

# HEALTH IS ALSO A QUESTION OF LANGUAGE



Currently, there are 3,015 individuals in Newfoundland and Labrador who have French as their mother tongue (source: Statistics Canada, 2011). However, many factors limit access to health services in their first language, including lack of knowledge of French-speaking health professionals.

In order to improve this problem, the Francophone Health Network has updated the DIRECTORY of French-speaking Health Professionals. The directory is available on the Francophone community website ([www.francoctl.ca/RepertoireSante](http://www.francoctl.ca/RepertoireSante)).

According to many studies, access to health care services in the patient's first language contributes to:

- Increase the prevention and effectiveness of health services where good communication is essential;
- Reduce consultation time and the number of medical examinations;
- Improve the effectiveness of care for which a good understanding of medical terms is essential;
- Improve the quality of treatments, in particular by monitoring dosages;
- Reassure the sick person and those around him.

Being able to be treated in French contributes to the cultural identity preservation of Francophone and Acadian patients.

Would you like to be part of the Directory of French-speaking Health Professionals in Newfoundland and Labrador? If so, please contact the Francophone Health Network at [Sante@fftnl.ca](mailto:Sante@fftnl.ca) or at 709-757-2862 to give your consent and your contact information.



- FrancoTNL.ca/RepertoireSante
- 53 Health Professionals on the Directory as of May 2017
  - East : 35
  - West : 3
  - Centre : 7
  - Labrador : 8

