Call at-a-glance
CIHR Operating Grant: SPOR iCT (Innovative Clinical Trials) Rewarding Success

**Aim:** Canada is spending an increasing proportion of its gross domestic product on health care. This opportunity will fund multidisciplinary research teams and their partners to enhance value-based care, health system sustainability, and health outcomes. The research team and their partners will design, implement, and evaluate interventions in healthcare delivery organization(s) that aim to produce healthcare cost savings and/or improved health system efficiency.

**Best fit PI:** Mid-career to senior clinician scientists with experience managing multi-disciplinary research teams and with existing partnerships with AHS.

**Link to call**

**Value:** The competition rolls out in three phases. The first phase provides $2500 in travel funding for the team to attend an ‘Ideathon; the second phase provides $100,000 for 1 year for business case development; the third phase provides an operating grant of $2.4M over 4 years (which requires a 1:1 match).

**Process:**
**Phase I (Letter of Intent for Ideathon)**
Applicants must prepare an “Idea brief” (2 pages) to outline their proposed idea to enhance value-based care and/or address novel ways to scale and spread successfully implemented innovations that improve value for money. A travel award ($2500/team) is offered to offset cost of travel and accommodation to attend the Phase II Ideathon (up to 4 awards per province).
- Ideas must address provincial priorities. For Alberta, these are: (1) addictions and mental health; (2) home and community-based care, including rural, remote and indigenous communities; (3) health information management; and (4) health workforce.
- Multidisciplinary team must be identified.
- Pay organization(s) must be identified (e.g., AHS).
- Phase I CIHR deadline: November 21, 2017

**Phase II (Ideathon & Business Case Development Grant)**
- Pending success at the LOI stage, four applicants from each province will be invited to the national two-day event hosted by CIHR on **February 6-7, 2018** in Ottawa.
- Three individuals from each team (e.g., two researchers; one representative from the payer organization) will be required to represent the team and pitch their ideas to the review panel.
- Top-ranked pitches (two from each participating province) will be awarded a Business Case Development Grant (ten one-year grants at $100,000/grant); this grant will support feasibility testing, alignment of partnerships, development of contracts, outcomes and metrics, etc.

**Phase III (Team Grant)**
- Only projects awarded a Business Case Development Grant will be considered for this phase.
- Focus should be on the implementation and evaluation of programs/interventions identified in the Idea Brief and developed through the Business Case Development Grant.
- Five teams (one per province) will be funded with a total funding envelope of $12M with 1:1 matching from non-federal sources over four years.
- **Phase III Deadline TBA (estimated Spring/Summer 2019)**
**Matching funds**
- Although matching funds are not required for Phases I and II of the initiative, teams are required to partner with ‘payers of health services’ and/or philanthropic organizations to determine the scope of work, outcomes, and how value of services will be impacted. One representative of the payer organization is a required team member at the Ideathon. This means early engagement with AHS and the SCNs (Strategic Clinical Networks) is crucial.
- 1:1 matching funds are required for the Phase III application.
- FoMD is not able to directly provide matching funds for this opportunity, however, we are pleased to work with teams to help identify and secure funds from other sources.

**Support available from FoMD for proposals**
**Phase I**
- Support to develop the Idea brief, team matchmaking, and coordinating partnerships with pay organizations: contact Jill by October 16 to indicate your interest.

**Phase II**
- Support for developing a compelling pitch: including assistance with slides and coaching for the team.

**Phase III**
- Coordination and writing support for Phase III proposals.

**Questions?**
Dr. Jill Byrne (Director, Clinical Research) or Dr. Patricia Gongal (Director, Major Grants).

**More information**
CIHR website; webinar slides (attached)
Canada’s Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR)

The SPOR Rewarding Success Initiative

Presented by
Dr. Robyn Tamblyn, Scientific Director, Institute of Health Services and Policy Research, CIHR
Overview

1. Background Context
2. What is Rewarding Success?
3. The Rewarding Success Model
4. The Rewarding Success Design
5. The Rewarding Success Funding Opportunity
6. Review Criteria
7. How to Apply
8. Key Dates
9. How is Rewarding Success Different from Other Funding Opportunities?
10. Where Can I Learn More?
Background Context: The Canadian Healthcare Spend

- Healthcare spending (estimated at $228B in 2016) is 11% of Canada’s GDP
- Canada ranks 9th (out of 11 OECD countries) in terms health system performance
- Canada must improve the value of its health investment

Note: Health care spending as a percent of GDP.
Sources: Spending data are from OECD for the year 2014, and exclude spending on capital formation of health care providers; Commonwealth Fund analysis.
How do you enhance value-based care, health system sustainability and health outcomes all at once?
New Approaches are Needed to Incentivize Innovation, Successful Partnership and Implementation

- Conventional peer review committees are reluctant to support riskier innovation

- Successful partnership development is not rewarded, nor success in implementing interventions to improve care

- Alternate funding models have been used to foster innovation
  - Prizes (e.g. EU prize for Low Cost Point of Care Testing for Viral vs Bacterial URI Infections)
  - Risk Sharing (new technologies)
  - Social Impact Bonds (challenging social problems)
To change the paradigm of how successful innovative implementation research is rewarded, CIHR designed….

The SPOR Rewarding Success Initiative
What is ‘Rewarding Success’?

• A new funding model to incentivize multidisciplinary teams to partner with health system organizations and payers to improve health outcomes and value for investment

• Motivates key healthcare stakeholders to partner in a different way

• Allows partners to benefit from savings produced in the healthcare system
Rewarding Success Principles

Principle 1: Patients, clinicians, researchers and healthcare delivery organizations partner to implement value added interventions that address provincial priorities, improve health outcomes, and improve value for our investment.

Principle 2: Create conditions that will foster innovation in healthcare.

Principle 3: Foster methods that enable rapid iteration of interventions.

Principle 4: A provincial/national process will be established to audit the cost and outcomes, reward successful innovators, and continue to fund innovation in healthcare.
Rewarding Success Model

IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES, PRODUCE HEALTHCARE COST SAVINGS AND/OR HEALTH DELIVERY EFFICIENCIES

EVALUATION OF THE INTERVENTION

If agreed upon outcomes are achieved, the savings will be redistributed between the payer, the multidisciplinary team and/or redirected to an Innovation Fund.

- Agree on an idea on how to improve value for investment in healthcare
- Determine outcomes and metrics to be measured

Partner

Implement intervention(s) in healthcare organizations using innovative clinical trial methodology

Multidisciplinary Team

Payer organization

- Determine value and timing of payback
- Develop contracts and agreements
Participants in a Rewarding Success Model

Multidisciplinary Team

- Researcher
- Clinician
- Patient
- Decision-maker from the health care delivery organization(s) where the idea will be implemented

Payer organization

- The organization(s) which agree to pay for successful improvement in outcomes, efficiencies, or reduction in low value services
- Examples include:
  - Ministries of Health
  - Health Authorities
  - Hospitals
  - Insurers
  - Philanthropic organizations
  - Charities
The Rewarding Success Design

Idea Brief (Letter of Intent)
- Opportunity to outline an idea using the Rewarding Success model
  - Innovative ideas that enhance value-based care
  - Novel ways to scale and spread successfully implemented innovations that improve value for money
- Reviewed by Ministry of Health
- Top four selected ideas from each participating province invited to Ideathon

Sept – Nov 2017

February 6-7, 2018 Ideathon
- 1 national Ideathon
- Invited teams pitch ideas to the Idea Panel
- Idea Panel consists of ministries of health from all regions
- Top two pitches in each participating province are awarded a Business Case Development Grant

Business Case Development Grants
(10 grants @ 100K for 1 yr)
- No matched funding required
- Determine timing and value of pay back
- Develop agreements
- Refine targets and establish outcomes and metrics
- Independent evaluation/audit
- Feasibility studies

Feb 2018- Jan 2019

April 2019
iCT Rewarding Success Team Grants
($24M total for 5 grants over 4 yrs)
- Implementation and evaluation of the intervention in a healthcare delivery setting using Innovative Clinical Trial methodology
- Redirection of a proportion of the savings
- 1:1 matched funding required
Phase 1: Idea Brief and Travel Awards (Letter of Intent)

Idea Brief (Letter of Intent):

- Outline proposed idea to enhance value-based care, and/or address novel ways to scale and spread successfully implemented innovations that improve value for money
- Ideas must address one or more of the provincial priorities where the project will be implemented or a significant challenge the applicant identifies and believes to be of importance
- The multidisciplinary team must be identified
- Payer organization(s) must be identified

Idea Brief Review:

- Idea Briefs will be reviewed by the province where the intervention will be implemented
- The **top four** Idea Briefs from each participating provinces will be invited to pitch their idea at the Ideathon

Funds Available:

- Travel Awards available to offset travel and accommodation costs for teams invited to attend the Ideathon
- The maximum amount per travel award, per team, is $2,500
Phase 1: Provincial Priorities

Alberta
1. Addictions and Mental Health
2. Home and Community-based care, including rural/remote and indigenous communities.
3. Health information management
4. Health Workforce

British Columbia
1. Coordinated primary and community care:
   • Complex medical care and/or supports for frail patients (including people living with dementia)
   • Complex mental health and/or substance use
2. Improved access to surgical services (perioperative services)
3. Consideration for accessibility of services in rural, remote, First Nations communities
4. Innovative health technologies to facilitate patient-centered, team-based care, and to enable secure access to health care services and information

Manitoba
1. Optimal Health System design to support fiscal and clinical efficiencies
2. Performance management and economic evaluation to measure efficiency and effectiveness
3. Redesign of community care to support continuity of care and reduced health system utilization
4. Mental Health and Addictions services to support improved outcomes

Newfoundland and Labrador
1. Home and Community Care
2. Mental Health and Addictions
3. Primary Health Care
4. eHealth / Health Information Management

Saskatchewan
1. Improving patient flow through the system and reducing waits for care in emergency departments.
2. Mental health and addictions – Testing innovative models for prevention and treatment delivery that address gaps in access, cultural appropriateness, equity, and effectiveness
3. Appropriateness of care – focusing on clinical quality improvement through: addressing inappropriate/unnecessary treatments and testing; increasing uptake of evidence based clinical best practices, guidelines and decision support tools; reducing unwarranted clinical variation; and reducing medical errors and patient harm related to clinical practices exploring their effectiveness
4. New models of physician engagement
The Rewarding Success Design

Idea Brief (Letter of Intent)
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  - Novel ways to scale and spread successfully implemented innovations that improve value for money
- Reviewed by Ministry of Health
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- Feasibility studies

Workshop on adaptive, complex intervention trials and financial and legal frameworks

Feb 2018- Jan 2019

April 2019
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($24M total for 5 grants over 4 yrs)
- Implementation and evaluation of the intervention in a healthcare delivery setting using Innovative Clinical Trial methodology
- Redirection of a proportion of the savings
- 1:1 matched funding required
Phase 2: Ideathon and Business Case Development Grants (Full Application)

Ideathon and Business case Development Grants:

- The Ideathon is a national two day event to bring together the top four ideas from each province.
- The Ideathon will be February 6-7, 2018 in Ottawa.
- Each successful team must be represented by:
  - Two members of the multidisciplinary team
  - An individual representing the payer organization
- The ideas will be pitched to the Idea Review Panel (and other applicants).
- The Idea Review Panel will select the top two pitches from each participating province to be awarded a Business Case Development Grant.

Funds Available:

- The total amount available for this phase of the initiative is $1,000,000, enough to fund approximately ten (10) grants, up to two (2) per province, for the duration of one (1) year. The maximum amount per grant is $100,000.
- No matching funds required.
Phase 2: Ideathon and Business Case Development Grants (Full Application)

**Business Case Development Grants** will support the following activities:

- Feasibility testing and adaptation of the intervention idea and the implementation approach to optimize the likelihood of successful execution in a healthcare delivery setting
- Aligning partnerships
- Refining selected targets
- Establishing all outcomes and metrics
- Establishing timing and value of payback
- Working with payer(s) to determine payback mechanism
- Developing contracts and agreements
- Establishing independent evaluation/audit partner

**Strengthening Workshop**: During the business case development stage, there will also be a Strengthening Workshop on adaptive, complex intervention trials and financial and legal frameworks. All teams receiving Business Case Development Grants will be required to have two representatives attend this workshop.
The Rewarding Success Design

Idea Brief (Letter of Intent)
• Opportunity to outline an idea using the Rewarding Success model
  – Innovative ideas that enhance value-based care
  – Novel ways to scale and spread successfully implemented innovations that improve value for money
• Reviewed by Ministry of Health
• Top four selected ideas from each participating province invited to Ideathon

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April 2019
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($24M total for 5 grants over 4 yrs)
• Implementation and evaluation of the intervention in a healthcare delivery setting using Innovative Clinical Trial methodology
• Redirection of a proportion of the savings
• 1:1 matched funding required

Workshop on adaptive, complex intervention trials and financial and legal frameworks
Phase 3: iCT Rewarding Success Team Grants

Innovative Clinical Trials (iCT) Rewarding Success Team Grants:

- Only projects funded through the Ideathon for a business case will be considered for this phase
- Will focus on the implementation and evaluation of programs/interventions identified in the Idea Brief and developed throughout the Business Case Development Grants
- Innovative clinical trial designs will be used to implement and evaluate programs/interventions
- Outcomes, both intended and unintended, and savings will be measured, and audited through an external auditing process
- If agreed-upon outcomes are achieved, the payer will pay back the agreed-upon amount and its allocation to the multidisciplinary team, and/or an Innovation Fund

Funds Available:

- The total funds (CIHR + Partners) available for Phase 3 is $24M over 4 years
  - CIHR funds: $12M
  - 1:1 matching required from non-federal sources
- A minimum of five teams can be funded (one for each participating province)
SPOR’s Innovative Clinical Trials

• Innovative clinical trials (iCTs) use designs that are alternative to traditional Randomized Controlled Trials
• iCT methods can reduce the cost of conducting trials and maximize the use of existing knowledge and data
• Rewarding Success interventions must focus in the research areas of:
  • Comparative effectiveness research
  • Implementation research
How to Apply?
SPOR’s Rewarding Success Funding Opportunity

Objectives:

The iCT Rewarding Success is expected to:

- Incentivize multidisciplinary research teams and their healthcare and innovation partners to design, adopt, and evaluate interventions implemented into a healthcare delivery organization that enhance value-based care, health system sustainability, and health outcomes.

- Support innovative process transformations that improve health outcomes and value for Canada’s healthcare investment.
SPOR’s Rewarding Success Funding Opportunity

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Anyone can generate an idea, but the Nominated Principal Applicant must be one of the following:
   a. An independent researcher
   b. A knowledge user

2. The Nominated Principal Applicant must be appointed at an eligible institution

3. By the Idea Brief submission deadline, the Nominated Principal Applicant must have successfully completed sex- and gender-based analysis (SGBA) training by following one of the CIHR Institute of Gender and Health’s three online training modules.

4. Teams must be multidisciplinary and consist of at least four (4) Principal Applicants and/or Principal Knowledge Users. Each of the following categories must be covered:
   - A clinician
   - A researcher
   - A decision maker from the health care delivery organization
   - A patient: In the context of SPOR, patient is "an overarching term inclusive of individuals with personal experience of a health issue and informal caregivers, including family and friends."

   - Other sectors are welcome to join the team but are not mandatory. These may include philanthropies, SPOR Networks, not-for-profits, industry, etc.
SPOR’s Rewarding Success Funding Opportunity

Idea Brief Review Criteria:

CIHR will review all applications for relevance to:

- Funding opportunity objectives
- Alignment with iCT research areas
- SPOR principles

The Ministries of Health and SUPPORT Units will use the following criteria for the prioritization exercise:

1. Relevance to provincial priorities, both those identified by the province and those that may be suggested by the applicants and accepted as highly relevant by the respective province.

2. Quality of the idea (i.e., intervention/program) and the potential of the province to spread and scale.

3. The likelihood of achieving the stated outcomes within the time window for full implementation (4 years).

4. The likelihood that the team can successfully implement and measure the cost-effectiveness of the program/intervention.
SPOR’s Rewarding Success Funding Opportunity

Ideathon Review Criteria (February 6-7, 2018):

1. Innovation
   a. Potential to address one or more provincial priorities.
   b. Degree to which the idea is original, unique and creative.
   c. Extent of the magnitude and types of changes in care delivery in the proposed idea with respect to significance of improvements over current practice in terms of value for money.
   d. Economic impact and potential for cost savings in the health-care system.
   e. Potential for scalability of the planned intervention.
   f. Evidence of appropriate and meaningful integration of patient engagement mechanisms that are aligned with the SPOR Patient Engagement Framework.

2. Scientific Strategy
   a. Clarity of the idea and its alignment to the objectives of this funding opportunity.
   b. Appropriateness and feasibility of the research approach and planned activities in relation to the proposed budget.
   c. Potential for the proposed research approach and planned activities to lead to equitable scale-up of the intervention through the appropriate integration of sex, gender and other relevant intersecting factors.
3. Team and Operations
   a. Experience of the applicants in the proposed idea area.
   b. Quality of scientific, clinical, patient, and management leadership.
   c. Availability and accessibility of personnel, facilities and infrastructure required to conduct proposed activities.
   d. Capacity of the partners to implement the potential intervention, facilitate change management and end-user engagement.
   e. Quality and potential sustainability of the proposed partnerships.

4. Budget
   a. Extent to which the budget is appropriate and justified in relation to the proposed activities.
SPOR’s Rewarding Success Funding Opportunity

How to Apply:

2-page Idea Brief that must include the following information:

– Describe the healthcare challenge/provincial priorities

– Describe the proposed intervention to the aforementioned challenge, highlighting how it is expected to enhance value-based health care, health system sustainability, and equitable health outcomes.

– Describe potential outcomes that will be measured.

– Describe the cost savings that will be produced and which payers would benefit from these savings.

– Describe how this idea would be of value to patients and how patients will be involved, giving consideration to sex, gender and other intersecting factors as relevant.

– Describe how the implementation of the idea aligns with the definition of iCT and its research areas.
SPOR’s Rewarding Success Funding Opportunity

How to Apply (continued):

The application must also include:

– Provide an Academic CV or a Knowledge User CV for the Nominated Principal Applicant.

– Provide a BioSketch for all Principal Applicants and Principal Knowledge Users with the exception of the patient.

– Provide a patient written statement describing their relevant lived experiences that details their fit for this role in the context of the application.

– Provide a ‘Participant Table’ with participant’s role, affiliations, role in multidisciplinary team, expertise.

– Provide a profile of each of the payer organizations identified in your application.

– Sex- and gender-based analysis (SGBA) Certificate of Completion of one training module.

– A budget breakdown for the travel and accommodation funds needed to attend the Ideathon.

– A budget breakdown and justification of planned activities is required for the Business Case Development Grant.
Key Dates

- Application Launch: September 2017
- Phase 1 Idea Brief Deadline: November 21, 2017
- Notice of Idea Brief Decision: December 21, 2017
- Ideathon: February 6-7, 2018 in Ottawa
- Business Case Development Grant Funding: March 1, 2018
How is Rewarding Success Different from Other Funding Opportunities?

- High level of involvement from the Ministries of Health and the SUPPORT Units in identifying ideas addressing provincial priorities
- Strong multi-year partnerships required
- Multi-staged funding opportunity over 6 years
- Five provinces have signed up to pilot the Rewarding Success model (AB, BC, MB, NL, SK)
- Full application for Phase 2 is in the form of a pitch
- Successful programs/interventions are rewarded with a ‘pay back’ from the cost savings to the research team (to be used for research purposes), and/or an Innovation Fund
Where Can I Learn More?

- SPOR’s **Rewarding Success Initiative** website
- For questions, please contact support@cihr-irsc.gc.ca