

Research Resources e-Newsletter (15Apr2020 edition)

Do you know of an OBGYN-related Research Resource, Funding Opportunity, or an Upcoming Workshop that is missing below? Please [write](#) to let us know!

For this and past editions of e-newsletters, please navigate to <https://obgyn.ubc.ca/research/research-e-newsletter/>.

COVID-19 Resources & Support

For updates and useful links on COVID-19 and evolving guidelines on research operations, the following resources are available:

- **UPDATED!** [Curtailing Research Activities on UBC Campuses](#)
- [VCH/PHC Advisory on Clinical Trial and Clinical Research Operations](#)
- [Faculty of Medicine - Resources for Research](#)
- [OBGYN Useful Links on Research and COVID-19](#)
- [WHRI COVID-19 Researcher Resources](#)
- **NEW!** [BC AHSN's COVID-19 Response](#)
- [Updates for Clinical Trials BC regarding COVID-19](#)
- **NEW!** [Research Ideas in a Context of COVID-19](#)
- **NEW!** [REBC's Rapid Ethical Review Process for COVID-19 Clinical Research](#)

Events, Workshops, and Seminars

--> IMPORTANT NOTE: Events listed below are subject to change / may be cancelled without notice, due to the current ongoing situation with the COVID-19 outbreak. Please check with individual event's organizers for updates.

(1) [BC Rounds Calendar](http://www.calendarwiz.com/bcrounds) <http://www.calendarwiz.com/bcrounds>

(2) **Thursday BCWH Interprofessional Grand Rounds:** Effective immediately, for the rest of the month of April, these will be “virtual”. Options for participating as an attendee: *Option #1*, by **Zoom** – weekly email reminders from Kerrie Glover (CWBC) will contain the Zoom meeting info, which can be accessed via any web browser on your computer, laptop, or mobile device -- please ensure your microphone and

video options are turned OFF when you connect; *Option #2*, via **Recording** – all sessions are recorded and are available for viewing after the session at <https://obgyn.ubc.ca/faculty-resources/rounds/med-video-on-demand/>. Password: obgynrounds.

Attendance Credit: As there won't be any sign-in sheets, if you attend via Zoom, please send an email to kglover@cw.bc.ca after the rounds session so she can track your attendance. Participants are also encouraged to complete the evaluation form (available on the weekly reminder email). Please check the Obstetrics and Gynecology website weekly for any updates for possible cancellations or changes at <https://obgyn.ubc.ca/faculty-resources/rounds/>.

- (3) **NEW!** BCWH Interprofessional Grand Rounds on **COVID-19 Update: Implications for Pregnancy** by **Dr. Deborah Money, Dr. Julie van Schalkwyk, and Dr. Chelsea Elwood** taking place on **April 16, 2020** from **8:00-9:00am**. For more information, go to <https://obgyn.ubc.ca/faculty-resources/rounds/>. Connect virtually.
- (4) **NEW!** Free webinar [Sex and Gender Differences in the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), organized by the [Women's Brain Project](#), on **April 16, 2020** from **11:30am-12:30pm**.
- (5) **NEW!** [Society of Gynecologic Oncology](#) (SGO) [COVID-19 webinar series](#):
- * [The Multi-Specialty Approach to COVID-19](#), **April 16, 2020** from **9:00-10:15am**.
 - * [Ethical Considerations and Critical Communication During COVID-19](#), **April 16, 2020** from **4:00-5:30pm**.
 - * [Surgical Safety, Testing, and Triage Considerations During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), **April 17, 2020** from **2:00-3:00pm**.
 - * [Health Equity in the COVID-19 Era: Understanding the Data and Strategies to Support Vulnerable Populations](#), **April 20, 2020** from **3:00-4:15pm**. [Find out more!](#)
- (6) BCWH (virtual) research rounds -- [Mindfulness: Practice and Results of a Clinical Trial in Women's Health](#) presented by **Dr. Lori Brotto** (BCWH & WHRI) on **April 17, 2020** from **8:00-9:00am**. How to attend remotely: *Option #1, Web browser* -- In Chrome browser, go to <http://meet.vc.ubc.ca> and enter the ID **30338**. *Option #2, UBC Skype for Business* -- for account holders only, In the Contact box enter < **30338**>@vc.ubc.ca to join the meeting. Refer to the [troubleshooting guide](#). *Option #3, Telephone* (Audio-bridge): Dial toll-free phone number, 1-844-651-2007, followed by ID ID **30338**, followed by #.
- (7) **UPDATED!** **A COVID-19 session (review of the implications of COVID-19 on pregnancy) has been added -- [Medical Disorders and Pregnancy \(MDP\) 2020](#)**. (UBC FoM CPD/CME) **April 18, 2020** to be **presented via Webinar at the Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel**. This accredited event is an educational conference designed for practitioners (family physicians, midwives, obstetricians, gynaecologists, perinatologists, maternity nurses, internists and subspecialists, obstetric anesthesiologists) who deal with the management of disorders in pregnant patients. It is intended to provide a focused,

expert review of common medical conditions in pregnancy as well as practical strategies for their management. Resources and clinical guidelines will be highlighted to support decision-making. [Registration is now open](#). Webcast option available. Up to 6.5 MOC Section 1 / Mainpro+. **Download agenda:** <https://ubccpd.ca/sites/ubccpd.ca/files/MDP2020-Agenda.pdf>

(8) NEW! [International Gynecologic Cancer Society](#) (IGCS) is offering the [COVID-19 Virtual Tumor Board Series](#). Information regarding the understanding of COVID-19 is continually evolving and its impact on the care of gynecologic oncology patients is rapidly changing. The IGCS is bringing together the global gynecologic oncology community in these unprecedented times to allow IGCS to learn the needs of members and further expand their education offerings. IGCS is extending an invitation to members to come together to discuss gynecologic oncology cases with special considerations for COVID-19. Previous session (April 4, 2020) webinar slides & recording now available. Next sessions happening on **April 18 and April 25, 2020, at 6:00am**. [Find out more](#), or [register now](#).

(9) [Free weekly Virtual Learning Hours](#). (IHI) In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) invites you to join us for a series of free weekly virtual learning hours focused on what we're learning about effective responses to stressed health systems and overwhelmed and often insufficiently protected health care professionals.

(10) [eLife](#) and [COVID-19: Keep communications open](#) with online research talks of the highest scientific standards and importance in all areas of the life and biomedical sciences at <https://elifesciences.org/inside-elifesciences/1a9d9c08/elifesciences-and-covid-19-keeping-communications-open-with-online-research-talks>.

[Submit a research talk now.](#)

(11) The [Centre for Implementation](#) has opened enrollment for their free implementation science online course on how to create impact with evidence-based implementation. Details and registration available [here](#).

(12) Applied data visualization course: [Population Data BC](#) is offering a 4-session series on [Insights in Tableau: An Applied Data Visualization Webinar-based Course](#). **April 22, April 29, May 6, and May 13, from 10am-12pm**. [Register now](#).

(13) REGISTRATION POSTPONED [Advanced Laparoscopic Anatomy Workshop](#). (UBC OB/GYN) The [3rd Advanced Workshop on Retroperitoneal Surgical Anatomy](#) on “The Solution to Difficult Surgery: Navigate, Dissect, Do No Harm” will be held **TBC (May 8-9, 2020)** at the **UBC Life Sciences Centre**. This popular CPD accredited MOC Section 3 hands-on workshop focuses on retroperitoneal surgical anatomy of the female pelvis as a fundamental to successful surgery and creates a common ground for pelvic surgeons to Navigate, Dissect and Do No Harm. Optional suturing workshop on **TBC (May 7, 2020)**.

- (14) **POSTPONED** [13th Annual Lectureship in Pelvic Reconstructive Surgery](#) **2020** : “Mid-urethral slings” presented by **Dr. Erin Brennand** (U of Calgary) on ~~May 20, 2020~~ at ~~DHCC 2264~~ starting at ~~7:45am~~. [Remote / WebEx options available](#).
- (15) **UPDATED!** [Annual Clinical and Scientific Conference 2020](#). (SOGC) The [Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada \(SOGC\)](#) has decided to cancel the in-person portion of their meeting originally scheduled for **June 9-12, 2020**. **In lieu of the in-person abstract program, all of the presentations will be posted to the SOGC website**. Presenters: confirm your participation in this year's abstract program by sending an email to abstracts@sogc.com before **May 6, 2020**.
- (16) **POSTPONED** [Provincial Clinical Trials Conference 2020](#). (Clinical Trials BC) Clinical Trials BC's very first Provincial Clinical Trials Conference 2020 ~~will be held on June 17-18, 2020~~, at the ~~Vancouver Convention Center West~~. Join the waiting list [here](#).
- (17) The [Global Experts Meeting on Frontiers in Gynecology and Obstetrics](#) is going to be held during **September 8-10** in **San Francisco, CA, USA**. Theme: "*Expedite the Future Frontiers in Gynecology and Obstetrics Care*". [Register now](#).
- (18) **SAVE THE DATE!** The [27th Obstetrics Update for Family Physicians](#). (UBC FoM CPD/CME) **October 22-23, 2020** at the **Marriott Vancouver Pinnacle Downtown**. This workshop is intended for family physicians, midwives, nurse practitioners who provide maternity care, residents, and medical students. Mainpro+ credits. . Registration to open soon.
- (19) The [2020 Women's Brain Health Conference](#) (UBC/WHRC) will be held **April 2021** at the **TBC (Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre, UBC)**. The conference will feature expert speakers who will address a variety of women's brain health issues and highlight topics such as hormone therapy, mental and cognitive health, menopause, pregnancy, metabolism, and Traumatic Brain Injury. The conference format will include a keynote presentation, symposia, panel discussion, a “hot topic” session, poster presentations, as well as Young Investigator Presentations (sponsored by the Women's Brain Health Initiative). [Find out more](#), or [register now](#). Would you like to give an oral or poster presentation?

Awards and Funding Opportunities

- (1) **NEW!** [COVID-19 Grant Program Update 4.9.2020](#) research funding updates are available from the WHRI website.
- (2) **CCHCSP:** [Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program – Training Paths](#). These awards are directed at candidates with an interest in child and youth health research. Various levels of awards are available (doctoral, post-doctoral, career

development, career enhancement). **Application deadlines: May 1, 2020 and November 1, 2020.** [Read more...](#)

(3) CIHR: [CIHR Early Career Investigators in Maternal, Reproductive, Child and Youth Health \(2020\)](#). IHDCYH in collaboration with the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addictions (INMHA) is pleased to pre-announce the 2020 funding opportunity of the [CIHR Early Career Investigators in Maternal, Reproductive, Child and Youth Health](#) program. The program funds research across the four CIHR pillars that has the potential to have a significant impact on maternal, reproductive, child and youth health outcomes according to the relevant research areas identified by the participating CIHR institutes. Ultimately, the program aims to strengthen Canada's capacity and knowledge to respond to challenges and needs by providing important early career development support to researchers in these fields. **Registration deadline: May 5, 2020. Application deadline: Jun 16, 2020.**

(4) **UPDATED!** GCI: [Accelerating Grants Program](#). The Gynecologic Cancer Initiative (GCI) Clinical Trials Group is pleased to launch another round of funding for the Accelerating Grants program. This program provides funding for interventional, observational, and translational clinical research studies focused on gynecologic cancers. The intent of these grants is to support research related to patients. **LOI deadline: May 5 April 13, 2020. Full application deadline: July 6 June 8, 2020.**

(5) **UPDATED!** UBC FoM: [UBC Faculty of Medicine Awards](#) (various). Nomination deadline: **May 15 April 9, 2020.**

(6) NSERC: [Science Communication Skills Grant](#). This is a pilot funding program from NSERC to fund science communication skills training. Funding of up to \$20,000 for a 1-year period is available, and can be used to cover operational costs, travel, meals/accommodation etc. as long as these are for training in science communication skills. Grants may not be used to support research. **Application deadline: May 15, 2020.**

(7) VCH: [The VCH Research Challenge](#) supports point-of-care staff to improve practices and learn about the research process. Discover how you can get involved! ~~A Q&A session will be held on January 16, 2020, [more info here](#). Registration deadline: February 5, 2020.~~ Full day workshop on February 28, 2020 is mandatory for all registered teams. **Application deadline: June 3, 2020.** Half day (morning) workshop in September 2020 is mandatory for all teams who are awarded funding.

(8) PHC: [The PHC Practice-Based Research Challenge](#) supports point-of-care staff to improve practices and to learn how to design and implement a research project. Participants will learn basic research skills and compete with other teams for funding to conduct a small-scale research project. ~~LOI deadline: February 12, 2020.~~ **Full proposal deadline: June 15, 2020.**

- (9) **OvCAN/OCC: [LeadAction Ovarian Cancer Competition](#)**. In an effort to develop and highlight scientific research excellence in ovarian cancer on a path towards commercialization of innovative therapeutic solutions, [Ovarian Cancer Canada](#) (OCC) is partnering with [IRICoR](#) to hold the LeadAction Ovarian Cancer Competition with a focus on Priority 2 of the OvCAN initiative to support the advancement of hit-to-lead targets and novel therapeutic approaches through preclinical trials, and to identify and prioritize the development of the most promising new treatments for ovarian cancer. Award recipients will be funded at **up to \$500,000 for 2 years for translational research activities** i.e. from hit to lead and/or lead optimization, or **up to \$1 M for 2 years for preclinical research activities**. NB. Allocated funds must be spent in Canada. ~~NOI deadline: March 17, 2020.~~ **Full application deadline: June 16, 2020.** [Find out more.](#)
- (10) **CIHR/SPOR: [SPOR National Training Entity](#)**. *CIHR has updated the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) National Training Entity funding opportunity to further clarify the eligibility criteria for Indigenous team members.*
The [Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research \(SPOR\)](#) is a national coalition of federal, provincial and territorial partners (patients and informal caregivers, provincial health authorities, academic health centres, charities, philanthropic organizations, private sector, etc.) dedicated to the integration of research into care. Patient-oriented research refers to a continuum of research that engages patients as partners, focuses on patient-identified priorities and improves patient outcomes. This research, conducted by multidisciplinary teams in partnership with relevant stakeholders, aims to apply the knowledge generated to improve healthcare systems and practices. The aim of the SPOR National Training Entity (NTE) is to support capacity development in the broader patient-oriented research community by leveraging existing training efforts, supporting the career development of patient-oriented researchers in a systematic manner, and supporting implementation specialists who will integrate patient-oriented research into the health system. This work involves moving beyond common and/or siloed approaches to training by engaging stakeholders and/or community members from all relevant disciplines, sectors, geographies and cultural perspectives. ~~LOI deadline: December 10, 2019.~~ **Full application deadline: June 30, 2020.** [Find out more...](#)
- (11) **MSFHR: [2020 Innovation to Commercialization \(I2C\) Competition](#)**. MSFHR is introducing a number of changes across their competitions for 2020, including a new equity and diversity survey, and a new, user-friendly interface for [MSFHR ApplyNet](#) (their online grants management system). MSFHR is also providing additional funding for the I2C Program to support maintaining a minimum success rate of ~20 percent while encouraging and supporting more female applicants. ~~LOI deadline: January 27, 2020.~~ **Full application deadline: June 30, 2020.**
- (12) **UPDATED! MSFHR/CIHR: [2020 Health System Impact Fellowship](#)**. The MSFHR is partnering with CIHR's Institute of Health Services and Policy Research (IHSPR) on its

Health System Impact Fellowship Program to support the development of BC's health policy research talent and build capacity for the integration of policy research into decision-making. The Program provides PhD trainees and post-doctoral fellows studying health services and policy, or related fields, with a paid experiential learning opportunity within health system organizations including health authorities, as they apply their research and analytic talents to specific health policy challenges faced by their host organizations. Awards are valued at \$50,000 for 1 year for PhD trainees, or \$155,000 over 2 years for post-doctoral fellows. Successful applicants will benefit from protected time for academic research in addition to PD opportunities and mentorship with health system and academic leaders. **Application deadline: ~~July 2~~ April 1, 2020. [Find our more...](#)**

(13) PlanH: [2020 PlanH Grant Streams](#) are now accepting applications. [PlanH](#) is distributing 20 grants across 2 streams: Social Connectedness (15 grants of \$5,000 each), and Health Community Engagement (5 grants of \$15,000 each). For more information about the grant streams and to access the application guide, visit planh.ca/funding or email grants@planh.ca for more information. **Application deadline: July 15, 2020.**

(14) SSHRC: [New Frontiers in Research Fund. 2020 Transformation Competition](#). Supports large-scale, Canadian-led interdisciplinary research projects. The objective of the Transformation stream is to support large-scale, Canadian-led **interdisciplinary** research projects that address a major challenge with the potential to realize **real and lasting change**. The challenge may be fundamental, leading to a scientific breakthrough, or applied, with a social, economic, environmental, or health impact. Projects are expected to be world-leading, drawing on **global** research expertise, when relevant. Value ranges from \$2 million to \$4 million per year (including indirect costs) for up to 6 years. Number of awards depends on the amounts requested in successful applications. ~~NOI deadline: February 18, 2020.~~ **LOI deadline: July 15, 2020. Full application deadline: TBC (November 18, 2020).**

(15) MSFHR: [Health Professional-Investigator Competition](#). The MSFHR Health Professional-Investigator (HP-I) Program is designed to help close the gap between health research and its implementation by supporting health professionals who are actively involved in patient care to conduct and apply research relevant to health and/or the health system. To be eligible, applicants must commit to spending a minimum of 50% of their time conducting research for the duration of the award (up to 5 years). New for the 2020 competition, two separate applicant streams have been introduced: a **physician stream** and a **non-physician stream**. Applicants must select the most applicable stream for their application. ~~LOI deadline: February 10, 2020.~~ **Application deadline: July 17, 2020.**

(16) US Department of Defense (DOD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP): [FY20 Ovarian Cancer Research Program \(OCR\)](#) -- various funding opportunities are available. ~~Pre-application deadline: April 30, 2020 &~~ **Application deadline: July 30, 2020.**

(17) CFWH: [2020 CFWH Awards, Fellowships, and Grants](#). The [Canadian Foundation for Women's Health \(CFWH\)](#) and its partners are pleased to promote and support research initiatives in the field of women's health. The **CFWH General Research Grants** (of up to \$20,000) are awarded to those committed to finding solutions to the reproductive health issues that face women both in Canada and around the world. Open to any area within the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, these grants aim to help make further advancements in women's health treatment, research, and education. The **Duchesnay International Elective Fellowships** (of between \$2,500 and \$4,500 per fellowship x 2 fellowships awarded per year) are available to OBGYN residents who desire to complete an elective of 4-8 weeks in duration in a healthcare centre in a developing country. The **Dawn Walker Grant** (in the amount of \$5,000) is awarded to one or more individuals (HCPs or students) in support of health policy training and development for HCPs to better prepare them to contribute to the development of health care policy for children and women. The **Andre Lalonde Bursary** is awarded to up to 2 individuals each year to support the work of Canadian physicians within Canada in areas of special needs (i.e. aboriginal women's health, under-service groups, nutrition in pregnancy and newborns) – the award will consist of \$1,500 to the applicant and \$1,000 to the host institution. **Application deadline: September 21, 2020**. Guidelines and application forms are available [here](#).

(18) **UPDATED!** MSFHR: [2020 Convening & Collaborating \(C2\) and Reach Competitions](#). Guidelines are now available for the [2020 C2 Competition](#) and the [2020 Reach Competition](#). These KT-focused competitions will open in early March, and will aim to help ensure research has the maximum impact on health and the health system by (a) fostering collaboration between researchers and research users, (b) supporting the co-development of research questions and dissemination of research evidence. The C2 and Reach Competitions are being held concurrently, with each award providing a maximum of \$15,000 over a 1-year period. **Application deadline: September 28 April 27, 2020**.

Research Resources

- (1) **NEW!** *Do you need help with research tasks that can be carried out remotely?* Qualified WHRI research staff are available to offer assistance to investigators who are looking for support with tasks that can be carried out in a remote work environment. Examples of such research tasks include would include protocol development, drafting funding grant and ethics applications, data entry and data cleaning, creating online surveys, social media-based recruitment, among others. For more information about the personnel supports that are currently available, please contact **Kathryn Dewar** (kdewar@cw.bc.ca).
- (2) **Have you wondered how your research ethics may be affected due to COVID-19?** Check out the [FAQ](#) from the UBC REB.
- (3) Check out the [@WomensResearch podcast](#) by the [Women's Health Research Institute \(WHRI\)](#) at BC Women's Hospital. The podcast will be a vehicle to increase use and impact of WHRI members' research and provide an accessible medium for

- sharing success of knowledge translation practice. Listen to the inaugural episode, featuring Dr. Lori Brotto, [here](#).
- (4) Who is [Research Ethics BC \(REBC\)](#)? How does REBC facilitate health systems change in the province? What is their role inside the [BC Academic Health Science Network \(BC AHSN\)](#)? Watch the [short video](#) that answers these questions and more – [watch now on the BC AHSN's YouTube Channel](#).
 - (5) Calling all researchers: Sign up now for the [Data Access Support Hub \(DASH\)](#) for your multi-jurisdictional data needs. The Health Data Research Network (HDRN) has launched the Data Access Support Hub (DASH), a one-stop shop for requesting access to data from multiple provincial, territorial and pan-Canadian sources, with the aim of simplifying the way researchers request data access. This initiative is made possible through the [Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research \(SPOR\)](#). Researchers can now sign up for a free DASH account and view available datasets. [Sign up now](#).
 - (6) **Did You Know?...** UBC's [Faculty of Medicine Continuing Professional Development \(UBC CPD\) program](#) hosts an [eLearning site](#) which provides free open courses that are accredited for family physicians and specialists in Canada. [Find out more...](#)
 - (7) **Did You Know?...** UBC offers training on [Biospecimen Research Methods](#) for researchers who are interested in learning how to better collect, process, store, and manage human biospecimens. [Find out more...](#)
 - (8) **REMINDER, UBC Requirement: (CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC) Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans - TCPS 2 (2018):** CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC have recently updated their joint policy to promote the ethical design and conduct of research involving humans. Please note that training on TCPS2 including the (2018) updates is required of all individuals (“study team members”, including faculty, students, residents, and research staff) at UBC before their research ethics approval will be granted. Training is 3-fold: (1) completion of the online “TCPS2: CORE Tutorial” module at <http://tcps2core.ca/welcome>; (2) review the “Highlights of changes: Summary of revisions in TCPS 2 (2018)” at https://ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique_tcps2-eptc2_changes.html; and (3) review the “How to Address Material Incidental Findings” at https://ethics.gc.ca/eng/incidental_findings.html. For more information on online tutorials & training resources from UBC ORS, go to: <https://ethics.research.ubc.ca/education-training/online-tutorials-training>. [Read more...](#)
 - (9) The [CIHR Application Administration Guide](#) replaces the CIHR Grants and Awards Guide. [Read more...](#) [Webinars](#) have also been scheduled to support the research community.

(10) [Research Ethics BC \(REBC\)](#) is pleased to announce a new [Guidance](#) document for Ethical Review of BC Cancer Multi-Jurisdictional Research. This [Guidance](#) has been drafted and agreed on by a working group to address some of the issues arising from multi-jurisdictional research in a harmonized model over the past four years. Membership of the working group includes representatives involved in research ethics from across the province and a patient partner from the REBC Advisory Council. The [Guidance](#) provides clear instruction on how ethical review of studies conducted by BC Cancer-affiliated researchers will be managed by the [BC Cancer Research Ethics Board \(REB\)](#). [Read more...](#)