology Assessment Program is now part of the pathway.

# Alignment With Health System Planning and Priorities

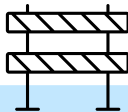
The Health Innovation Pathway will support innovation in Ontario's health system, enabling high-quality patient care and equipping health service providers with the tools they need by:



**Supporting selection of high-quality medical products that meet clinical needs**



**Prioritizing health service provider and patient perspectives in decision-making**



**Removing barriers to adoption for promising innovations**



**Delivering greater value for Ontario's health system**

Adoption pathways will align with and leverage government and clinical funding and planning cycles, priorities, and challenges.

# Health Technology Accelerator Fund

A key feature of the new Health Innovation Pathway, the Health Technology Accelerator Fund is designed to procure and implement technologies in real-world settings, gathering additional evidence to inform provincial adoption. The fund addresses three critical barriers faced by innovators:

1

Helps the health system develop the **evidence** needed to assess the innovation for funding, safety and clinical effectiveness

2

Provides **more opportunities for health innovation in Ontario**, creating partnerships between innovators and health service providers

3

**Accelerates the timeframe** for adopting new technologies while lengthier policy and funding changes can take place for full provincial adoption

**Supply Ontario** plans and executes strategic procurement of new innovations in partnership with health service providers and **Ontario Health**. MOH oversees the fund.

The fund has two separate streams: evidence generation and scale and spread, with a commitment of \$12 million over three years.

# First Wave of Projects of the Health Technology Accelerator Fund

Through the Health Technology Accelerator Fund, Ontario is supporting four new projects dedicated to advancing wound care, AI-powered screening technologies, and innovative surgical care.

## Digital Wound Management + Advanced Wound Care Dressings

Digital wound management allows care providers to accurately measure and track wounds, using data-driven insights for more effective treatment.

Skin substitutes are one of several innovative wound care solutions, improving wound healing and reduce the risk of lower limb amputations.

## AI-Powered Screening to Prevent Vision Loss

Diabetic retinopathy can be diagnosed earlier through advanced AI-powered screening technology, leading to immediate treatment to prevent diabetes-induced vision loss.

## Computer-Assisted Navigation Systems

Computer-assisted navigation systems for total hip and knee arthroplasty may improve precision and lower revision rates post-surgery compared with manual procedures.

## Abdominal Surgical Supports

Abdominal fascia closure devices offer a non-invasive option to support an open abdomen after surgery, preventing damage, streamlining surgical flow and improving patient outcomes.

# What's next?

September 2025



**Public Launch**  
of the Health  
Innovation Pathway  
and Health  
Technology  
Accelerator Fund

Next Steps: Fall 2025/Winter 2026



Begin **processing**  
**new health**  
**technology**  
**proposals**,  
guiding them  
towards potential  
procurement



Continue  
**stakeholder**  
**engagement** with  
the health sector  
and innovation  
ecosystem



Work with  
partners and  
stakeholders to  
**refine pathway**  
**processes**

# Q & A