



CHA-24 – CCS Challenge Grants - Evaluation Criteria

Scientific Merit – Review Criteria

Research Approach

- The 'challenge' is clearly articulated
- Scientific rationale and evidence are robust (consider critical and balanced review and analysis of preliminary data and/or published literature)
- Aims are positioned to generate meaningful data/information that will support a solution to the challenge identified
- Approach and methods are well-described and feasible (and ideally creative, innovative and/or novel), with potential challenges and alternative approaches discussed
- The data management plan, with consideration for the First Nations Principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) where relevant, is well described and will support future research and analysis (where permitted)
- High likelihood that anticipated outcomes will be realized – i.e., key milestones, timelines and budget are realistic
- The public summary clearly spells out the need, goal, methods (including co-creation methods) and expected outcomes of the project and is written in non-technical language
- Where relevant, the proposed research acknowledges the burden of cancer on patients and their caregivers, and considers the quality of life of study participants in tangible, measurable ways
- **Sex, gender, and other dimensions of diversity/social determinants of health** (e.g. race, ethnicity, education, economic status) and their intersectionalities are appropriately addressed in the research design, methods, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination/implementation of findings/outcomes
- Term and amount of support requested are appropriate (i.e. budget requests for patient and participant-related expenses are reasonable and in line with CCS remuneration policy, trainee budgets are in line with CCS policy)

Team and Environment

- The qualifications and expertise of the investigator(s) and other team members (including collaborators) are appropriate, particularly as they relate to the potential for (eventual) resolution of the identified challenge (i.e. where implementation is required) (note that career stage of investigator(s) should be taken into consideration, including any career interruptions)
- The environment(s) where the research will take place is/are appropriate (e.g. contain the required equipment, expertise, and support, including any collaborations, when relevant)
- Meaningful involvement has been demonstrated with all members of the research team in the development of the research proposal (described in the Terms of Reference). This ideally includes people affected by or at risk of cancer as well as end-users of the 'solution'.



- The Terms of Reference appropriately describes how the team will operate and make decisions
- Accessibility, equity, diversity and inclusion principles are evident in team composition, recruitment processes, and training, mentorship and development opportunities

Relevance and Potential Impact – Review Criteria

- The potential impact (short or long-term) of the proposed research on people at risk/people affected by cancer is clearly described, compelling and timely
- The application describes and has a high potential to lead to improvements in the prevention, detection, treatment, and/or duration and quality of life for people affected by cancer, and/or equitable and timely access to cancer care (i.e. CCS Research Goals).
- How and/or why the challenge is relevant to people affected by cancer (or at risk, for prevention-focused research) is clearly described
- There is evidence that patients/survivors/caregivers and clinicians/end-users have been and will be engaged throughout the life of the research project (as relevant, considering proximity of the research proposed to direct patient impact). Where relevant, attention has been given to engaging a diversity of perspectives from patient/survivor/caregiver participants.
- The knowledge translation and mobilization plan is well described, integrated into the proposed research, involves relevant stakeholders at the outset (including patient representatives) to ensure utility of the proposed solution, and is poised to facilitate next steps towards resolving the identified challenge. Public and/or patient engagement strategies are encouraged. Equitable access to results are considered (where relevant).