

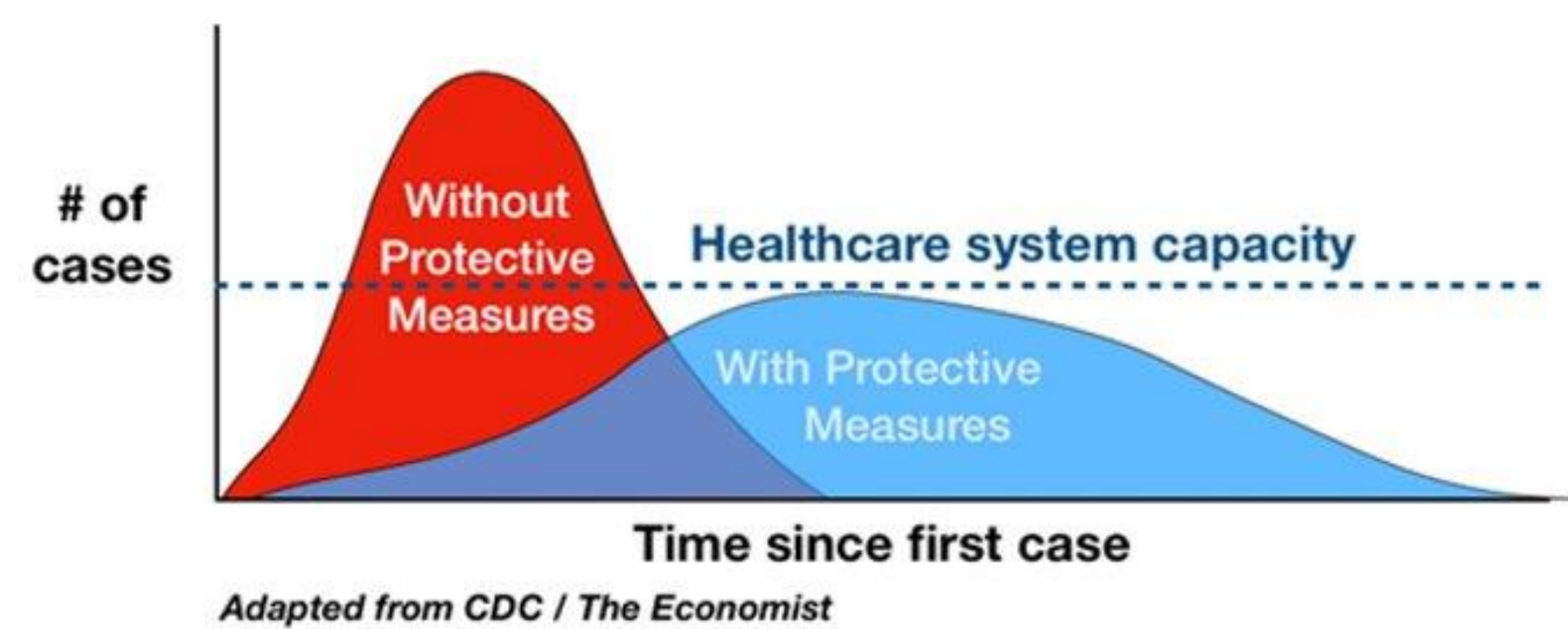
# Health Workforce Strategies in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

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## Background

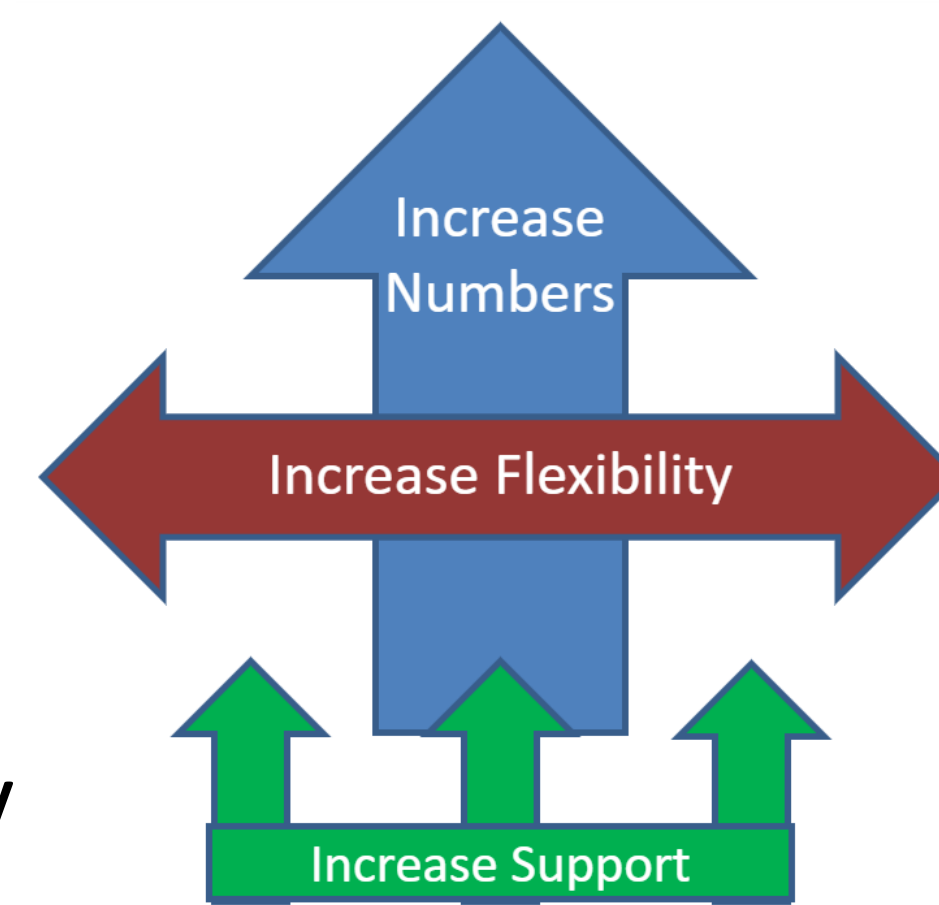
COVID-19 challenged the health care system:

- Increased demand for care
- Decreased availability of healthcare workers due to absenteeism

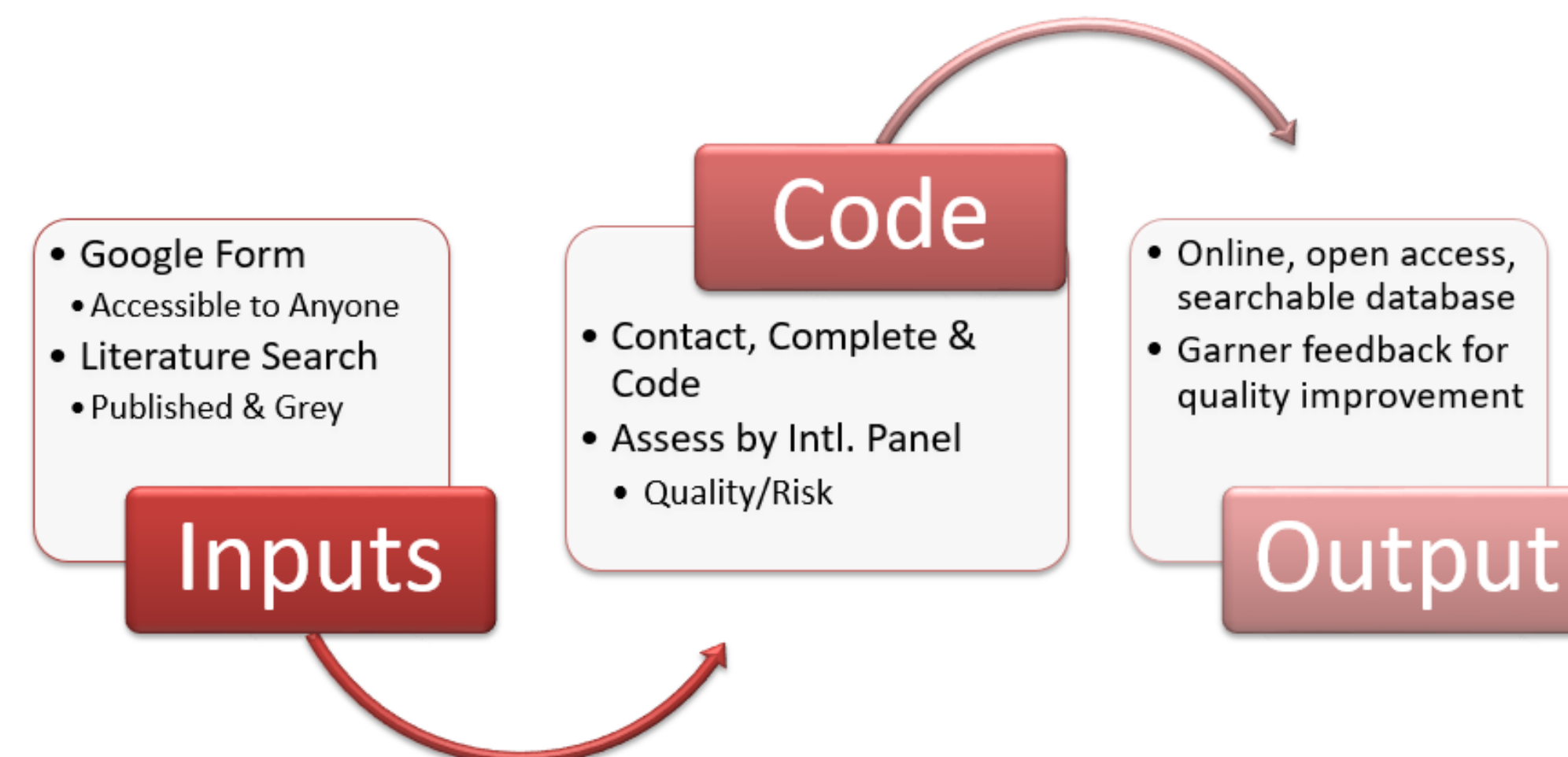


### Objective:

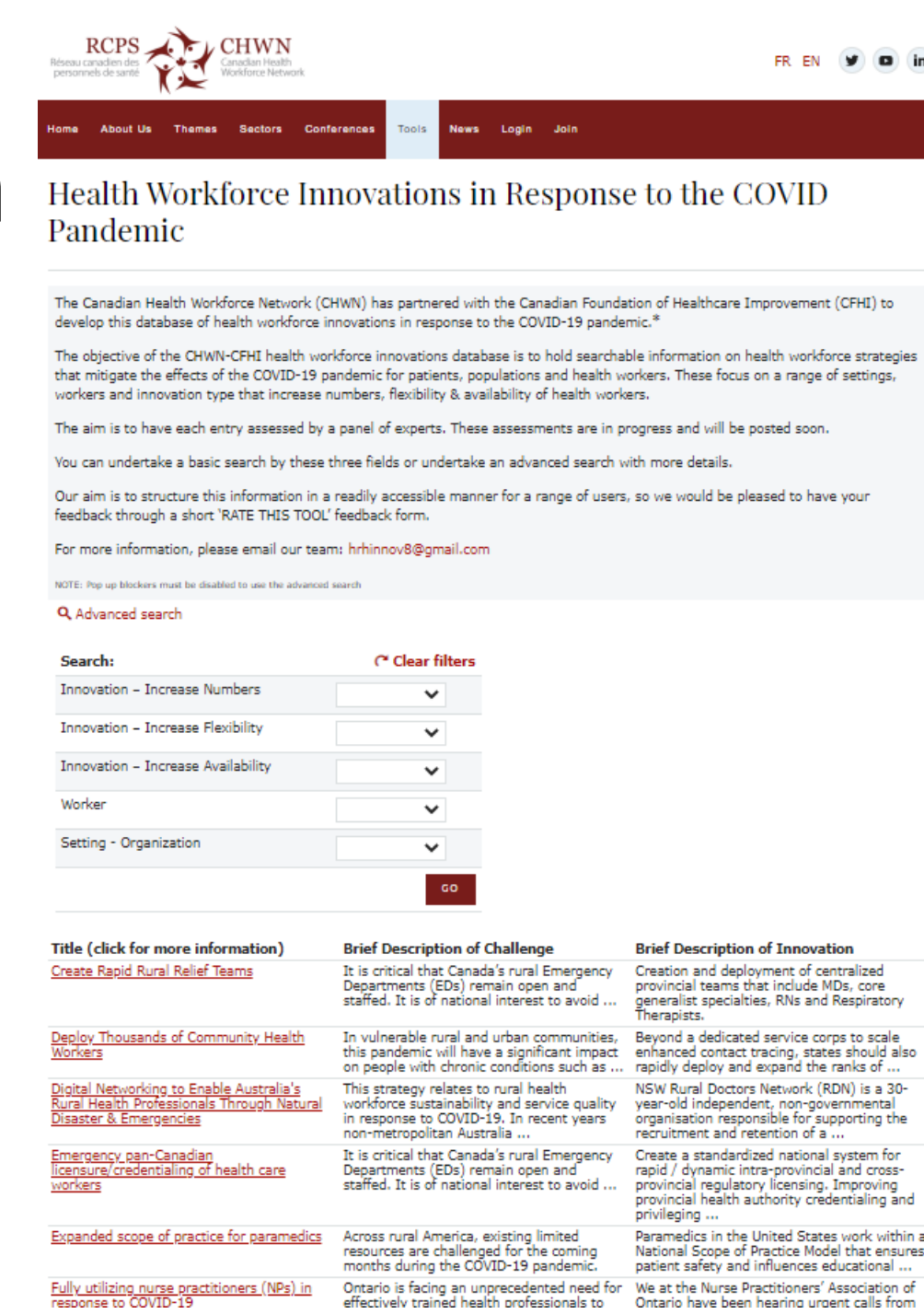
Rapidly review health workforce strategies that mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and curate the collection in a readily accessible platform for a range of users.



## Methods & Results



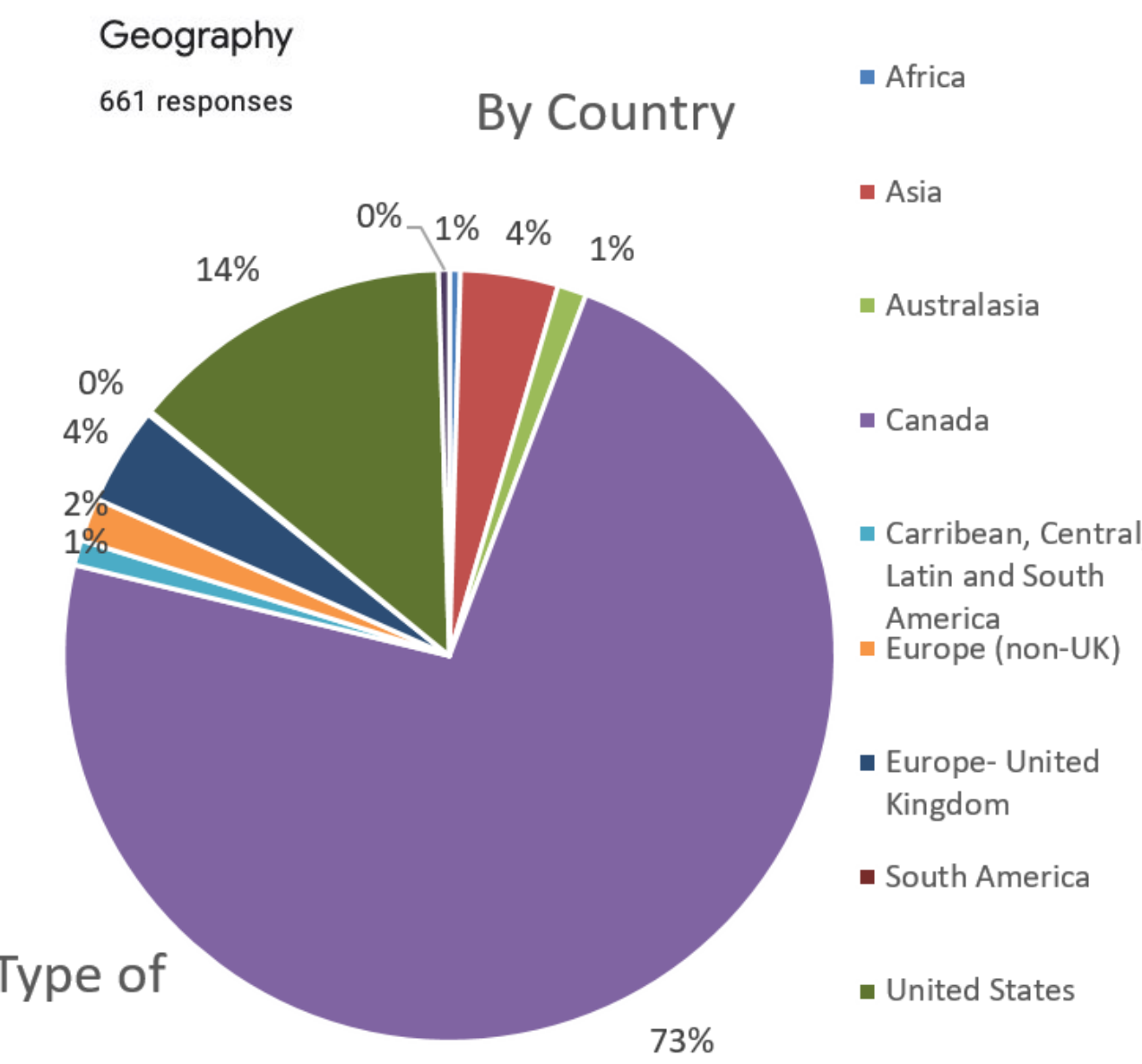
- 673 entries in an open-source database
- 141 published literature
- 483 grey lit
- 16 crowd-sourced



[bit.ly/COVIDworkforce](http://bit.ly/COVIDworkforce)

## Findings

Note: mostly Canadian due to funding mandate and search strategy



Many of the interventions addressed more than one strategy

1. Telehealth/ Virtual care → 204 entries
2. Expanded roles → 127 entries
3. Licensure flexibility → 99 entries
4. Cross-sector staff deployments → 87 entries
5. Mental health services → 82 entries

## Lessons for Rural

- Most interventions can be applied to rural contexts as-is or with some adaptation

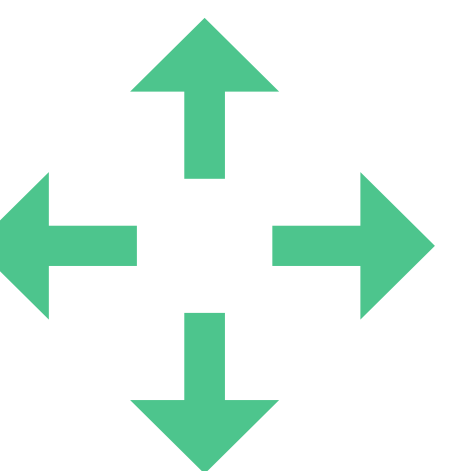


### Deployment to Rural Areas

- Strategies from Canada, Australia, US

### Expanded scope of practice and license flexibility

- Expanded roles for paramedics, nurses, community health professionals



### Rapid expansion & introduction of virtual care

- Accelerated improvement of enabling technology, regulations and reimbursement



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