

Research Resources e-Newsletter (15Sep2020 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:



[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.

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.

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.

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 \(ambulatory in-person at clinic reception\)](#)

NEW! For more info on COVID-19-related public health/infection control key principles, please visit <https://med-fom-obgyn.sites.olt.ubc.ca/covid-19-public-health-infection-control-key-principles/>.

OTHER COVID-19-RELATED

- 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](#).
- 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) UPDATED! Thursday BCWH Interprofessional Grand Rounds: Grand rounds are starting again this week. We will continue to present grand rounds on Thursday mornings from 8:00 to 9:00 am:

- Broadcast via Zoom as virtual meeting;
- The sessions will be recorded for viewing after the session;
- We do NOT have any rooms booked so there will be no in-person sessions.

The email reminder containing the Zoom meeting link, the evaluation form link, and the poster will be sent every week as per usual. To receive credit for attending virtually, please either complete the evaluation form (via the link), or, send an email to [Kerrie Glover](mailto:Kerrie.Glover@cw.bc.ca) at kglover-02@cw.bc.ca indicating the session you attended.

Please check the ObGyn website <https://obgyn.ubc.ca/faculty-resources/rounds/> for the upcoming sessions – September and October schedules have been uploaded and will be updated weekly.

NEXT Session: “Drug-induced psychosis: diagnostic challenges and treatment” by Dr. **Andrea Ratzlaff**, happening **September 17, 2020** from **8-9am**. Email [Kerrie Glover](mailto:Kerrie.Glover@cw.bc.ca) for the Zoom meeting link/details.

(2) NEW! *Sending on behalf of CRPBC***** Please join us for a Zoom webinar on [REACH BC](#). “Supporting COVID-19 research and beyond. REACH BC: a new online platform connecting British Columbians to health research opportunities” by Stefanie Cheah, taking place on **September 16, 2020** from **5-6pm**. [Register here](#).

(3) NEW! *Sending on behalf of BCCHR***** We're excited to be co-hosting a **Global Women's Health Journal Club** along with the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at the University of Toronto. Join us **September 17, 2020** from **3:30-4:30pm** PST. **Article:** Brook B, et al. "BCG vaccination–induced emergency granulopoiesis provides rapid protection from neonatal sepsis." *Sci Transl Med*. 2020 May 6;12(542):eaax4517. doi: [10.1126/scitranslmed.aax4517](https://doi.org/10.1126/scitranslmed.aax4517). **Moderator:** Byron Brook, PhD Graduate Student, Kollman Lab, BCCHRI.

Register here: <https://obgyn.utoronto.ca/form/global-womens-health-journal-club>. An email will be sent out to registered participants 1-week prior to the session with Zoom details.

(4) NEW! WHRI/BCWH: The next **BC Women's Research Rounds** features **Dr. Manjulaa Narasimhan** speaking on “**Self-care interventions for health**”. Dr. Narasimhan will discuss self-care interventions for sexual and reproductive health as additional options when facility-based provision of services is disrupted. The virtual rounds will be delivered by Zoom on **September 18, 2020** from **8-9am**. For more information and/or Zoom link/meeting details, please email [Marsha Simons](mailto:Marsha.Simons@cw.bc.ca) at marsha.simons@cw.bc.ca.

(5) **NEW!** The first in the 10-part [Women's Brain Health Virtual Conference Series](#) is happening on **September 21, 2020** at **4pm**. Join us for a fireside chat with **Dr. Carol Tavis**, moderated by Dr. Liisa Galea. The topic is "**Rethinking Estrogen, Yet Again: The Science and Politics of Hormone Therapy in Menopause**". Cost is \$10 for students or \$15 for general public. [Find out more...](#)

(6) **NEW!** [CanSAGE at home Virtual Conference](#). Registration is now open! The virtual conference will take place online Friday **September 25, 2020** (1-6pm) and Saturday **September 26, 2020** (6:45am-12:00pm). Registration is FREE for CanSAGE members. [Find out more](#), or [register now](#).

(7) **UPDATED!** 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. **For more info and the Zoom meeting link/details, please email [Stephanie Lam](mailto:stlam@bccrc.ca) at stlam@bccrc.ca.**

(8) **NEW!** **BC SUPPORT Unit** (part of the BC AHSN) is hosting BC's first patient-oriented research conference, [Putting Patients First 2020](#), to take place virtually on **October 8, 2020**. A pre-conference networking evening is planned for October 7, 2020. Registration for the conference is FREE. [Find out more](#), check out the [conference program](#), or [register now](#).

(9) **NEW!** (UBC CPD) [FPON webinar: Ovarian Cancer Update](#) taking place on **October 15, 2020** from **8-9am**. Target audience: primary care providers and GPOs. Up to 1.0 Mainpro+ credits. [Find out more](#), or [register now](#).

(10) **NEW! Save the Date!** **Research Ethics BC** (part of the BC AHSN) is hosting the 2-day [Research Ethics Symposium: Ethical Implications of COVID-19](#) on **October 21-22, 2020**. Join us virtually by Zoom for engaging panel discussions on key ethical topics arising from COVID-19. Topics include "Societal Impacts" (9-11am Oct 21), "Indigenous Peoples' Health" (1-3pm Oct 21), "Mental Health" (9-11am Oct 22), and "Vaccines and Treatments" (1-3pm Oct 22). Registration details available soon. [Find out more...](#)

(11) **NEW! Save the Date!** The [46th Annual D.A. Boyes Society Meeting & Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinical Review](#) is taking place **October 29-30, 2020**. Target audience: Obstetricians, gynaecologists, oncologists, reproductive endocrinologists, nurses and nurse practitioners, OBGYN residents, & midwives. MOC Section 1 credits. Registration details available soon. [Find out more...](#)

(12) **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...](#)

(13) 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) UPDATED! WHRI: [COVID-19 Research Funding Update](#) research funding updates are also available from the WHRI website.

(3) NEW! WHRI: Check out funding opportunities in the [WHRI Grant Chart](#), updated weekly.

(4) UPDATED! CIHR: The [Fall 2020 Project Grant Competition](#) has now launched. **Registration deadline: September 16, 2020. Application deadline: October 14 15, 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...](#)

(5) 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) 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](#).

(7) NEW! UBC/VPRI: [VPRI Research Facility Support Grants \(RFSG\) competition](#) has been relaunched. The grant provides funding support for the operation, maintenance, replacement, repairs or upgrades of equipment currently used in UBC shared facilities to support research. The RFSGs are one-year grants intended to enhance the research and training that can be conducted at UBC. Learn more about the award, eligibility, the submission process, assessment criteria, and timelines on the [VP Research & Innovation website](#). **Application deadline: September 24, 2020.**

(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.**

(13) 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) **NEW!** UBC/FoM/ObGyn: [2020-2021 Division of Gynaecologic Oncology Research Awards](#). Our department is pleased to launch a round of funding to support research in GyneOnc. Two (2) awards of up to \$20,000 each are available to fund research proposals that would not be eligible to receive funding at the national level. Engagement of /collaboration with junior faculty is strongly encouraged. Application deadline: **December 4, 2020**. For more information, please see the [GyneOnc award TOR document](#).

(17) 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!** **Research Facilitation Support (WHRI)**. Is your research stalled due to COVID19? Are you looking for research funding opportunities? Do you need assistance with developing a research idea or reviewing your proposal? Email [Eric Lussier](mailto:eric.ducharmelussier@cw.bc.ca) at eric.ducharmelussier@cw.bc.ca to set up a virtual meeting.

(2) **NEW!** **KT Grant Application Review Support (WHRI)**. Are you applying for a knowledge translation grant through the MSFHR Convening & Collaborating or Reach application due Sept

28th? Would you like some review support? Email [Nicole Prestley](mailto:Nicole.Prestley@cw.bc.ca), WHRI's KT Manager, at nicole.prestley@cw.bc.ca to set up a virtual meeting.

(3) NEW! The **WHRI** (@WomensResearch) **podcast** has a new episode out! Nicole Prestley, Brynn Lavery, and Melissa Nelson share their insights into the uses of social media for disseminating research results and supporting knowledge translation work. [Find out more](#), or [listen to the podcast here](#).

(4) 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](#).

(5) 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!

(6) 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...](#)

(7) 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...](#)

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

(9) [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.

(10) 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@vch.ca. We would love to hear from you!