

Results of the 2021 Innovation Grant Program Competition

The [WCHRI Innovation Grant Program](#) offers competitive operating support for studies that specifically target improving health outcomes for women and/or children through research. Awards of up to \$60,000 support research for a 24-month period. This funding opportunity welcomes applications from all areas of research investigation relevant to the WCHRI vision, mission and strategic plan. Applications are assessed by either the Innovation Grant Applied Health Advisory Committee or Innovation Grant Biomedical Advisory Committees. The Innovation Grant Advisory Committees are broadly composed of leading experts from the University of Alberta. Applications are rated based on scientific merit and relevance to WCHRI.

On behalf of WCHRI, Louanne Campbell, WCHRI director, operations with the committee chairs, Dr. Lisa Hornberger and Dr Lori West with co-chairs, Dr. Roman Pabayo and Dr. Alan Underhill, congratulate the successful awardees and thank all of the applicants for the time and effort invested in their grant submission.

Finally, WCHRI would like to acknowledge the ongoing commitment and generosity of the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation (SCHF) and the Alberta Women's Health Foundation (AWHF) for their financial support of this grant program.

Listing of awardees

Applicant	Sponsor	Project title	WCHRI Funder
Alobaidi, Rashid	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Post resuscitation conservative fluid strategy versus standard care in critically ill children	SCHF
Andersen, John	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Automatic measure hip displacement on children with cerebral palsy	SCHF
Ball, Geoff DC	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Severe obesity in children	SCHF
Bhavsar, Amit	Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Microbiology & Immunology	Hearing the clear ring of the bell that tolls "four" childhood cancer patients by improving the safety of cisplatin chemotherapy	SCHF
Carson, Valerie	Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation	PLAYshop: A parent-focused physical literacy intervention for early childhood	SCHF

Cooke, Christy-Lynn	Medicine & Dentistry-Obstetrics & Gynecology	Role of circulating placental particles in abnormal blood vessel function in preeclampsia	RAHF / SCHF
Fu, Yangxin	Medicine & Dentistry-Oncology	Targeting NSUN2 in ovarian cancer	RAHF
Gorassini, Monica Ann	Medicine & Dentistry-Biomedical Engineering	Improving the clinical effect of Botox for spasticity treatment in children with cerebral palsy	SCHF
Hartling, Lisa	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Supporting parents to choose wisely: a multi-method study to increase knowledge and manage expectations for common acute childhood conditions	SCHF
Hawkes, Michael	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Biomarkers of childhood pneumonia	SCHF
Ioannou, Maria	Medicine & Dentistry-Physiology	Investigating how lipids protect newborn brains from injury	SCHF
Isaac, Daniela	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Use of bowel ultrasound to monitor pediatric inflammatory bowel disease activity	SCHF
Khoo, Nee Scze	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Augmented reality assisted non-bypass heart valve surgery in children	SCHF
Lin, Lily	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Understanding changes in structure and function of the tricuspid heart valve to pressure versus volume stress	SCHF
Mandhane, Piush	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Validation of an emergency caesarean section prediction tool	RAHF / SCHF
Meherali, Salima	Nursing	COVID-19 and the sexual and reproductive health of adolescents in Alberta	RAHF / SCHF
Menon, Geetha	Medicine & Dentistry-Oncology	From machine learning to augmented reality: easier, more personalized cervical cancer brachytherapy	RAHF
Montesanti, Stephanie	School of Public Health	Strengthening health systems response to family violence	RAHF / SCHF
Salami, Bukola	Nursing	Access to healthcare for Black women in Alberta	RAHF
Simmonds, Andrew	Medicine & Dentistry-Cell Biology	Understanding the link between genetic mutations affecting how cells process fatty acids and autism	SCHF

Spitzer, Denise	School of Public Health	Coerced contraception and Indigenous women in Alberta: A community-engaged research project	RAHF
Tan, Qiumin	Medicine & Dentistry-Cell Biology	Transient neurons and seizure susceptibility of the developing brain	SCHF
Ussher, John Edward	Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	Developing an animal model to study diabetes-related heart disease in women	RAHF
Veugelers, Paul	School of Public Health	Lifestyle behaviours and mental health in youth	SCHF
Wei, Yifeng	Medicine & Dentistry-Psychiatry	Understanding the impact of child and youth mental health and well-being during and following the COVID-19 pandemic	SCHF
Westover, Lindsey	Engineering-Mechanical Engineering	An artificial intelligence approach for surface topography asymmetry assessment in managing scoliosis	SCHF
Yardley, Jane	Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation	Exercise and the menstrual cycle in women with type 1 diabetes	RAHF

Feedback will be provided August 3, 2021. Refer to the program guidelines for additional competition feedback information and awardee requirements.

Application statistics

Total eligible applications: 67

Total applications awarded: 27

Funding rate: 40.3%

Application statistics by institutional sponsor (funded/applied)

Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences-Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science: 0/3
Engineering-Biomedical Engineering: 0/1
Engineering-Chemical and Materials Engineering:0/1
Engineering-Mechanical Engineering: 1/1
Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation: 2/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Biochemistry: 0/2

Medicine & Dentistry-Biomedical Engineering: 1/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Cell Biology: 2/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Dentistry and Dental Hygiene: 0/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Laboratory Medicine & Pathology: 0/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Genetics: 0/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Microbiology & Immunology: 1/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Medicine: 0/4
Medicine & Dentistry-Obstetrics & Gynecology: 1/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Oncology: 2/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics: 9/15
Medicine & Dentistry-Psychiatry: 1/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Physiology: 1/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Radiology & Diagnostic Imaging: 0/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Surgery: 0/1
Nursing: 2/3
Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences: 1/1
School of Public Health: 3/4
Rehabilitation Medicine-Communication Sciences and Disorders: 0/1
Rehabilitation Medicine-Physical Therapy: 0/1