



CIHR IRSC

Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

Clinical Trials at CIHR

Clinical Trials Ontario Conference
November 10, 2022



Discoveries for life / Découvertes pour la vie






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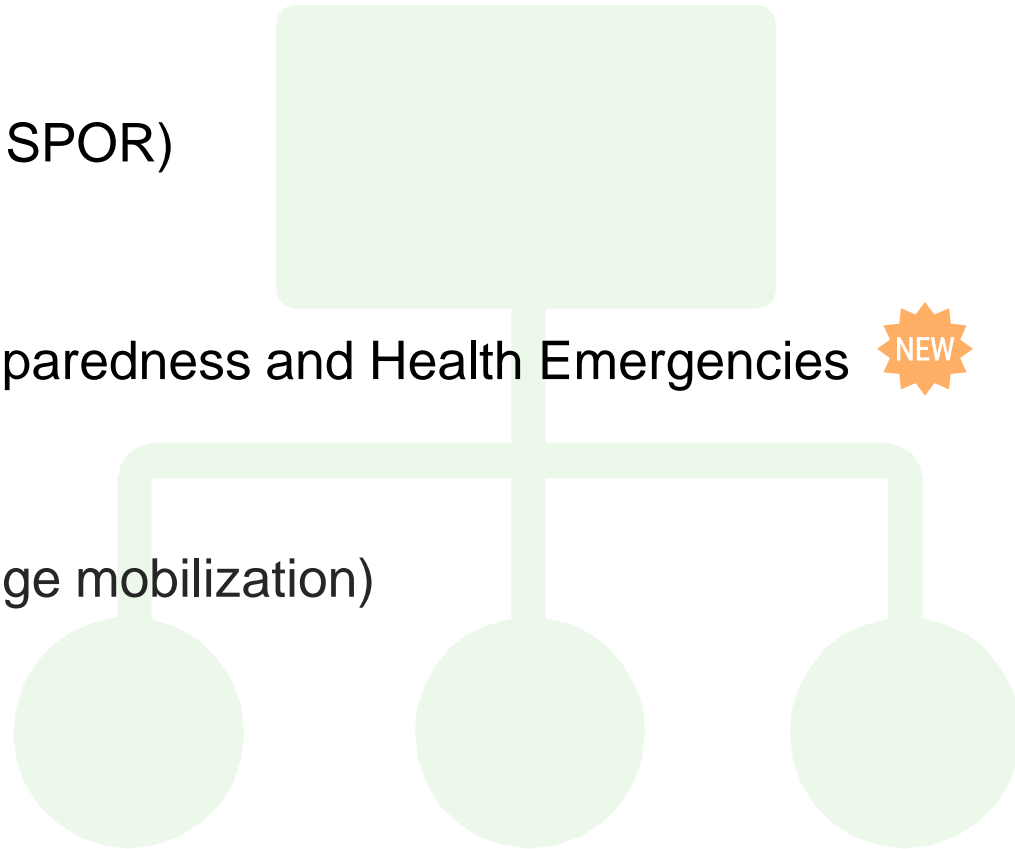
Canada

CIHR mandate

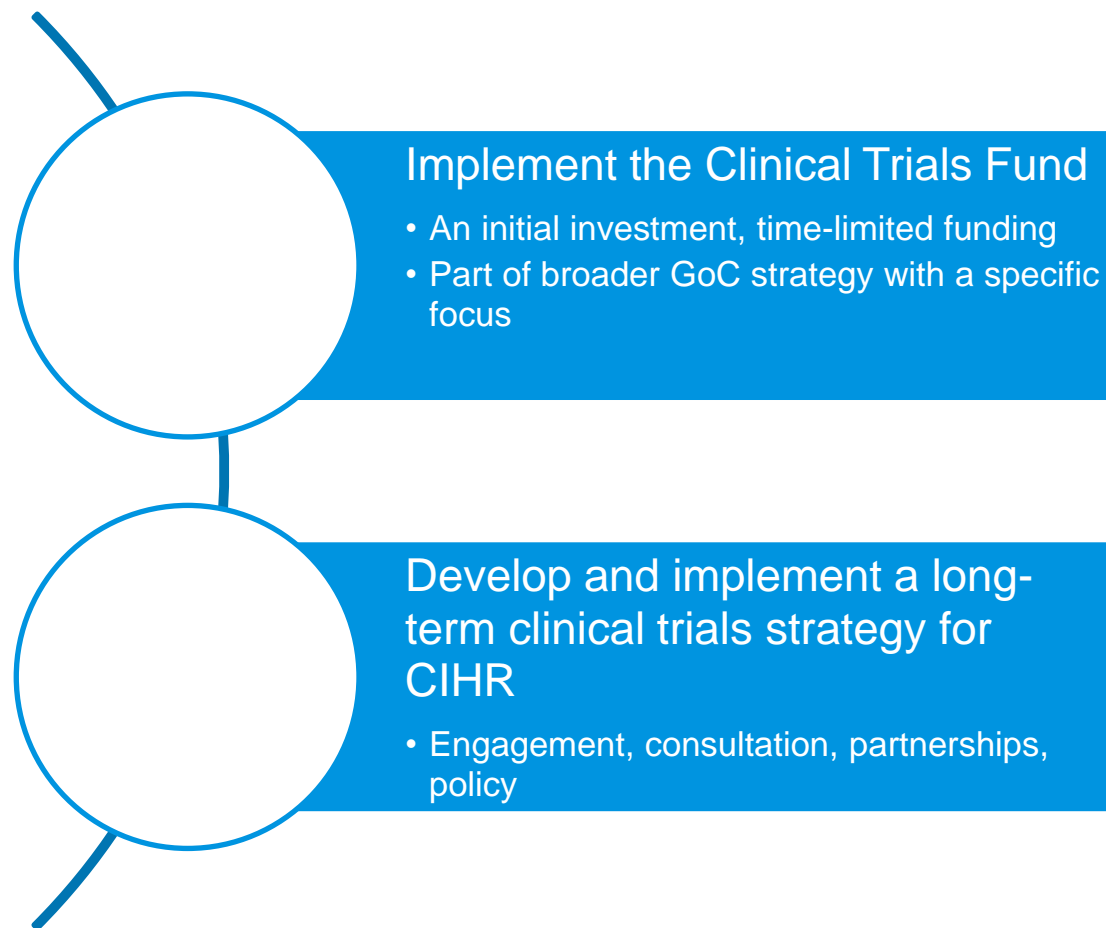
- Created in 2000, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is the Government of Canada's health research investment agency.
- CIHR's mandate is to *“excel, according to internationally accepted standards of scientific excellence, in the creation of new knowledge and its translation into improved health for Canadians, more effective health services and products and a strengthened Canadian health care system.”*
- CIHR was designed to respond to the evolving needs for health research and seeks to transform health research in Canada by:
 - funding both investigator-initiated research as well as research on targeted priority areas;
 - building research capacity in under-developed areas and training the next generation of health researchers; and
 - focusing on knowledge translation that facilitates the application of the results of research and their transformation into new policies, practices, procedures, products and services.

CIHR's Learning Health Systems Portfolio

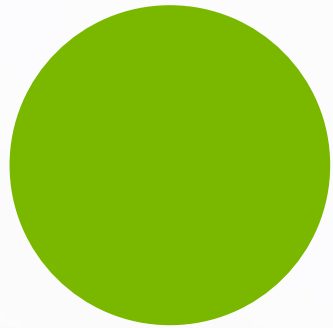
- Patient-Oriented Research (including SPOR)
- Clinical Trials 
- Centre for Research in Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies 
- Research - Strategy
 - Science Policy (including knowledge mobilization)
 - Equity 
 - Foresight & Impact (future)



Building CIHR's clinical trials program

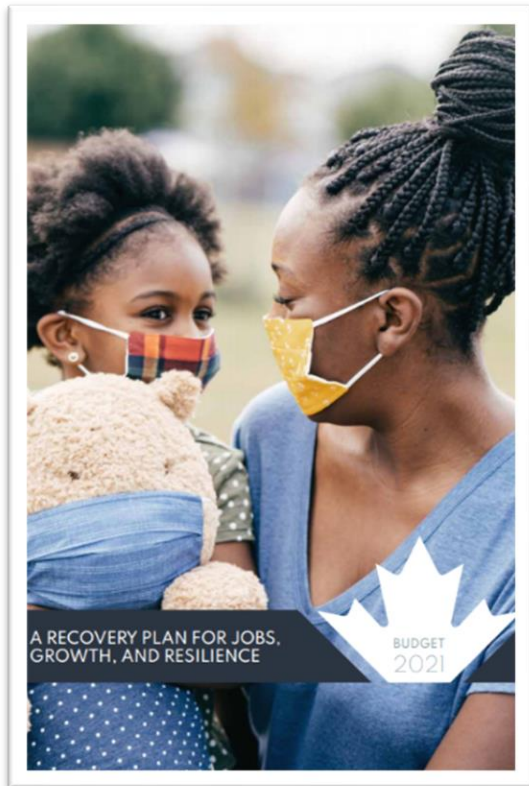


Priority E: Integrate Evidence in Health Decisions
Strengthen Canada's health systems through innovation



Implement the Clinical Trials Fund

CIHR's Clinical Trials Fund (2022-23 to 2024-25)



In Budget 2021, the Government of Canada announced a **\$250 million investment over three years** for CIHR to increase clinical research capacity through a new Fund (CTF) that will support and advance *Canada's Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy*.

Goal:

Establish the foundation for a sustainable clinical trials ecosystem in Canada which would:

- generate scientific evidence that contributes to the development of new scientifically proven interventions, treatments and cures; and
- ultimately improve health outcomes for Canadians

*Minister of Health Mandate Letter commitment: Work with the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry to continue demonstrating leadership in public health by strengthening surveillance and capacity to detect and act on public health threats, strengthening the security of medical supply chains, **working with colleagues to advance the Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy**, and investing in the study of the long-term health impacts of COVID-19, including the effects of long COVID on different groups, notably vulnerable populations and children.*

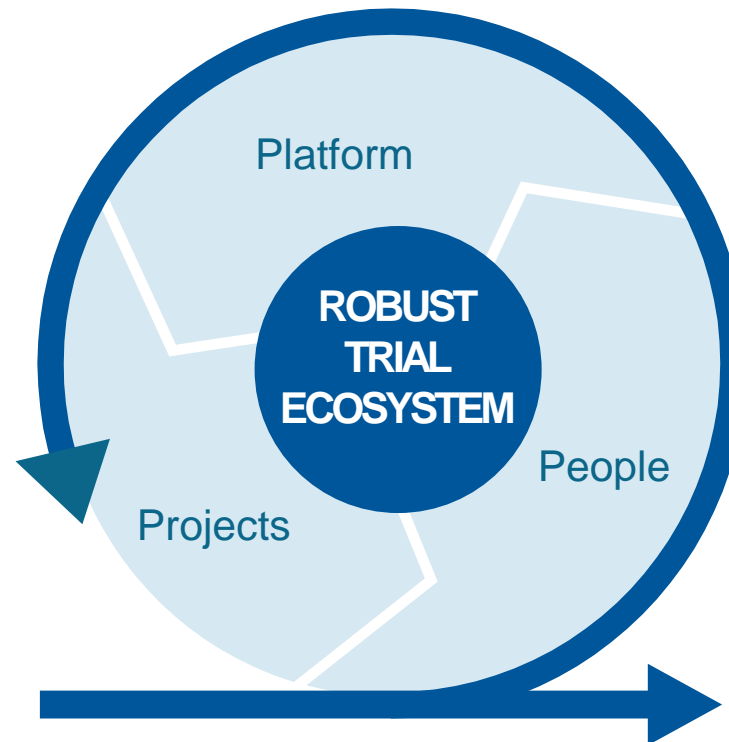
CIHR's Clinical Trials Fund (2022-23 to 2024-25)

Three inter-related building blocks form the CIHR Clinical Trials Fund

A clinical trial **platform** to coordinate, increase efficiency, and catalyze sustainable infrastructure (~\$39 million)

Operating grants to fund CTs in priority areas (~\$120 million)

Training grants to develop highly qualified personnel in CT research (~\$25.5 million)

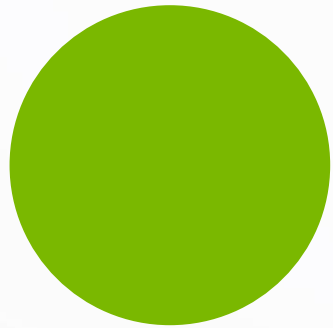


Dedicated support for indirect costs of research (~\$40 million for consortium and projects)

Internal CIHR resources

Status updates – Clinical Trials Fund

- On October 31, Notices of Decision were issued to the nominated principal applicants for:
 - The pan-Canadian clinical trials consortium
 - Clinical trials training platforms
- On November 2, Notices of Decision were issued to the nominated principal applicants for clinical trials projects
- Public announcements of results are pending
- CIHR will be working closely with the funded investigators to facilitate connections and to gather data on the progress of these initiatives



Develop and implement a long-term clinical trials strategy for CIHR

Developing the strategy and improving the CT ecosystem

- Online consultation launched September, closing November 23rd (<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/53198.html>)
- “What we heard” report – to be published in early 2023
- Key informant interviews – between December 2022 - March 2023
- Stakeholder engagement
 - Broader discussions on clinical trial priorities (Fall/Winter 2022 and ongoing)
 - Deeper dives on specific issues identified through the broad consultation (Winter/Spring)
- Science communications (ongoing)
 - Communicating about the value and processes of clinical trials (<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52985.html>)
- Policy development and implementation (ongoing)
 - Identifying barriers to clinical trial success in Canada, and where CIHR can contribute concrete actions to addressing
 - Implementation and monitoring of policy on clinical trial registration and disclosure

Long term vision

- Sustained and appropriately-resourced program for public funding of clinical trials which includes ongoing support for:
 - Capacity building
 - International collaboration
 - Partnerships with other funders
 - Innovative products and trial methodologies
 - Research priority setting mechanisms
 - Knowledge mobilization
 - First Nations, Inuit and Métis health research
 - Patient-oriented research
 - Equity, diversity and inclusion

Join the conversation: clinicaltrials-essaiscliniques@cihr-irsc.gc.ca



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