

## Research Manitoba Funds COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants and Clinical Trials in Manitoba

**September 4, 2020 – Winnipeg, Manitoba.** Today Research Manitoba announced **\$3.8M** in research funding to support the recipients of the Manitoba COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant Competition and eight Manitoba clinical trials related to COVID-19 and applied health research. This funding has leveraged a further **\$5.6M** from our partners to provide a total of **\$9.4M** to support this essential work.

**\$2.2M** for Research Manitoba to fund 13 Rapid Response Grants and to partner on one Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Operating Grant from the COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity.

Additional funding to support these grants comes from partnerships with:

- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) - \$1,589,795
- CancerCare Manitoba Foundation (CCMF) - \$122,154
- Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM) - \$50,000
- Total leveraged from partners - \$1.8M

**\$1.6M** to support Manitoba's participation in, and/or lead on, eight clinical trials related to COVID-19 led by Dr. Ryan Zarychanski.

Additional funding to support these clinical trials comes from partnerships with:

- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) - \$3.57M
- CancerCare Manitoba Foundation (CCMF) - \$100,000
- Victoria General Hospital Foundation (VGHF) - \$100,000
- Total leveraged from partners \$3.77M

"Our government is committed to keeping Manitobans healthy and safe, especially as we navigate the current global pandemic. Manitoba is home to a highly-skilled, world-class research community who are on the front lines of the fight against COVID-19. This funding partnership with Research Manitoba will provide substantial financial support for cutting-edge research and clinical trials to address the effects of this virus." - Hon. Cameron Friesen, Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living.

"Earlier this year the Province of Manitoba provided Research Manitoba with an opportunity to support clinical trials and applied health research related to COVID-19" said Sean McKay, Interim CEO, Research Manitoba. "As a result, we immediately stimulated strong partnerships and provided funding opportunities for our world class Manitoba-based research teams to participate in the global response. It is heartening to see how our provincial government, researcher and stakeholder communities have so rapidly come together to support this crucial research."

"Local research and clinical trials – funded by donors - help CancerCare make incredible progress against cancer which results in positive outcomes for Manitobans affected by this formidable disease. The pandemic has added a new element to cancer care in our province as interventions aimed at reducing the spread of COVID-19 will have important consequences for our cancer control system The Foundation is very proud to partner with Research Manitoba and equally share in funding Dr. Decker's research initiative and to support the trials led by Dr. Zarychanski." - Annitta Stenning, President & CEO, CancerCare Manitoba Foundation.

“This investment in COVID-19 research will help ensure Manitobans get access to the best evidence to help prevent and treat the effects of this pandemic.” - Dr. Terry Klassen, CEO and Scientific Director, Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba.

“With so many Manitobans facing unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more urgent and important than ever for us to invest in priorities that will have the greatest impact on the health, safety, and well-being of our community,” says Charlene Rocke, Executive Director, Victoria General Hospital Foundation. “Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are proud to support the creativity and ingenuity of Manitoba’s researchers in making their very own significant contributions to the global fight against this pandemic.”

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### **Contacts**

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### **Background**

Complete Listing of [Manitoba Rapid Response Grant Recipients](#).

On April 8, 2020, a [\\$5,000,000 COVID-19 Research Fund](#) to support Manitoba’s response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic was announced by Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Cameron Friesen. The funds for the Rapid Response Grants and Clinical Trials are included in the Manitoba COVID-19 Research Fund.

On June 25, 2020, CIHR announced the results of their [COVID-19 May 2020 Rapid Research Funding](#) Opportunity Results. Dr. Meghan Azad received a CHIR/RMB partnered award and Dr. Ryan Zarychanski received CIHR funding.

### **Research Manitoba:**

Research Manitoba promotes, supports, and coordinates the funding of research excellence and innovation in health, natural and social sciences, engineering and the humanities in Manitoba. [Research Manitoba](#) supports local talent development by providing research support to early career researchers and graduate students, along with fostering strategic partnerships to strengthen research and innovation in Manitoba.

### **CancerCare Manitoba Foundation:**

All funds raised by CancerCare Manitoba Foundation stay in Manitoba. The Foundation is proud to support CancerCare Manitoba’s internationally-recognized team of health professionals as they provide outstanding quality care for all Manitobans and their families living with cancer. Thanks to the generosity of donors, [CancerCare Manitoba Foundation](#) has been able to grant more than \$134 million since 2000. This support to CancerCare Manitoba profoundly impacts patient outcomes.

### **Canadian Institutes of Health Research:**

At the [Canadian Institutes of Health Research](#) (CIHR) we know that research has the power to change lives. As Canada's health research investment agency, we collaborate with partners and researchers to support the discoveries and innovations that improve our health and strengthen our health care system.

Les [Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada](#) (IRSC) savent que la recherche a le pouvoir de changer des vies. En tant qu’organisme fédéral chargé d’investir dans la recherche en santé, ils collaborent avec des partenaires et des chercheurs pour favoriser les découvertes et les innovations qui améliorent la santé de la population et le système de soins du Canada.

### **Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba:**

The Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba was established in 2001. [CHRIM](#) is the research division of

the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. At the Institute, more than 270 world-class pediatric medical researchers, technical staff, students and support staff are involved in *over* \$20 million of research and clinical trial activity each year.

**Victoria General Hospital Foundation:**

[Victoria General Hospital Foundation](#) is dedicated to advancing healthcare at Victoria Hospital and in our community to create healthier futures for us all. Since 2009, we have invested more than \$15 million in innovations that enhance patient care, prevent disease and injury, and improve the overall health and well-being of our community.