

Research Resources e-Newsletter (28Aug2020 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!

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

Research Resumption & COVID-19-Related

CLINICAL RESEARCH CURTAILMENT AND RESUMPTION

- Please note the remote work policy remains in effect
- Site specific resumption processes have been finalized – see below

Review site-specific information here:



UPDATED!

[Stage 2 Research Resumption guidelines](#) announced by UBC FoM.

Review the [COVID-19 UBC FoM Guiding Principles](#) for research resumption.

Stage 2 allows more people to access research facilities, however it's important to remember that those who can work remotely must continue to do so. For those who are planning to come on campus, the same rules as Stage 1 will apply: please do not come in if you're feeling sick; physical distancing is required while on campus; and PPE must be worn if physical distancing cannot be adhered to.

For lab-based research, PI's do not need to send new Access Request forms but must update their Excel sheet with any new trainees or staff that will be on campus. PI's must also update

this number on their VPRI access agreement. For clinical research, please see resumption info below.

[Mandatory Training for UBC Faculty and Staff Back On Campus](#). All UBC employees are required to complete mandatory training prior to resuming UBC activities, or as soon as possible if they have been working on campus since the remote working arrangements were put in place. If you have not already done so, please complete this training as soon as possible. [Read more](#), or [complete the training](#) now.

UPDATED!

CLINICAL RESEARCH RESUMPTION AT HOSPITAL SITES

The process for applying for clinical research resumption has been finalized. Please review information specific to your research site. Please note that any clinical (human) research project involving on-site work that needs to resume or continue will require approval from the appropriate research institute. **Research that meets resumption criteria must be submitted to the appropriate research institute (VCHRI or PHCRI) for review and approval PRIOR to resumption of any on-site research activities**, such as access of on-site resources/paperwork /databases and study visits for research participants.

[Mandatory Training for PIs, Staff, & Trainees Back On Site](#). All research personnel are required to complete mandatory training prior to resuming on-site research activities, or as soon as possible if they have been working on-site since the remote working arrangements were put in place. If you have not already done so, please complete this training as soon as possible. This includes mandatory UBC training, such as Preventing COVID-19 Infection in the Workplace, project- & task-specific training and building-specific training. These requirements are also specified in the approved safety plans.

UPDATED! VCHRI

- Review the [VCHRI guidance](#)
- VCHRI Stage 2 research resumption guidelines will largely align with those of UBC FoM; however due to the unique research and operational requirements for VCH's vast clinical and non-clinical facilities, VCHRI's process is specific to our sites.
- Per [Stage 2 recommendations](#), all categories of human/clinical research may now be included for submission for review by VCHRI for research resumption approvals.
- Resumption requests for human research projects at VCH sites (including DHCC) are to be submitted using the [DHCC OBGYN Template – \(Stage 2\) VCHRI Human Subject Research Access Summary v17Aug2020](#) form. All submissions for OBGYN human/clinical research should be emailed to Mannie Fan (obgynresearch@vch.ca).
- Approved [Stage 1 Safety Plan for OBGYN \(DHCC location\)](#) will remain in effect in Stage 2; however Stage 2 will have allowance for some additional research personnel as long as the proposed work adheres to the Stage 1 safety plan as well as all safety measures and physical distancing requirements.
- DHCC site research personnel (including PI, staff, and trainees) of projects approved by VCHRI

for research resumption should review the [OBGYN DHCC Research Resumption Safety Plan](#), obtain PPE and complete training as applicable prior to resumption of on-site research activities.

PHCRI

- Review the [PHCRI guidance](#)
- For PHCRI researchers with human subject research projects and activities at the Howe St. Campus, please complete the [PHCRI Human Subject Research Access Summary spreadsheet](#).

PHSA/BCCHR

- For PHSA/BCCHR researchers with human subject research projects and activities at the Oak St. Campus, please refer to research resumption information available at <https://hub.bcchr.ca/auth/login.php?origin=/> (requires log in with BCCHR/PHSA/UBC credentials).

Please contact your site research manager ([Mannie Fan](#) for VGH/DHCC, [Nikki Koenig](#) for SPH, or [Ariadna Fernandez](#) for BCWH) if you have any questions or concerns.

NEW! INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL GUIDANCE (UBC & VCH)

- [COVID-19 physical distancing guidance](#)
- [General cleaning & disinfection of surfaces](#)
- [Ordering critical PPE](#)
- [COVID-19 PPE guidelines](#)
- [COVID-19 essential in-person meetings & trainings guidance](#)
- [COVID-19-screening script \(ambulatory appointment reminders\)](#)
- [COVID-19-screening script \(ambulatory in-person at clinic reception\)](#)

OTHER COVID-19-RELATED

- **NEW!** The World Health Organization (WHO) has established a [research network on COVID-19 for maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health](#). Find more information on the working groups and how to get involved on the [WHO MNCAH website](#).
- **UPDATED!** Thank you to all Canadian Child & Family Researchers who have entered study data into the [COVID-19 Maternal, Child and Family Study Catalogue](#)! The database is still open – submit your current and future COVID-19-related projects and help continue to build this resource.
- [UBC's plans for re-occupying and resuming activity on campus](#).
- [Mandatory Training for UBC Faculty and Staff Back on Campus](#).
- [Process for phased resumption of in-person behavioural research at UBC](#).
- [UBC CREB Guidance for Resumption of Research version Jun 2020](#)

- Prime Minister announces [support for research staff](#) in Canada
- The Faculty of Medicine (FoM) has [announced](#) a province-wide [COVID-19 Clinical Research Coordination Initiative](#) to help coordinate research activities, identify research gaps, share resources and liaise with the BC health system.
- The [UBC Research Staff and Trainee Emergency Fund](#) has been suspended While CRCEF is in progress.
- UBC has launched Phase 1 of the [Canada Research Continuity Emergency Fund \(CRCEF\)](#) process. The CRCEF program will provide wage support for March 15 to August 29, 2020, covering 75% of eligible wages, up to a maximum of \$847/week. Eligible projects must have experienced loss or reduction in industry or foundation funding, or have curtailed research activity, due to COVID-19. [Read more...](#)
* Please note PHC, VCH, and PHSA will roll out their own processes for funds residing with them.
- In the phased resumption of on-campus research (excluding clinical research), FoM is prioritizing work that cannot be performed off-site. **All activities require approval and [completion of the FOM Faculty-PI Access Request Form](#).**
- [UBC COVID-19 Working Group Summaries](#) – a summary of the working group findings & recommendations
- [COVID-19 Research Guide](#) (BC Ministry of Health: Health and Human Services Library)
- [Faculty of Medicine - Resources for Research](#)
- [OBGYN Useful Links on Research and COVID-19](#)
- WHRI [COVID-19 Researcher Resources](#)
- [BC AHSN's COVID-19 Response](#)
- [Updates for Clinical Trials BC regarding COVID-19](#)
- [Research Ideas in a Context of COVID-19](#)
- [Resources from CIHR Canadian HIV Trials Network \(CTN\)](#) in the fight against COVID-19 (including [online research toolbox](#))
- [COVID-19 Research Underway at UBC](#)
- [BC COVID-19 Research Inventory](#)
- [Guidance Notes and Regulatory Requirements for Informed Consent in Research During a Pandemic](#) from REBC, CTBC, and Fraser Health

Events, Workshops, and Seminars

(1) Thursday BCWH Interprofessional Grand Rounds: Effective immediately, until further notice, 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/>.

(2) NEW! Calling all trainees! The next **WHRI Lunch and Learn session on August 31, 2020** from **12-1pm** will showcase trainee presentations from summer conferences (posters and talks). If you are, or have, a WHRI trainee with an already prepared poster or talk, please consider signing up. For more information, contact Marketa Waldrum (marketa.waldrum@cw.bc.ca)

(3) 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](#).

(4) NEW! The [WHRI is celebrating World Sexual Health Day 2020](#) on **September 11, 2020** from **12:00-1:30pm**. Join us by Zoom for an exciting series of rapid-fire presentations on sexual and reproductive health research from students, trainees, fellows, and other researchers in training. Featuring special guests from Options for Sexual Health.

(5) NEW! The next in the [2020-2021 Women's Health Seminar Series](#) will take place virtually on **September 14, 2020** from **12-1pm**. **Dr. Arminee Kazanjian** from SPPH at UBC will present on “**Gender Analyses of Health Care Utilization: Using population-based linked databases**”. [Find out more...](#)

(6) NEW! Save the Date! The **Gynecologic Cancer Initiative (GCI)** is holding a **virtual provincial town hall** on **October 2, 2020** from **2-3pm**. Zoom meeting details to come soon. Join us to learn more about (a) research resources available to support your study and research (including the Gynecologic Cancer Tissue Bank, Patient and Family Advisory Council, Clinical Informatics and Outcomes Research Core, and GCI-Clinical Trials Group), (b) upcoming plans and “what's next” for the GCI, and (c) special launch of the GCI website.

(7) **NEW! Save the Date!** UBC Dept of Medicine is announcing a new CPD event to address the needs of health care providers and researchers: the [Data Science & Health 2020 Conference](#) will take place **November 3, 2020** by Zoom. This event is MOC1/Mainpro+ accredited and will be the first of a series of annual conferences on this topic. [Find out more...](#)

(8) **Save the Date!** Our next annual faculty research forum, the **Dr. Fred Bryans Faculty Forum 2021**, will be taking place on Thursday, **February 4, 2021**. Mark your calendars now! More information to follow.

Awards and Funding Opportunities

(1) Funding agency updates are available from the UBC Research Finance [COVID-19 Funding Agency Updates](#) page.

(2) [COVID-19 Grant Program Update](#) research funding updates are also available from the WHRI website.

(3) **NEW!** CIHR is hosting [Information Sessions for Trainees on Awards in Health Research](#). These are designed to assist participants with the different awards funding opportunities requirements and answer questions on how to apply. English sessions happen on **September 8 & 10, 2020**. [Find out more...](#)

(4) **NEW!** CIHR: The [Fall 2020 Project Grant Competition](#) has now launched. **Registration deadline: September 16, 2020. Application deadline: October 14, 2020.** CIHR has made some changes to the competition to reflect the context of COVID-19 and to make the competition work better for all. [Find more what's new...](#)

CIHR is hosting "[Ask Me Anything](#)" sessions on **September 9 & 11, 2020** to answer questions researchers may have about the Fall 2020 Project Grant Competition.

(5) **NEW!** The Women's Health Research Institute (WHRI) is pleased to announce the **Graduate and Fellowship Research Award in Women's Health**. One (1) graduate-level award and one (1) postdoctoral-level award valued at \$12,500 each will be available for a 1-year period to the successful applicant(s). This award is intended to provide salary support to WHRI-affiliated graduate students and postdoctoral fellows who are engaged in women's and/or newborn health research and who do not currently hold major competitive salary awards. **Deadline: September 21, 2020.** Application instructions can be found on the [WHRI website](#). Submit complete application package to **Kathryn Dewar** (kdewar@cw.bc.ca).

(6) **IHDCYH-related Funding Opportunities Impacted:**

- [Early Career Investigators in Maternal, Reproductive, Child & Youth Health \(2020\)](#) - **Delayed**
- [Planning and Dissemination Grants \(Winter 2020 Competition\)](#) - **Delayed**

(7) 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](#).

(8) 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, 2020.**

(9) CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC: [Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships \(2020-2021\)](#). Each award valued at \$70,000 per year for up to 2 years. **Application deadline: October 1, 2020.** [Find out more....](#)

(10) [Faculty Research Awards](#) (UBC FoM). Various awards available. UBC recognizes individual investigators who demonstrate excellence in research. **NOI deadline: July 31, 2020. Final submission deadline: October 15, 2020.**

(11) CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC: [Canada Graduate Scholarships – Doctoral Program \(CGS-D\)](#). Each award valued at \$35,000 per year for up to 3 years. **Application deadline: October 17, 2020** for direct applicants or **November 21, 2020** for university applicants. [Find out more...](#)

(12) SSHRC: [New Frontiers in Research Fund 2020 – Exploration competition](#). Valued at up to \$125,000 per year for up to 2 years for research teams of 2 or more, the NFRF 2020 Exploration competition is intended to support high-risk, high-reward & interdisciplinary research. Apply now if you have a bold, new research idea that is risky but has the potential to deliver game-changing impacts. ~~NOI deadline: August 18, 2020~~. **Application deadline: October 20, 2020.**

NEW! UBC SPARC is running an [information session](#) covering details of the NFRF-Exploration full application sections on **September 1, 2020** from **1:00-2:30pm**. Sign up to receive a Zoom invitation.

(13) **NEW!** The [PHC and VCH Knowledge Translation \(KT\) Challenge](#). Have you identified a need for practice improvement? Your KT project can help you integrate evidence into best practices! [Find out more...](#) **LOI deadline: October 22, 2020. Application deadline: April 22, 2021.**

(14) 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 deadline: November 1, 2020. [Read more...](#)**

(15) CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC: [Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships \(Vanier CGS\)](#) doctoral research award. Each award valued at up to \$50,000 per year for up to 3 years. **Application deadline: November 3, 2020. [Read more...](#)**

(16) 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: April 13, 2021.**

Research Resources

(1) **NEW!** The World Health Organization (WHO) has established a [research network on COVID-19 for maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health](#). Find more information on the working groups and how to get involved on the [WHO MNCAH website](#).

(2) NEW! Very little is known about how people experience care during pregnancy and childbirth across Canada, especially among people with various identities, circumstances, and backgrounds. The [Research Examining the Stories of Pregnancy and Childbearing in Canada Today \(RESPCCT\) study](#) is looking for individuals to share their stories to help improve care during pregnancy and childbirth for all communities. [Read more...](#)

(3) NEW! Thank you to all Canadian Child & Family Researchers who have entered study data into the [COVID-19 Maternal, Child and Family Study Catalogue!](#) The database, organized jointly by the Maternal Infant Child and Youth Research Network (MICYRN) and CIHR's Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health (IHDCYH) in collaboration with Children's Healthcare Canada (CHC) and the Pediatric Chairs of Canada (PCC), is still open – submit your current and future COVID-19-related projects and continue to help build this invaluable resource!

(4) Did you know?... [HealthChat](#) is an online platform for groups of health care professionals (HCPs) to connect and collaborate. Whether you are a member of a network, community of practice, or administering a program, you can create a profile and create or join a secure group space to share and develop your work. Open to clinicians, administrators, and health leaders. [Find out more...](#)

(5) Announcing the CHIWOS [Women Centred-HIV Care Toolkits](#). Around 14,500 women live with HIV in Canada, and delivering integrated care that responds to their needs & priorities is essential. Based on findings from the Canadian HIV Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Cohort Study (CHIWOS) and an extensive community-collaborative research program, 2 new toolkits have been developed on [Women-Centred HIV Care](#).

* **Toolkit for women living with HIV** as a self-management and health self-advocacy tool.

* **Toolkit to support HIV clinicians and community-based organizations** to deliver Women-Centred HIV Care

Both of these toolkits are now available online! [Read more...](#)

(6) [Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on trainees of the WHRI](#). The WHRI is excited to share some preliminary results from their trainee survey. Between May 6 and June 30, 2020, 119 trainees from across BC's universities and a range of training programs & fields of study completed a survey seeking to understand the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 on students and trainees engaged in women's health research. [Read more...](#)

(7) [Resources from CIHR Canadian HIV Trials Network \(CTN\)](#) in the fight against COVID-19 (including [online research toolbox](#)). [Read more...](#)

(8) [REACH BC](#) is an online platform that will connect the public with research opportunities related to their health conditions and/or interests, to ultimately advance health care and improve health outcomes in British Columbia.

* **Researchers: Submit your research opportunity.** We invite the academic research community to submit their health research opportunities related to COVID-19 or any other clinical or behavioural research opportunities that are actively recruiting. Create you Researcher account [here](#).

* **Volunteers: Connect to health research opportunities**

We are populating the REACH BC Directory with various research opportunities. There are currently research projects recruiting for COVID-19, Autism, Emergency Medicine, Reproduction and Sexual Health. Opportunities will be continually added. Visit <https://www.reachbc.ca/> to learn more.

(9) Check out the [BC COVID-19 Research Inventory](#). In response to the rapidly-evolving pandemic, BC AHSN and its three operational units have created a single inventory of current COVID-19-related research projects based in BC. This inventory is intended to foster as much connection, coordination, and collaboration as possible to avoid any unnecessary duplication of research effort.

If you have any news, events, or funding opportunities you would like to share please contact us at obgynresearch@ych.ca. We would love to hear from you!