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The Institute of Infection and Immunity provides national leadership and creates programs that promote innovative research aimed at reducing the global burden of infectious diseases and disorders of the immune system.

Marc Ouellette
Scientific Director

Élisabeth Pagé
Assistant Director

Isabelle Létourneau
Associate, Institute Strategic Initiatives

Édith Brochu
Associate, Institute Strategic Initiatives

Sylvie Masse
Administrative Coordinator

Sonia Morisset
Administrative Coordinator

Message from the Scientific Director



As always, it is a pleasure to reach out to you through this newsletter.

Dr. Serge Desnoyers, who had been Assistant Director of the Institute since 2010, has recently accepted a new position at Université Laval. We thank Serge for his hard and competent work along the years and we wish him all the best in his new position. Dr. Élisabeth Pagé will be the new Assistant Director of the Institute, and new staff (Édith Brochu and Sonia Morisset) were hired; their contact address can be found at the left of this page.

Throughout the years, we have been involved in a number

of large, multi-institute initiatives. One was Inflammation in Chronic Diseases and, with our co-lead Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis, we recently convened a very productive networking workshop with the funded teams (see p. 3). With several institutes (IGH, IMHA, INMD), we recently launched an initiative on human immunology (see p.7). Phase 1 of the Canadian microbiome initiative was recently completed, and with multiple Institutes, we will convene a summer school on microbiome big data analysis (see p. 4). We are also in active discussions with other institutes for a phase 2 microbiome initiative.

Antimicrobial resistance remained a very active and busy topic with a number of funding results (see p. 9) and funding opportunities (see p. 6, 8). Following a successful workshop on stewardship in Toronto, we have now launched, in collaboration with IPPH and IHSPR, a new initiative on Interventions embracing the One Health concept.

We participated in a number of sexually transmitted blood borne infections events and have a number of funding opportunities related to this (see p. 4, 5).

We believe in the training of the next generation of scientists; we are contributing to the [Health Systems Impact Fellowship](#) (see p. 8) and other announcements will be made shortly. The Institute is actively preparing its New Investigator Forum; should you be interested to attend, a few places are still available and you are welcome to contact Isabelle Létourneau at Isabelle.Letourneau@crchudequebec.ulaval.ca.

I wish you all the best in your research activities and feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Marc Ouellette

CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity
2705 Laurier Boulevard, CHUL Room TR 62
Quebec City, QC G1V 4G2 418.577.4688

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca>

160 Elgin Street, Room 97, Address Locator 4809A
Ottawa, ON K1A 0W9 1.888.603.4178

The 6th Canadian Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus

The [6th Canadian Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus](#) (CSHCV) took place on March 3, 2017 in Banff, Alberta. Over 250 participants gathered to exchange on Hepatitis C under the theme « Delivering a Cure for Hepatitis C Infection: What are the Remaining Gaps? ». Participants included researchers and trainees, but also members of the community and workers interacting directly with infected individuals.

The symposium was followed the next day by the annual meeting of the [Canadian Network on Hepatitis C](#) (CanHepC) members. Special sessions were also organized for the trainees.

As part of their knowledge translation effort, CanHepC trainees participated in the [CATIE HCV symposium learning institute](#). During this activity the trainees worked with members of the community to pull out key outcomes from the symposium and share these back in their regions and communities.

Both Isabelle Létourneau, Associate, Strategic Initiatives at the CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity, and Michelle Peel, Manager, Major Initiatives at CIHR, were present.



CAHR Navigating the New HIV/HCV Funding Landscape Workshop

The CIHR HIV/AIDS Research Initiative was proud to support “Navigating the New HIV/HCV Funding Landscape”, a Canadian Association for HIV Research (CAHR)-led workshop that took place January 15 - 17, 2017 in Banff, Alberta. Dale Dempsey, Manager for the Foundation Scheme, represented CIHR at the workshop.



Inflammation in Chronic Disease Networking Workshop

On February 2 and 3, 2017, the Institute of Infection and Immunity, in collaboration with the Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis, co-hosted a workshop for the recipients of funding under the Inflammation in Chronic Disease Initiative ([Canadian Microbiome Initiative](#), [Transplantation Research Initiative](#), [Team Grant: Health Challenges in Chronic Inflammation](#)). The workshop offered the beneficial opportunity to researchers to meet individually with international advisors. Also, the participants' motivation to further innovative research was enhanced by the

inspiring stories of patients and their high level of engagement, as well as their compelling interventions in the research session.

Moreover, the workshop offered several sessions featuring the trainees' work, four of which received an award for their poster presentation. We would like to congratulate Natalie McCormick, for her award related to the inclusion of Sex and Gender in her research project, as well as Asleigh Goethel, Danielle Reid, and Williams Turpin for their poster presentation award.



From left to right: Danielle Reid, Natalie McCormick, Dr. Hani El-Gabalawy, Scientific Director of the Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis, Dr. Marc Ouellette, Scientific Director of the Institute of Infection and Immunity, Asleigh Goethel and William Turpin.

GloPID-R General Assembly

The Institute of Infection and Immunity has participated in the [GloPID-R](#) General Assembly meeting held in Seoul on March 9 and 10, 2017 and kindly hosted by the Global Center for Infectious Diseases (GCID) Seoul National University College of Medicine (<http://www.gcid.or.kr/eng>). The main objectives of the meeting were to discuss the lessons learned from Zika virus, Yellow fever and Middle-East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) as well as on-going work and future activities to increase global preparedness against epidemics.

Moreover, Dr. François Lamontagne, from the Université de Sherbrooke, was invited to present his work on the process to develop guidelines and policies on how to respond to a crisis.

For more information on GloPID-R activities, please visit the [website](#) and consult the [GloPID-R newsletter](#).



Dr. Marc Ouellette, Scientific Director of the Institute of Infection and Immunity, Dr. Steven Hoffman, Scientific Director of the Institute of Population and Public Health, Dr. Elisabeth Pagé, Assistant Director, Institute of Infection and Immunity and Dr. François Lamontagne, Université de Sherbrooke.

2017 Microbiome Summer School: Big Data Analytics for Omics Science, June 18-22, 2017, Quebec City

The Institute of Infection and Immunity, along with multiple CIHR institutes and other partners, is organizing the [2017 Microbiome Summer School: Big Data Analytics for Omics Science](#), to be held in Quebec City on June 18-22.

Bioinformatics has become an important part of many areas of life and health research. Several fields of research such as microbiome, cancer, immunology and clinical research are generating massive amounts of data that need appropriate computational tools for their analysis and interpretation.

The primary objective of this summer school is to meet the needs in bioinformatic training for the Canadian microbiome research community through introductory “state-of-the-art” bioinformatic courses. Machine learning approaches will also be incorporated.

Applications will be received via the [website](#), please consult it for more information on the application process, the target audience and the selection criteria.

Pre-announcement HIV/AIDS Comorbidity Prevention and Healthy Living Team Grants

The [CIHR HIV/AIDS Research Initiative](#) with strategic leadership from the CIHR [Institute of Infection and Immunity](#) in collaboration with the CIHR [Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction](#), CIHR [Institute of Aging](#) and CIHR [Institute of Gender and Health](#) are planning to launch the Pre-announcement HIV/AIDS Comorbidity Prevention and Healthy Living Team Grants funding opportunity.

This funding opportunity aims to address the CIHR HIV/AIDS strategic research priority area of biomedical and clinical research. The goal of the Pre-announcement HIV/AIDS Comorbidity Prevention and Healthy Living Team Grants is to improve the health of people living with HIV/AIDS in Canada by supporting the development or enhancement of expert teams of investigators and their partners undertaking strategic collaborative, multi-disciplinary biomedical and clinical research relevant to the CIHR HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan.

Objectives:

- Support strategic, collaborative, high-quality, novel and innovative HIV/AIDS research that contributes to the creation of new knowledge on comorbidity in the biological and psychosocial aspects of aging and mental health, including sex and gender considerations;

- Foster a multi-disciplinary and multi-themed approach to address the complex issues experienced by people living with HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted and blood borne infections;
- Build capacity in HIV/AIDS research and nurture the next generation of researchers by supporting teams that actively engage established researchers, new investigators, trainees, and knowledge users; and
- Foster and support the translation and exchange of knowledge and the appropriate uptake and application of new discoveries through interdisciplinary, inter-sectoral and international collaborations.

Note that other biomedical and clinical research challenges exist in the area of mucosal immunology, therapeutic vaccine and cure research which will be the focus of a second team grant funding opportunity in early 2018.

Anticipated launch of the Pre-announcement HIV/AIDS Comorbidity Prevention and Healthy Living Team Grants funding opportunity: April 2017

Pre-announcement HIV/AIDS Comorbidity Prevention and Healthy Living Team Grants (continued)

Interested applicants are invited to participate in a webinar on May 9, 2017 at 2:00-3:00pm EDT. To register, please email the CIHR HIV/AIDS Research Initiative (HIVAIDS-VIHSIDA@cihr-irsc.gc.ca) for more information. Only registered participants will be sent a WebEx invite prior to the webinar.

Funds available

The total amount available for this funding opportunity is \$12,750,000, enough to fund approximately 5 grants. This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate. The maximum amount per grant is \$500,000 per year for up to five years for a total of \$2,500,000 per grant.

Developmental grants of up to \$25,000 per grant may be offered, if requested, to successful applications at the Letter of Intent stage. The total amount available at the LOI stage is \$250,000.

For all inquiries, please contact:

CIHR Contact Centre
Telephone: 613-954-1968
Toll Free: 1-888-603-4178
Email: support@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

HIV Implementation Science - Component 2 - Implementation Grants

The [CIHR HIV/AIDS Research Initiative](#) in partnership with the [CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity](#), [CIHR Institute of Population and Public Health](#), [CIHR Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health](#), the [Public Health Agency of Canada \(PHAC\)](#), the [Health Canada - First Nations and Inuit Health Branch](#) (Alberta, Quebec and Saskatchewan Regions) and [Correctional Service Canada](#) have launched the [HIV Implementation Science Component 2 Intervention Grant funding opportunity](#).

The CIHR HIV/AIDS Research Initiative and its partners have developed the Implementation Science for the Prevention of HIV, Hepatitis C (HCV) and Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections Initiative in order to address the gap that exists in the application of evidence into health policy and programs.

[Component 2 – Implementation Grants](#): will support teams to facilitate the multi-year investigation of program implementation and/or scale-up across multiple heterogeneous communities. These teams must meaningfully engage people living with HIV, HCV or other STBBIs, decision makers, community leaders and researchers from different research disciplines. Together, these multi-sectoral teams will identify target populations and focus on the identification, adap-

tation and equitable scale-up of promising or effective interventions across diverse settings/contexts for the prevention of HIV.

This is the second funding opportunity CIHR has launched on Implementation Science in HIV, Hepatitis C and other Blood-Borne Infections. Teams will not be required to hold Component 1 grants to be eligible for the Component 2 funding opportunity.

Important date

Application Deadline: 2017-08-22
Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2018-01-31
Funding Start Date: 2018-01-01

A webinar will be held for this Funding Opportunity via WebEx on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 from 2:30-3:30pm EDT. Please contact the CIHR HIV/AIDS Research Initiative (HIVAIDS-VIHSIDA@cihr-irsc.gc.ca) for more information.

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5th joint call for proposals of the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPIAMR) on Prevention and Intervention Strategies to Control AMR Infections

The CIHR [Institute of Infection and Immunity \(III\)](#), [Institute of Health Services and Policy Research \(IH-SPR\)](#) and the [Institute of Population and Public Health \(IPPH\)](#) are pleased to announce their participation in the [5th joint call for proposals of the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance \(JPIAMR\) on Prevention and Intervention Strategies to Control AMR Infections](#) in partnership with 14 countries (Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland).

Relevant Research Areas

The call targets research in the following topic: Comparison of prevention, control, and intervention strategies for AMR infections through multidisciplinary studies, including One Health approaches.

Eligibility

Each transnational consortium is expected to include partners from at least 3 participating countries, but no more than 6. Projects must be led by a coordinator eligible for funding. Participants from other countries may also take part in the call. However, they must secure their own funding. Please also consult the specific national eligibility requirements on the [JPIAMR web site](#).

Partner Search Tool

Applicants are also invited to use the [partner search tool](#), aiming at facilitating matches between potential partners with similar ideas. It gives the opportunity to express interest either in joining a research proposal or to search for partners for an existing proposal.



Funds available

The total amount available for the Canadian component of successful projects is \$3M, enough to fund approximately three (3) to five (5) grants. CIHR will contribute as follow for the Canadian component of the project for a maximum of three (3) years. For applications with:

- 1 Canadian participant in the consortium: up to \$200,000 per year for maximum three (3) years.
- 2 Canadian participants in the consortium: up to \$250,000 per year for maximum three (3) years.
- 1 Canadian coordinator in the consortium: up to \$250,000 per year for maximum three (3) years.
- 1 Canadian coordinator + 1 Canadian participant in the consortium: up to \$300,000 per year for maximum three (3) years.

How to apply and deadlines

The call has a two-step procedure, with a first stage (pre-proposal submission) from which selected applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal. Documents must be submitted to the Joint Call Secretariat submission web site. You must submit a pre-proposal in order to be considered for the full proposal.

Pre-proposal submission: 2017-03-21
Application deadline: 2017-07-04
Anticipated notice of decision: 2017-11-16
Anticipated Funding Start Date: 2017-10-01

Contact Information

For all inquiries, please contact:
Telephone: 613-954-1968
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Email: support@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

For complete information on this call, please visit

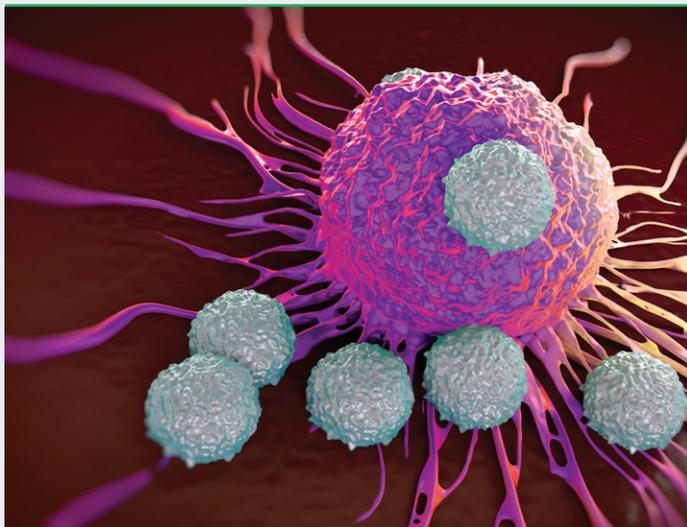
<http://www.jpiaamr.eu/fifth-call/>

Team Grant: Human Immunology Initiative: Standardization and its application in autoimmune diseases research

The [Institute of Infection and Immunity](#), in collaboration with the [Institute of Gender and Health](#), the [Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis](#) and the [Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes](#), is pleased to announce the launch of the funding opportunity [Human Immunology Initiative: Standardization and its application in autoimmune diseases research](#).

Deficiencies in the immune system, either genetic or acquired, are key contributors to most chronic conditions and diseases. Our understanding of the immune system and of new preventive and therapeutic approaches is due, in large part, to the use of animal models (mostly mice), however, the animal and human immune systems are often very different. For this reason, it is generally agreed that the translation of immunology research from animals to humans is challenging and that focused studies with the human immune system are required.

The aim of the Standardization Core is to create common measurements, indicators and outcomes that can be used for comparative purposes across populations and studies, including identifying and addressing ethical issues. The successful applicant to the Standardization Core funding opportunity will constitute a best practices platform, and will be responsible for the development and validation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) in human immunology, applied to the field of autoimmune disease research, by aligning with work conducted at the international level.



Research Areas

This funding opportunity will support projects relevant to the following research areas:

- Human immunology research on autoimmune diseases.

Objectives

The objectives of the funding opportunity are to:

- Develop and validate SOPs that will facilitate research related to human immunology and autoimmune disease, in collaboration with international groups.
- Ensure that sex as a biological variable and gender as a social determinant of health are appropriately integrated into the SOPs.
- Develop a national guideline in ethics for studies with human subjects in the field of human immunology.
- Promote knowledge dissemination and translation of SOPs in the research community.

Webinar

A webinar will take place on March 28, 2:30 pm-3:30 pm EDT. Click [here](#) to register.

For more information of this funding opportunity, please click [here](#).

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Funding opportunities

In the event of a discrepancy between the information provided here and the information on ResearchNet, the latter shall prevail.

For a complete list of all the current opportunities, please click [here](#).

Of particular interest for the III community

[Operating Grant : JPIAMR Joint Call: Prevention and Intervention Strategies to Control AMR Infections](#)

Pre-proposal submission: 2017-03-21

Pre-proposal notice of decision: 2017-05-17

Application deadline: 2017-07-04

Anticipated notice of decision: 2017-11-16

Anticipated Funding Start Date: 2017-10-01

[Team Grant: Human Immunology Initiative: Standardization and its application in autoimmune diseases research](#)

LOI Application Deadline: 2017-06-06

LOI Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2017-10-31

LOI Funding Start Date: 2017-10-01

Application Deadline: 2018-03-06

Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2018-07-31

Funding Start Date: 2018-08-01

[2017 Large-Scale Applied Research Project Competition: Genomics and Precision Health](#)

Registration deadline to Genome Canada: 2017-03-16

Pre-application deadline: 2017-05-11

Full application deadline: 2017-10-05

Notification of decision: Mid-December, 2017

[Health Systems Impact Fellowship \(2 grants for III's mandate-related project\)](#)

Application deadline: 2017-05-09

Anticipated notice of decision: 2017-07-27

Anticipated Funding Start Date: 2017-09-01

[Travel Awards – International Course on Antibiotics and Resistance \(ICARe\)](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-06-15

Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2017-07-01

Funding Start Date: 2017-11-01

[HIV Implementation Science – Component 2 Implementation Grants](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-08-22

Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2018-01-31

Funding Start Date: 2018-01-01

Of general interest for III community

[Chair : GlaxoSmithKline Partnered 2015-2016](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-04-28

Funding Start Date: 2017-07-01

[Operating Grant: CIHR New Investigator Grants in Maternal, Reproductive, Child & Youth Health](#)

Registration deadline: 2017-04-18

Application deadline: 2017-05-23

Anticipated notice of decision: 2017-09-29

Funding start date: 2017-10-01

[Operating Grant: SPOR – Guidelines and Systematic Reviews](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-05-16

Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2017-08-31

Funding Start Date: 2017-07-01

[Operating Grant: SickKids-CIHR-IHDCYH New Investigator Grants in Child and Youth Health](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-04-20

Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2017-09-20

Funding Start Date: 2017-10-01

[Team Grant: E-Rare-3 Joint Transnational Call \(2017\)](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-06-02

Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2017-10-31

Funding Start Date: 2017-11-01

[Team Grant : More Years / Better Lives \(2017\)](#)

Application Deadline: 2017-04-04

Anticipated Notice of Decision: 2017-12-01

Funding Start Date: 2018-02-01

Funding decisions

We would like to congratulate the members of our community who have been successful in the latest competitions.

[Team Grant: Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance \(JPIAMR\) \(2016\)](#)

[Working Groups on Antimicrobial Resistance \(Transnational Working Groups within the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance \(JPIAMR\)\)](#)

[Operating Grant : HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research – General stream](#)

[Operating Grant : HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research – Aboriginal](#)

Meetings of interest

[26th Annual Canadian Conference on HIV/AIDS Research – CAHR 2017](#), April 6th to 9th, 2017, Montreal, QC

[30th Annual Canadian Society for Immunology Conference](#), April 7th to 10th, 2017, Banff, AB

[Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada, Annual meeting](#), May 3rd to 6th, 2017, Toronto, ON

[11th Annual meeting of the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences \(OSSD\)](#), May 15th to 18th, 2017, Montreal, QC

[67th Canadian Society of Microbiologists Annual Meeting](#), June 20th to 23rd, 2017, Waterloo, ON

[2017 Microbiome Summer School](#), June 18th to 22nd, 2017, Quebec, QC

Recording of the “Ask Me Anything” webinar with Dr. Jeff Latimer is now available

On January 27, Dr. Latimer invited the research community to join a live discussion about the first stage of the review process for the Project Grant: Fall 2016 competition. A recording of the session is available for those who were unable to attend. [Read more](#) under the “Archived Webinars” tab.

CIHR Standing Committee on Ethics – 2016 in review

The Standing Committee on Ethics (SCE) had another productive year with the publication of its first Ethics Performance Measurement Annual Report. SCE also continued to monitor, identify and address emerging ethical health research issues. Read the year in review and the annual report. [Read more](#).

International Peer Review Expert Panel report

The final report of the International Peer Review Expert Panel has now been received and accepted by CIHR Governing Council.

Launched in September 2016, the International Peer Review Expert Panel brought together an exceptional group of individuals to examine CIHR’s investigator-initiated programs. CIHR is grateful for the participation of the panel members, and for the time and energy they devoted to this important review. CIHR is also grateful to the community members who brought forward their important perspectives and recommendations, including the participants at the January 16 and 17, 2017 meeting in Ottawa. [Read the report and the message from CIHR Governing Council Chair and Vice-Chair.](#)



Members of the Peer Review Expert Panel at the January 16-17 meeting in Ottawa. Front row, from left to right: Professor Dame Anne Glover, Professor Sir Peter Gluckman and Dr. Michael Lauer. Second row, from left to right: Professor Mark Ferguson, Professor Jonathan Grant, Dr. Trish Groves and Professor Mats Ulfendahl.

Update from the Chairs of the College of Reviewers

The goal of the College of Reviewers is to establish a pool of world-class health research peer reviewers and to make sure that they are well equipped to deliver quality reviews. In this update, Dr. Paul Kubes and Dr. Jane Rylett provide an overview of the College Chairs’ progress to date, as well as their plans for the immediate future. [Read more.](#)

