Background:
The University Hospital Foundation’s mission is inspiring philanthropy to support innovation and excellence at the University of Alberta Hospital site and the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute. The University Hospital Foundation’s vision is to be a Canadian leader in health care philanthropy that passionately engages the community and continually grows support. Established by an act of Alberta Legislature in 1962, the Foundation supports initiatives that would otherwise not be funded through government sources.

The Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry is dedicated to the improvement of health through excellence and leadership in medical and dental education, research and health care. Its mission is to prepare physicians and dentists to provide the highest quality of health care to the people of Alberta and beyond, and to advance knowledge and skills through fundamental, clinical, and applied research.

The University Hospital Foundation (UHF) encourages applications from new (those within five years of first academic appointment) investigators. Established investigators may also apply, and are especially encouraged to participate in projects as co-investigator(s)/collaborator(s) with new investigators.

It is expected that funded projects will form the basis for subsequent applications for external peer reviewed funding (e.g. CIHR). Projects currently funded by another source will be given lower priority.

Eligible Applicants:
- A clinician holding a primary appointment with Alberta Health Services (AHS)-Edmonton Zone at the University of Alberta Hospital and University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

- To be eligible, clinical applicants who are PI or Co-PI (but not those merely serving as co-applicants) must provide a letter from their Department Chair/Divisional Director stating they are primarily involved in the care of patients at the University of Alberta Hospital and that this is their major site of service delivery. Applications without this letter will not be reviewed.

- Basic biomedical researchers within the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry are eligible to apply as a PI but must have a clinical colleague (based on the criteria above) in a related field/research area as a Co-PI. The clinical Co-PI must have a substantive role in the project which is explicitly described in the Research Proposal.

- Only one application per PI or Co-PI will be accepted.

- Applicants can only hold one (1) UHFMR award as a PI or Co-PI; applications for additional funding will not be processed until the completion of the previous award, i.e. researchers must maintain good standing with the UHFMR Grants Review Committee (e.g., interim report, final report, UHF attribution in publications, and budgetary reporting) to be eligible for subsequent grant cycles.

- Clinicians and faculty members who are primarily involved in the care of patients at the Stollery Children’s Hospital (SCH), Covenant Health, Cross Cancer Institute (CCI), Glenrose Hospital and/or Royal Alexandra Hospital (RAH) are ineligible to receive funding through this competition, but are encouraged to seek funding associated with the Foundations supporting these hospitals.

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Research Areas Supported:

Although applications in all areas of biomedical, clinical and health services/outcomes research are acceptable a clear linkage to clinical problems in adults is required and an emphasis on translational research (either bench to bedside or from evidence to practice) is desirable. A portion of the funds are restricted to the following areas: Aids, Alzheimer’s Disease, Heart Disease, Respiratory Disease and Hematology; however, the majority of funds available have no such designation.

Funding will be limited to a total budget of no more than $35,000 and will be awarded for one year (see eligible expenses below). Application for renewal of funding is not permitted.

Budget:

(i) The following costs WILL NOT be considered as part of the requested budget: secretarial/clerical support; travel to present results; computers; renovations; maintenance of equipment and installation of major equipment.

(ii) The following stipend costs WILL be considered as part of the requested budget: graduate students; research assistants; technicians; postdoctoral fellows; and research associates.

(iii) Publication costs are an allowable expense.

Application Procedure:

The program is administered by the Office of Research in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry (492-0555).

The Application Deadline is 2:00 p.m., Thursday, October 13, 2016.

Please submit the following to the Office of Research, 2-13, Heritage Medical Research Centre (HMRC).

- The original application with signatures (paper clipped only) plus one copy stapled
- A final report if you received a UHFMR Award in prior competition(s)

Human Ethics, Animal Biosafety and Resource Approval:

Applicants will be responsible for ensuring that applications have received the necessary ethics, animal certification or biohazard approval. Funds will only be released to successful applicants when Research Ethics Board (REB) approval is provided. Applications utilizing AHS resources must receive operational approval from AHS and a letter confirming this must be submitted to the UHF Grant Administrator prior to fund release.

Grants Review Committee:

The Grants Review Committee will be appointed by the Associate Dean, Clinical and Translational Research, of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and will include broad representation from within the faculty.

Distribution of Funds:

Awarded funds will be administered by the Research Services Office (RSO), of the University of Alberta.
In general, funds should be spent within one (1) year of the award, and applicants for a new award cannot currently hold unspent UHFMR funding. Funds designated for equipment (maximum is $10,000) must be used to purchase the requested equipment.

Major changes in how funding is used must be approved by the Chair of the UHFMR Grants Review Committee and the UHF.

**Reporting:**

Each successful applicant is required to:

- Sign a declaration relating to the issues described below prior to release of the funds.

- Submit an interim report at the one-year anniversary of the grant. This report should indicate the progress of the grant and any publications, presentations and grant submissions for provincial or national funding for the project (including whether the grant is under review or successful/unsuccessful).

- Submit a final report at the two-year anniversary of the grant. This report should include the results, publications, presentations and success in receiving provincial or national funding for the project and a financial report.

- In cases where the project is completed within one year, the final report can be submitted in lieu of an interim report.

- All reports and copies of publications should be submitted to the Office of Research, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, 2-13, (HMRC).

- The University Hospital Foundation must be acknowledged in all publications and presentations.

- Failure to abide by the terms of the reporting agreement will disqualify the researcher from future applications as a PI or Co-PI.

**Reports:**

“Reports (interim and final) will be provided to the UHF. The Foundation may share the Reports and Lay Summary with individual donors to the Medical Research Competition, and in cooperation with the researcher may publish and/or disseminate information regarding this award with donors and through UHF publications and website. Researchers must be available for impact reporting with donors as requested by the Foundation.”

**Extensions:**

To request an extension an interim report explaining the reason for the extension and for how long must be provided to Anne Wright at anne.wright@ualberta.ca. Once approved a (Change to Existing Research Project Form) must be completed.