



Advancing Clinical Trials in Ontario

Updates from Clinical Trials Ontario's
Ontario Leadership Table for Clinical
Trials

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The Opportunity

Ontario and Canada as a destination for life sciences and clinical trials innovation

Ontario is a powerhouse in health research

19

of Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals

22,000

Highly-skilled researchers and staff

\$1.73 B

Investment in health research
Biotech, medical device, and digital health companies

2,200

Jobs in medical devices, drugs, and pharmaceuticals

56,000

Active clinical trials
2x more per capita than US

4,600

Industry investment in trials

\$466 M

Industry investment in trials



1 + 14

University + Affiliated Hospitals

#1

Life sciences research hub in Canada

#2

Number of clinical trials among North American Hubs

63,200+

Publications in 2018-2022
(18% in Top Ten Percent)

1,900+

Active clinical trials



800+

Active interventional trials
(53% supported by industry)

5,000+

Enrolments in 2023
(3,970 thus far in 2024)

290+

New trials activated annually

1,000+

Highly-qualified personnel supporting trials

Ontario Leadership Table for Clinical Trials

Driving transformational change in clinical trial conduct

Membership

- Ontario's top research-intensive hospitals
- Canada's leading pharmaceutical companies

Government Engagement

- Ministry of Colleges and Universities
- Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- Ministry of Health



Ontario Leadership Table for Clinical Trials

POSITION PAPER

*Priorities for
Transforming the Clinical
Trials Environment:*

*Ontario's Ambition to
Accelerate Timely Access
to Trials and New
Therapies*



Timely Access to Trials **TOP PRIORITY**

Reduce trial start-up time to 45 days



Recruitment

Decentralize recruitment and enable pathways for patient activation



Health Data Access

Leverage data platforms to facilitate research and decision-making



Rare Disease

Capitalize on federal government's new rare disease strategy; improve access to therapies and clinical trials in rare disease

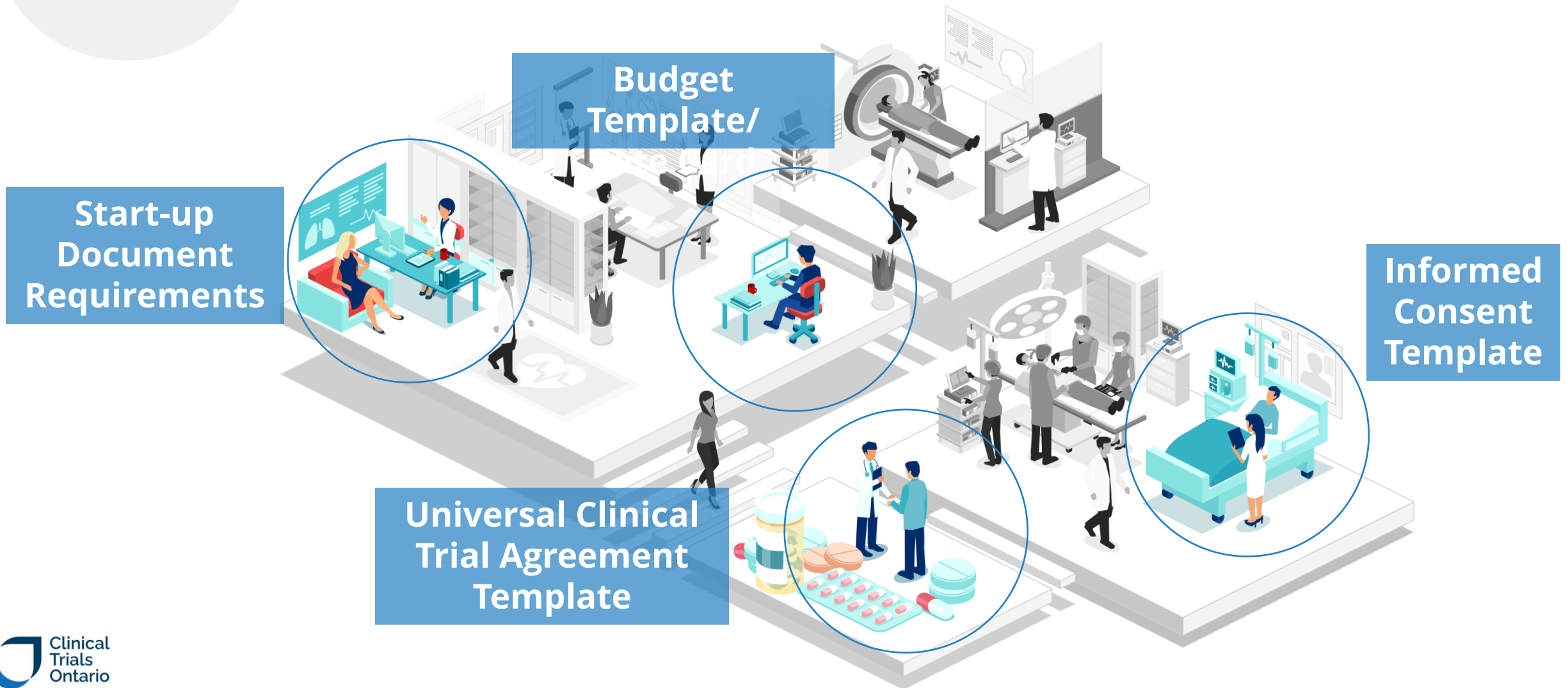


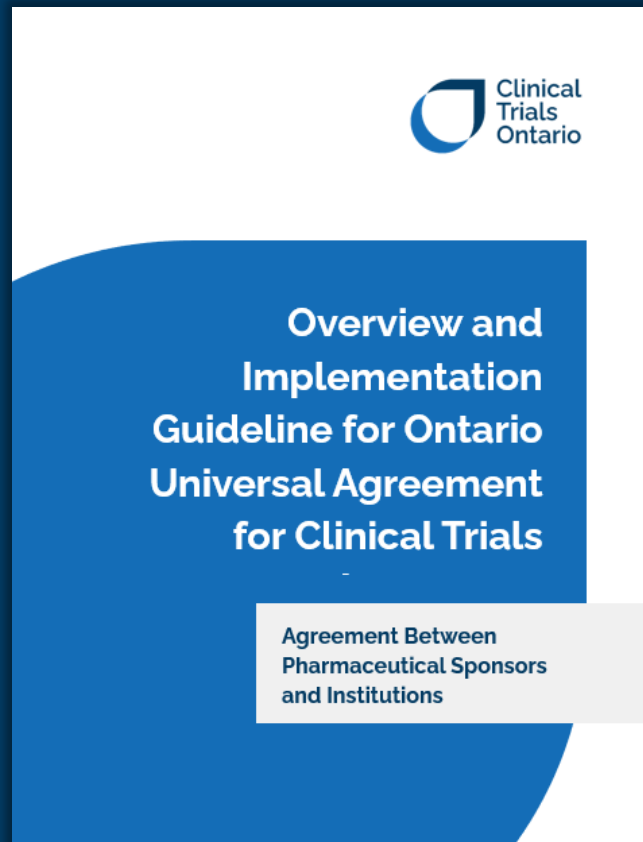
Collaborative Advocacy

Improve timely access to therapies

Ongoing Standardization Initiatives

Improving efficiency and supporting trial activation in 45 days





Ontario Universal Agreement for Clinical Trials

- CTO and the Ontario Leadership Table legal/contracts administration teams developed a **new Universal Agreement for Clinical Trials (UACT)**
- Organizations represented by the Leadership Table will implement the agreement between Ontario institutions and industry sponsors that are conducting pharmaceutical drug trials
- While it has been developed as a tool to help achieve the 45-day trial activation target, the **Ontario UACT will support streamlining the overall contracting process for all parties once it is implemented**

Download the new Ontario Universal Agreement for Clinical Trials (UACT)



Visit ctontario.ca to **access the UACT** and the **UACT implementation guideline** and **get started today!**

Stay tuned for Informational **webinars** on the use of the new UACT and a **Communication package** for the community.

Contact quickstart@ctontario.ca to learn more.

Ontario Announces Support for Clinical Trials

Establishing Ontario as a global biomanufacturing and life sciences hub



The next phase of Ontario's life sciences strategy commits an additional \$146 million in support of tools and programs that will help establish Ontario as a global biomanufacturing and life sciences hub

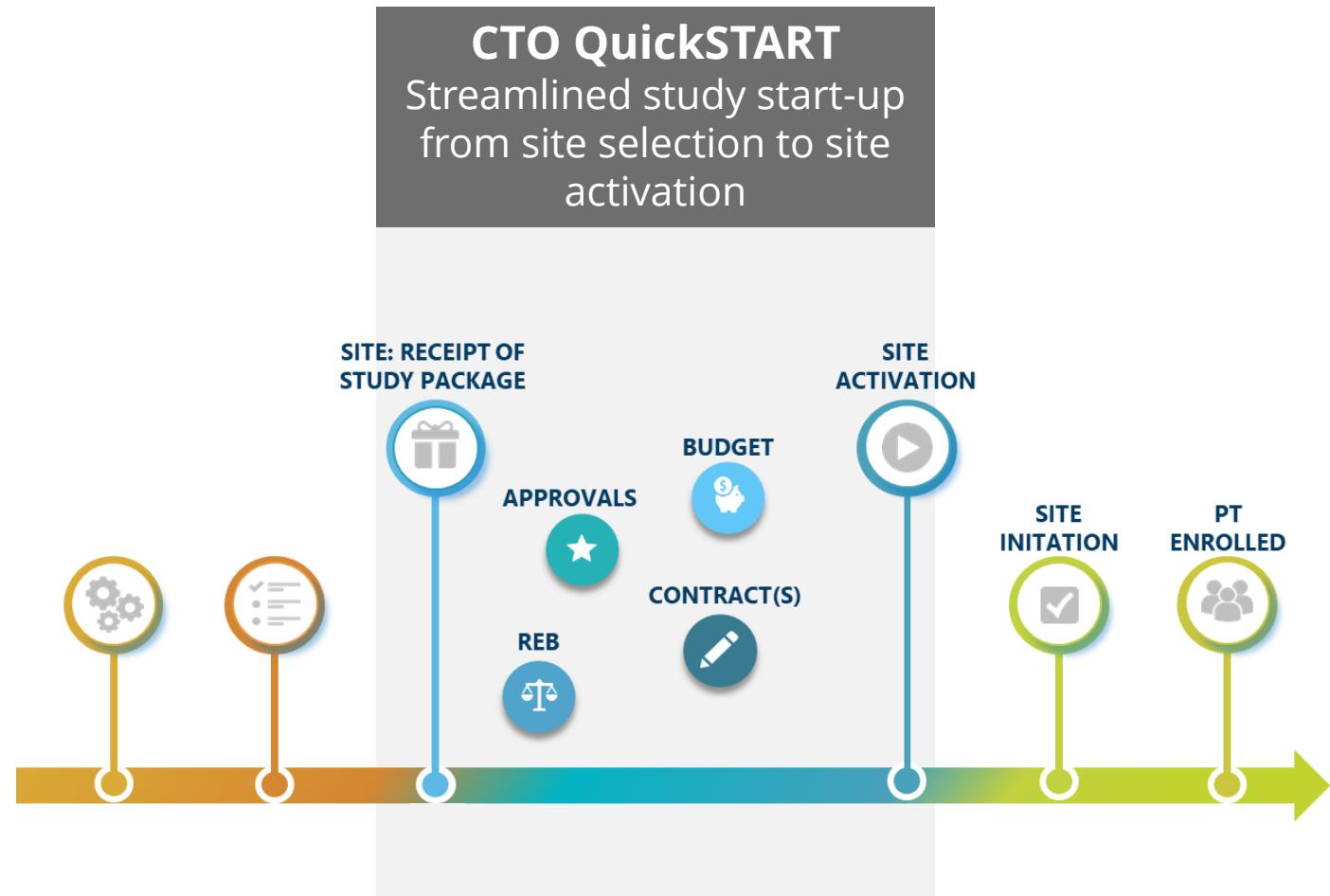
This investment includes **\$5 million for Clinical Trials Ontario and its innovative QuickSTART program**, which reduces barriers and helps speed up clinical trial start-up times

Thank you to all who made this investment possible

CTO QuickSTART Program

Turning a marathon into a sprint: Standardized processes to support trial sites and sponsors

- Key features:
 1. Custom-built digital platform, supporting communication, enhanced transparency, and document management
 2. Focus on processes identified as common hurdles
 3. Clear and fixed targets for review and response timelines
 4. Common templates and tools
 5. Program support and training by CTO
- Currently undergoing a refresh under the leadership of the Ontario Leadership Table for Clinical Trials



What's Next: Other Leadership Table Priorities

Ongoing and planned work to elevate Ontario's clinical trials ecosystem

- **Recruitment:** Develop guided approach for Permission to Contact programs, and practical guidance to support decentralized trial options and satellite sites
- **Health Data Access:** Develop guidelines for consistent interpretation and application of PHIPA in research contexts—supporting access to health data in real-time



What's Next: Other Leadership Table Priorities

Ongoing and planned work to elevate Ontario's clinical trials ecosystem






- **Rare Disease:** Collaborate nationally to establish networks of referral sites and experts, and address challenges in accessing and identifying rare disease information within data platforms
- **Collaborative Advocacy:** Support work of patient advocacy groups, and collaborate with advisory groups, government, and others to advocate for regulatory and policy changes



Thank You

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