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# *Research is Vital to Addressing Complexities of Dementia*

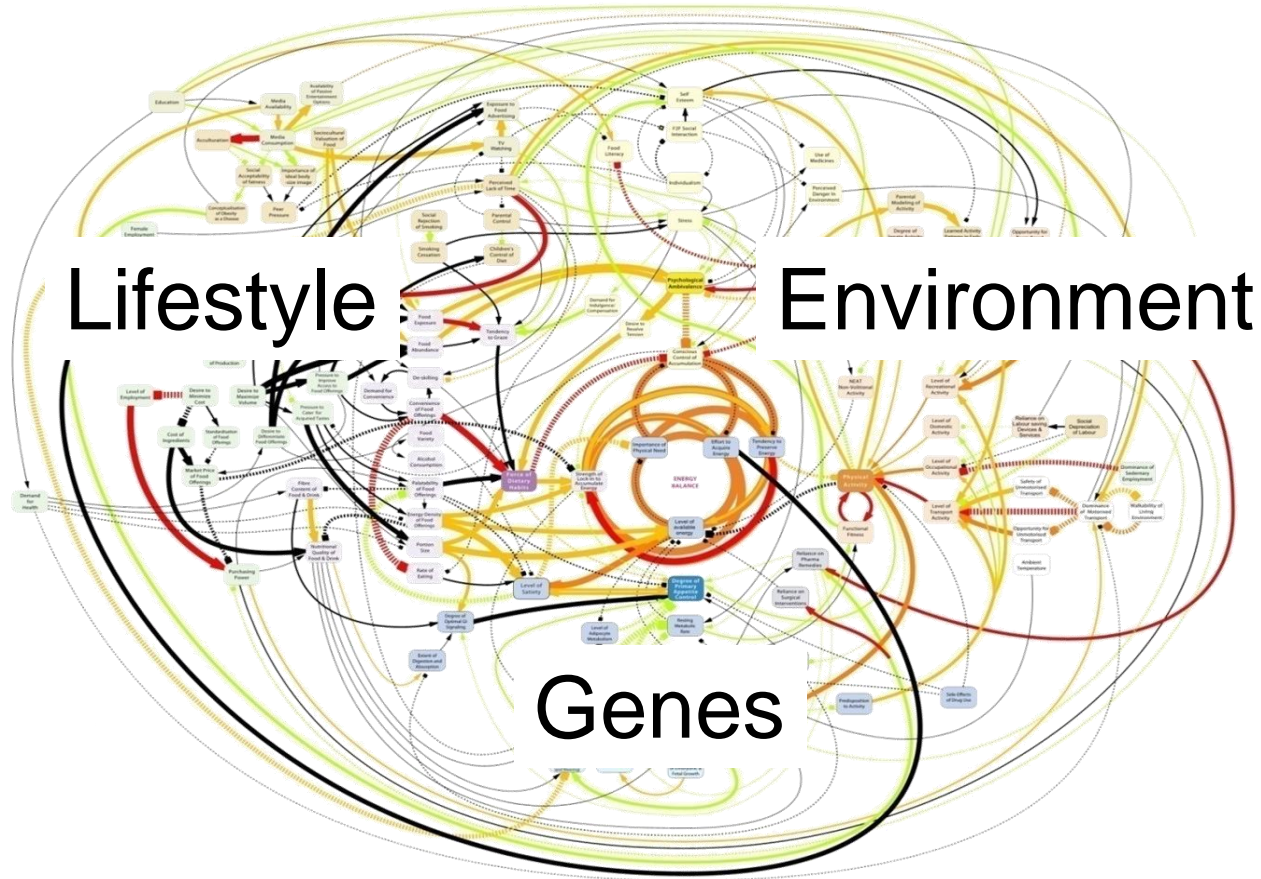
Diane T. Finegood, PhD

President & CEO

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research

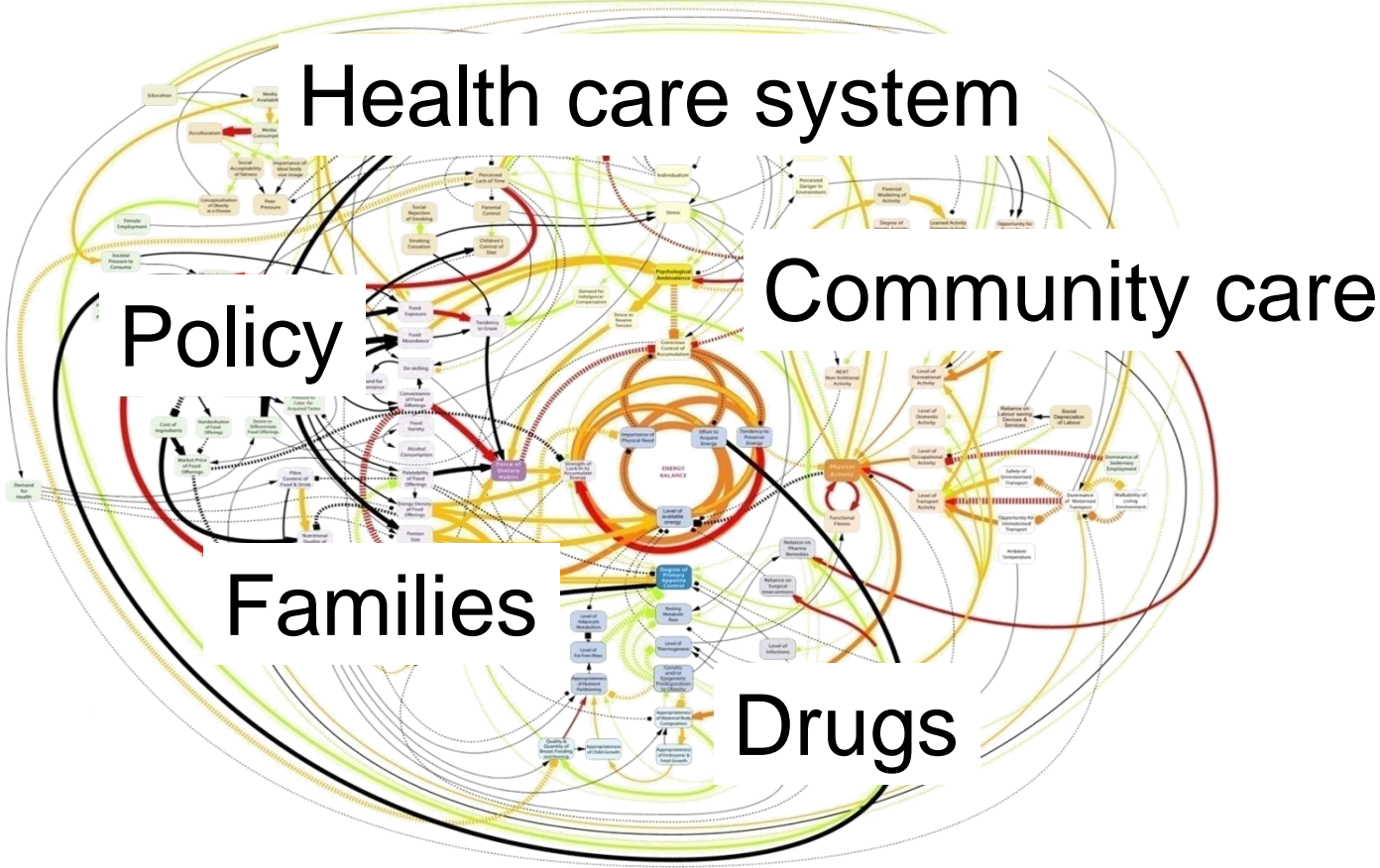
BC Care Providers Association Annual Conference, May 26, 2014

# Challenge relates to complexity of causes



<http://kim.foresight.gov.uk/Obesity/Obesity.html>

# Solutions are also complex: national strategy could help in some areas

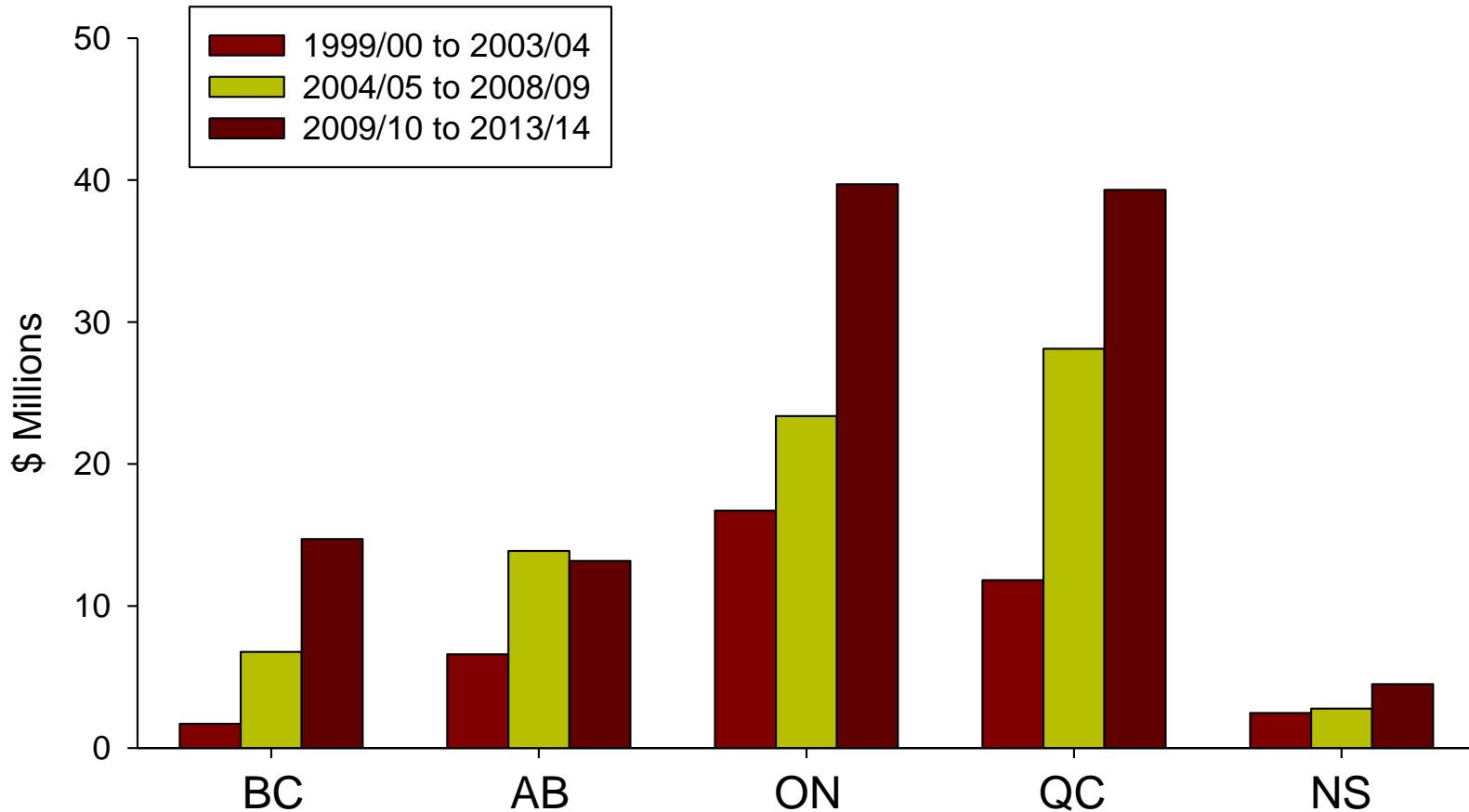


<http://kim.foresight.gov.uk/Obesity/Obesity.html>

# A national strategy should

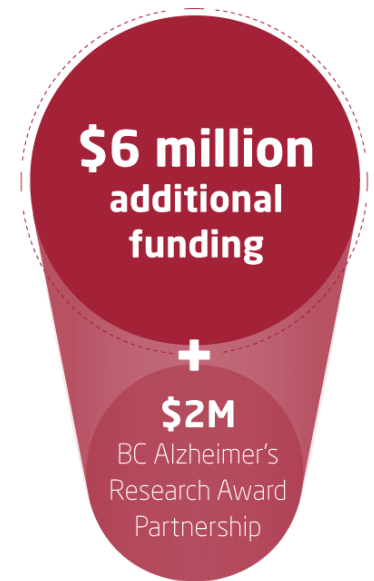
- be part of the larger process
- aim to align priorities with the health needs of the population
- generate buy-in across government, NGOs, civil society and private sector
- make better use of available research and research capacity

# External funding (CIHR) for dementia research has grown



# BC is strong in dementia research

- Since 2001, MSFHR funded more than \$10M for scholars, trainees and teams focused on dementia
- BC has experienced nearly a 9 fold increase external funding (CIHR) for dementia research since 1999/00
- Made in BC research is advancing on
  - Biological and behavioural markers that will improve diagnosis;
  - Systems to support decision-making by people with dementia
- MSFHR multiplied recent provincial investment 4-fold through partnerships



## Lessons Learned from other countries

- Home care options that emphasize re-ablement provide savings to the health care.
- Services should be tailored around the unique needs and goals of the individual client.
- Emphasis should be placed on reaching goals rather than completing tasks.
- Context matters including community, cultural, etc.

Best Practices in Home Care for Seniors Synthesis Report  
from the 2014 International Forum, 2014