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**Spring 2024**

**Patient-Oriented Research Development Award**

The goal of NL SUPPORT is to support [patient-oriented research](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/41204.html) in Newfoundland and Labrador. This means supporting research and evaluation that:

* **Includes** patients/the public as partners in conducting the research/evaluation
* **Addresses** patient/public-identified priorities
* **Impacts** patient/public outcomes directly

The purpose of the Development Award is to support the growth of patient-oriented research in health/social research areas where it has traditionally been difficult to grow this movement. These include:

* Laboratory-based/basic science research
* Community/social sector research/program evaluation settings

Often, basic science researchers struggle to engage patients/the public in the development of their research because of the difficulty of communicating about highly specific topics in plain language. On the other hand, while “[knowledge users](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49505.html)” have long been engaged in program evaluation, the movement to include community-led and based programming in “health research” is fairly new, but very necessary, as we continue to improve our understanding of the [social determinants of health](https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/population-health/what-determines-health.html). In both cases, patient-oriented research methods can help to improve the translation and mobilization of research and evaluation outcomes and the overall quality of the research. To that end, we have created the ***new Patient-Oriented Research Development Award*** in the hopes of bridging two important gaps along the research continuum.

We anticipate running two competitions per financial year. Up to three awards will be funded per annum. Funding will be available to successful applicants starting in September 2024. The value of this award will be up to $7,500 per project. The length of this award is one year with the possibility of an extension to March 31, 2026.

We highly encourage the evaluation of patient/public engagement in all work funded by NL SUPPORT. Please review [Learning Together: Evaluation Framework for Patient and Public Engagement (PPE) in research](https://ceppp.ca/en/uncategorized/learning-together-evaluation-framework-for-patient-and-public-engagement-ppe-in-research/) for information about indicators to consider when evaluating patient/public engagement. Following completion of your project, we will ask all members of the research/evaluation team to report on patient/public engagement using a standard survey to outline how patients/members of the public were involved in the project.

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| **Eligibility** |

The Study Lead is the person who will take primary responsibility of the research and assume administrative responsibility for the funds. Award funds are not intended to supplement the salary of the Study Lead or Co-Lead.

Study Leads do not need a doctorate, but they should be trainees or independent researchers with Master’s qualifications. Researchers employed at institutions elsewhere in Canada may apply as Study Lead or Co-Lead, but the work performed must include a focus on Newfoundland and Labrador and include local applicants. **Students, trainees or patient/public partners** applying for funding **must** nominate a Co-Lead who is eligible to hold funding at an eligible institution. If you are unsure of your eligibility, please contact Chelsey McPhee (chelsey.mcphee@mun.ca).

It is recommended that at least one Study Lead:

* Be employed by a post-secondary academic institution or by a health or community services institution in Newfoundland and Labrador and have dedicated time for research;
* Have a Ph.D. or a professional degree and a thesis-based Master’s degree in a health-related field.

**Applications for Patient-Oriented Research Development Award funding will be judged according to the following selection criteria by a review committee comprised of NL SUPPORT/Quality of Care NL staff and patient/public partners:**

* Incorporation of patients/members of the public as partners rather than subjects throughout the project’s lifecycle;
* Expertise and research experience, and past contributions to fields related to patient-oriented research;
* Merit of the proposal, based on:
	+ Potential for meaningful real world outcomes
	+ Quality and clarity of research question
	+ Originality
	+ Potential contribution to patient-oriented research
	+ Scalability of the proposed work
	+ Relevance to health-related decision-making
	+ Systems improvement or positive patient/public impacts
	+ Value to the health care system
	+ Considerations for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Sex and Gender-Based Analysis Plus (EDI/SGBA+)
* Clarity of presentation and appropriateness of design and research plan
* Feasibility of the proposed work
* Appropriateness and justification of the budget

Decisions will be made by a majority vote and will be communicated to applicants via email.

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| **How to Apply** |

Please submit your application package in an electronic format (PDF, Microsoft Word) to Chelsey McPhee (chelsey.mcphee@mun.ca).

Please use the subject title: **POR Development Award application – Name of study lead, date submitted.**

**Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. Newfoundland Time on Friday, May 24th, 2024.**

**Memorial University applicants should contact their academic departments regarding internal deadlines. Applications must be approved by the applicant’s faculty/school prior to submission. If you do not know who to contact in your faculty/school, please contact Chelsey McPhee for advice. Please ensure you contact your faculty/school for approval well in advance of the submission deadline. Applications that have not been approved by your faculty/school, are late or incomplete will not be accepted.**

**Please Note:**

* Applicants will be informed via email whether their application was successful or not.
* Award funds will be released only upon the receipt of a **letter of approval from the appropriate ethics review committee**.
* Once an application has been funded, major changes in the project design will require prior approval from the NL SUPPORT/Quality of Care NL review committee.
* Funding will be issued by way of Letter of Agreement issued to the Host Institution.
* Research teams can only hold one Patient-Oriented Research Development Award from NL SUPPORT at a time.

For further information or clarification on the application guidelines, please contact Chelsey McPhee at chelsey.mcphee@mun.ca or 709-864-6654.

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| **Application Package Checklist** |
|  | **Section** | **Information on page(s):**  |
|[ ]  Part 1: Research/Evaluation Team  | 4 |
|[ ]  Part 2: Project Information  | 4 - 5 |
|[ ]  Part 3: Ethics/Indigenous Research Agreement  | 6 |
|[ ]  Part 4: Host Institution Signatures | 7 |
|[ ]  Part 5: Demographic Questionnaire | 8 - 9 |

**Part 1: Research/Evaluation Team**

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| **Study Lead** | The study lead is the person spearheading and ultimately responsible for the project. Please include the Study Lead’s job title and email address. Please refer to the ***Eligibility*** section on Page 2 for more information. |
| **Study Team** | Please list the names, job titles (where relevant) and roles of any additional members of the study team. It is expected that research/evaluation projects will be conducted by multi-disciplinary teams in collaboration with relevant [knowledge users](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49505.html).Roles may include (but are not limited to): * Co-lead (please include email address)
* [Collaborator](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34190.html#c) (please indicate the areas that they will be collaborating on)
* [Knowledge user](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34190.html#k) (please indicate the lived / work experience that they bring to the team)
* [Patient Partner](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/45851.html)/person with relevant lived experience
* Research/evaluation assistance
* Others roles as appropriate
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**Part 2: Project Information**

Applicants must provide a summary (**4 pages maximum**, letter size, single spaced, Arial 10 font, 2cm margins) of their proposal which includes the following sections:

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| **Title** | Please indicate whether this project is **research** (the intent is generalizable knowledge) or **evaluation** (evaluates an existing or emerging program for assessment, management or improvement purposes). |
| **Plain Language Summary** | This is a clear and concise statement of the problem you are going to investigate in your work. Provide some background of your topic, including appropriate literature references and/or local contextual knowledge (e.g. in the case of program evaluation). Provide a brief overview of the steps/methods you are going to undertake, and expected outcomes from your work, particularly for patients/the public. Please make sure that a member of the public can read and understand this summary. For information about plain language, please contact Leah Curnew (Communications Coordinator – Knowledge Translation, NL SUPPORT/Quality of Care NL; leah.curnew@mun.ca).  |
| **Population** | Briefly describe the population that will be the focus of the study (community, in-patients and/or out-patients, caregivers and family, etc.). Include considerations for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Sex and Gender-Based Analysis Plus (EDI/SGBA+). For example, how will you remove barriers to the recruitment and full participation of individuals from equity deserving groups in your research project? For information about EDI in research, please visit <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52543.html>. For research involving Indigenous communities, please refer to [TCPS 2, Chapter 9](https://ethics.gc.ca/eng/tcps2-eptc2_2022_chapter9-chapitre9.html) and the Memorial University [Research Impacting Indigenous Groups Policy](https://www.mun.ca/research/indigenous-research-at-memorial/memorials-policy-on-indigenous-research/). |
| **Patient/Public Engagement** | Describe how you have and/or will [engage patients](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/45851.html)/members of the public as partners in your project. Patients/members of the public as partners is not the same as “people as subjects” for data collection.For example, patient/public partners can help:* Inform research priorities
* Design interventions
* Clarify the research questions and affirm their importance
* Define outcomes that are important
* Assist in creating a recruitment strategy
* Ensure that the methods selected are appropriate for study participants
* Review and comment on proposed data collection methods
* Assist in writing information for patients/the public and informed consent forms
* Assist in collecting and/or interpreting data
* Share results
* Develop and implement new services or programs, etc.

The activities listed above are not normally undertaken by study subjects. The activities that your patient/public partners are engaged in throughout your project should be distinct from the study population activities. Please note that the term “patient” is overarching and is inclusive of individuals with personal experience of a health issue and informal caregivers, including family and friends. We acknowledge that not all “patient partners” wish to be referred to as such and we encouraged you to use whatever language has been decided within your study team as long as the “patient partner” role is clear.  |
| **Research or Evaluation Question** | Clearly state the research or evaluation question(s) and objectives of your project. The FINER criteria highlight useful points that may increase the chances of developing good questions: Feasible, Interesting, Novel, Ethical and Relevant. |
| **Design** | Describe the ways in which you will gather your data and perform the analysis. |
| **Timeline** | Briefly describe your timeline or include a basic timeline table. The duration for the NL SUPPORT Patient-Oriented Research Development Award is 12 months maximum (with a possibility of a one-year extension). |
| **Budget justification** | Include a budget justification. For example, list the budget needed for research staff, knowledge dissemination, equipment, supplies, etc. In-kind contributions can also be listed. See the ***Eligible Costs*** section on Page 10 for more information.  |

**Part 3: Ethics/Indigenous Research Agreement**

Applicants must provide confirmation that any required research clearance(s) are in place, or a timeline for submission to the appropriate committee for review. **Funding will not be released until applicable documentation has been received by NL SUPPORT.** For more information about what clearances might be required, please refer to the following resources:

* <https://rpresources.mun.ca/>
* <https://hrea.ca/how-to-apply/ethics-review-required/>
* <https://ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique_tcps2-eptc2_2022.html>

For information about the Research Impacting Indigenous Groups Policy at Memorial University please click [here](https://www.mun.ca/research/indigenous-research-at-memorial/memorials-policy-on-indigenous-research/). A link to the Indigenous Research Agreement template can be found [here](https://www.mun.ca/research/media/production/memorial/administrative/research/media-library/indigenous/IndigenousResearchAgreementFeb_28-20.pdf).

**If you are unsure whether you need ethics clearances, please contact Chelsey McPhee (****chelsey.mcphee@mun.ca****) to discuss.**

Please complete the following statements:

**Clearances required?**

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

**Clearances attached?**

[ ]  To follow (please specify date) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[ ]  N/A

**Indigenous consent (must be in place at the application stage)**

[ ]  Required

[ ]  N/A

**Part 4: Host Institution Signatures**

Institutions that employ holders of Patient-Oriented Research Development Award funding are called **host institutions**. Signatures are required from host institution representatives on all award applications.

By signing, host institutions agree to accept the responsibilities outlined below on behalf of their award-holding employees:

* Acceptance of the terms and conditions as outlined in Funding Guide and Letter of Agreement;
* The financial administration of the awards;
* Reporting to NL SUPPORT any change in the funding recipient’s status that may affect the fulfillment of their research commitment, for example resignation or termination;
* Submission of an annual financial statement (Form 300) – a copy of which will be included in the Letter of Agreement – with back up documentation (receipts, etc.) covering the period from April 1 to March 31 for funding; the statement(s) are due no later than **May 1** of each year.

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(Host Institution name – include department/faculty where relevant)

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(Host Institution representative name – printed)

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(Signature of Host Institution representative)

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(Date)

**Part 5: Demographic Questionnaire**

**Together with the summary of their proposal**, applicants are asked to please provide the answers to the following questions. Upon submission of this application, you will be sent a link to a demographics questionnaire to be circulated to the rest of your project team members. This information will not be shared with the review committee, nor will it be used in the evaluation of this application. We are collecting this information as part of the NL SUPPORT Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility plan to better understand the demographic composition of the research/evaluation teams we are supporting.

**With what gender do you identify?**

[ ]  Man

[ ]  Woman

[ ]  Non-binary

[ ]  Prefer not to answer

[ ]  Prefer to self-describe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please select the age bracket below that applies to you.**

[ ]  18-24 years

[ ]  25-44 years

[ ]  45-64 years

[ ]  65 and over

[ ]  Prefer not to answer

**Where were you born?**

[ ]  Newfoundland and Labrador

[ ]  Canada

[ ]  Outside of Canada (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**If you were not born in Newfoundland and Labrador, please skip this question. Are you from an urban or rural region of Newfoundland and Labrador?**

[ ]  Urban (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[ ]  Rural (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­\_\_\_\_

**How would you best describe yourself? (Select all that apply)**

[ ]  White

[ ]  South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)

[ ]  Chinese

[ ]  Black

[ ]  Filipino

[ ]  Latin American

[ ]  Arab

[ ]  Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai, etc.)

[ ]  West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan, etc.)

[ ]  Korean

[ ]  Japanese

[ ]  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[ ]  Prefer not to answer

**Do you identify as Indigenous?**

[ ]  No

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  Prefer not to answer

**If so, please indicate which group you identify with: ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Are you a member of any of the groups below? (Select all that apply or skip if none apply)**

[ ]  Member of a rural community

[ ]  Newcomer to Canada (moved to Canada within the last 5 years)

[ ]  Visible minority

[ ]  2SLGBTQIA+

[ ]  People who have immigrated to Canada/NL (more than 5 years ago)

[ ]  People with a physical disability

[ ]  People who experience sensory impairments

[ ]  People who experience mental illness

[ ]  People who are neurodivergent

[ ]  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to receive our training newsletter?**

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

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| **Eligible Costs** |

The funds are to be used for eligible expenses directly related to the research/evaluation and in accordance with the Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide – Use of Grant Funds (<https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp>)

For any inquiries about eligible costs, please contact Chelsey McPhee (chelsey.mcphee@mun.ca).

Please also review the NL SUPPORT [Patient/Public Partner Appreciation Guidelines](https://nlsupport.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/NL-SUPPORT-Patient-Partner-Appreciation-March-2023-FINAL-signed.pdf) for information about paying and/or acknowledging the contributions of patient/public partners.

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| **Awardee Reporting Requirements** |

The successful awardees will be required to:

* Provide a mid-term update
* Provide an end of study report
* Present their research findings at the Quality of Care NL (QCNL) and NL SUPPORT **Science, Health, and Research Education (SHARE) Summit** and/or other public events or other NL SUPPORT/QCNL knowledge mobilization products.
* Annual financial statement (Form 300) – See Host Institution Form on Page 7

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| **Role of NL SUPPORT** |

The NL SUPPORT team will make available to applicants and awardees as needed support services in the areas of patient/public engagement, knowledge mobilization and methods development. NL SUPPORT strongly encourages all successful applicants to meet with the Unit’s Patient/Public Engagement and Knowledge Translation leads throughout the duration of their project for support and guidance. Please contact Chelsey McPhee (chelsey.mcphee@mun.ca) to set up a project support meeting.

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| **Use and Disclosure**  |

All information requested by the Newfoundland and Labrador Support for People and Patient Oriented Research and Trials Unit (NL SUPPORT) will be used solely for the administration and management of the awards program and is collected under the general authority of the Memorial University Act (RSNL 1990 Chapter M-7). Questions about this collection and use of personal information may be directed to Chelsey McPhee (chelsey.mcphee@mun.ca).

**By submitting this application to NL SUPPORT you are certifying that all statements contained in it and in all its attachments are accurate to the best of your knowledge.**