



## Impact Research Agreement Program: Clinical Translation Impact Research Agreement

*Up to \$100K grant for partnered research with high translational potential*

### Impact Research Program Overview

Funded by the Government of Canada, the mission of the Stem Cell Network (SCN) is to act as a catalyst for enabling translation of stem cell research into clinical applications, commercial products, or public policy. The *Impact Research Agreement Program* is aimed at funding research projects for up to one year, that are partnered and that have high potential for translational impact while addressing the Network's mission.

### Clinical Translation Impact Research Agreement

**Clinical Translation Impact Research Agreements** are aimed at projects that develop novel cellular or therapeutic stem cell approaches to tissue repair and regeneration within specific disease models. Proposals must clearly identify the translational "*bench to bedside*" path of the research and where the proposed research stands along the path. **Projects that principally involve basic research are not encouraged. Partnerships with health charities, non-federal government organizations or industry are a necessary component of the project.**

Projects that may be funded within this program can involve the completion of proof-of-principle experiments in small or large animal models using novel cells or compounds/drugs or using novel transplantation approaches. Projects may also involve the identification/characterization of compounds/drugs that target stem cell differentiation/proliferation with the aim to develop novel therapeutic approaches. Projects may also involve the production of reagents necessary for the completion of a clinical trial. In all cases, projects must be clearly aimed at developing therapies and therefore must outline a clear path to the clinic.

Total SCN funds that may be requested for a *Clinical Translation Impact Research Agreement* is **\$100,000**, to be spent over a period of one year.

### Eligibility Criteria

- An applicant must be eligible to receive grant funding from CIHR, NSERC, or SSHRC.
- **The application must be supported by at least one eligible partner.** Eligible sources include corporations and not-for-profit organizations, and government, but exclude Federal funds (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, CFI, NCEs, Genome Canada).
- In order to receive the award, successful applicants must execute a Standard SCN Agreement (through which they will become a member of the Stem Cell Network), and take on all of the associated rights and obligations. These obligations include the requirement to provide SCN office with project updates and reports as requested.

## Application and Review Process

1. Download the budget template and Clinical Translation Impact Research Agreement Application Form from <http://www.stemcellnetwork.ca/index.php/funding/>.
2. Deliver completed proposal by e-mail to [info@stemcellnetwork.ca](mailto:info@stemcellnetwork.ca) by **midnight on the due date** (see table below for competition schedule).

Application due*	Funding starts 1 <sup>st</sup> of
June 15, 2016	September 2016

3. Reviews of each application will be undertaken by the SCN Research Management Committee (RMC). The RMC will make their final funding recommendations to the SCN Board of Directors for approval.
4. The Network expects to announce awards within two months of application and funding of projects is expected to start within one month of announcement.

For further information, please contact [info@stemcellnetwork.ca](mailto:info@stemcellnetwork.ca).

## Application Outline

The *Clinical Translation Impact Research Agreement* proposal consists of **four sections**, as outlined below, plus supporting documentation (letters of support, budget spreadsheet, and investigator CVs). The complete application package may be downloaded from <http://www.stemcellnetwork.ca/index.php/funding/>.

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### Section 1: Project Overview

#### Date of Submission –

**Project Title (max. 15 words)** - Capture the essence of what is to be done/found.

**Project Leader** - Identify **one** Investigator who will be responsible for managing the project and for progress reporting to the Network.

**Project Summary (max. 200 words)** - Provide an Executive Summary **in lay terms** of the proposal, highlighting project objectives and deliverables, demonstrating how the proposal fits within the *Clinical Translation Impact Program*. Clearly indicate the potential clinical impact of your proposed research on Canadians and how partner(s) will help you further your goals. (Note: This summary will be evaluated by lay representatives. Furthermore, for successful proposals, this summary may be used in press releases or posted on the Network's external web site).

**Project Short-term Deliverables (max. 3 key deliverables)** – Using bullet format, provide a list of the deliverables for the proposed project including expected time of completion within the term of the research agreement.

**Research Long-term Translational Plan (max. one paragraph)** – Provide a brief and clear description of your long-term clinical translational plan for the proposed research including how the proposed impact research agreement will further the long-term goals.

**Project Team** - Identify principal investigators and personnel/trainees who will be directly involved in the proposed project (name, institution, position, role in project and contact information).

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### Section 2: Research Proposal

Please note: Up to 30 references may be included **in addition** to the 3-page limit for this section. Appendices will **not** be reviewed.

**Background & Preliminary Findings (max. 1 page including tables and figures)** – Describe the background and rationale for the proposed research including any relevant preliminary findings.

**Proposed Research (max. 2 pages including tables and figures)** – Outline the proposed work to be undertaken over the term of the research agreement. Please identify the limitations of the methodologies used, if any, and explain how the team may overcome these issues.

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### Section 3: Partnerships

**Please note: A minimum of one eligible\* partner is mandatory for Clinical Translation Impact Research Agreement application.** Applications that do not have a letter of support from an eligible partner will not be reviewed.

List each partner that will participate in the project, their **specific role** in the project, and their anticipated cash and in-kind contribution. Where a researcher has a “financial interest in a partner the potential conflict of interest should be declared. This does not preclude the partnership in any way, but provides transparency to the review process. If further information or clarification is required please email SCN at [info@stemcellnetwork.ca](mailto:info@stemcellnetwork.ca).

Please provide a letter of support on the letterhead of each eligible partner detailing the extent of their collaboration and/or their cash and in-kind contribution towards the project. The letter should specifically include reference to the Stem Cell Network, the proposed project, and any conditions placed on funding.

\*Eligible sources include corporations, not-for-profit organizations, and government, but exclude Federal funds (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, CFI, NCEs, Genome Canada).

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### Section 4: Budget Justifications and Comments

Provide justification for/comments on your budget, as necessary. Identify budget items by noting the accompanying Excel spreadsheet row number relevant to the item. Note that all Stem Cell Network research grants must adhere to CIHR funding guidelines unless specific written permission has been received to apply NSERC or SSHRC guidelines instead. CHIR guidelines can be found at <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/805.html>

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