



Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Research and Training Priorities

CFBSD Associate Deans of Research
Conference
May 25, 2015

Jonathan Faulkner
A/Director, Partnerships and Business Development

Today's presentation will cover:

- Overview of CIHR and Roadmap II
- CIHR's strategic research priorities
- A new vision for health research training



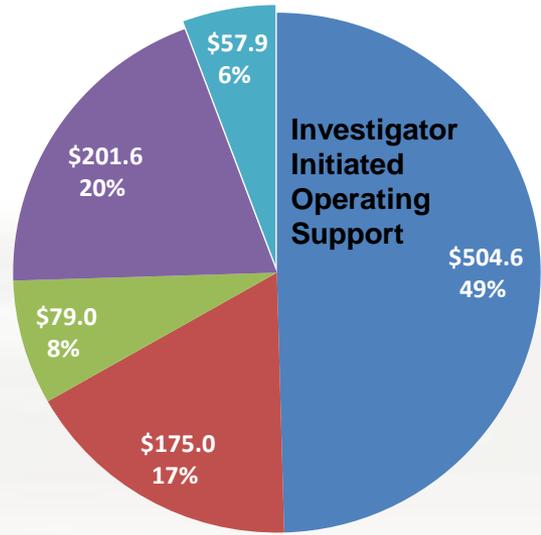
HEALTH RESEARCH ROADMAP II:
Capturing innovation to produce better health and health care for Canadians
 Strategic Plan 2014-15 – 2018-19

- Roadmap II's strategic directions will guide efforts and investments to advance knowledge and capture innovation for better health and health care.



CIHR Budget 2014-15 - \$1,018.1M

Recent government investments have focused on Tri-Council programs for training and horizontal initiatives.



- Operating Support
- Training & Career Support
- Horizontal Health Research Initiatives
- Institute-Driven Initiatives
- Operating Budget & EBP

* Anticipated budget, including 2014-15 Supplementary Estimates C and adjustments to be provided by Treasury Board.

Discussions with researchers, partners and other stakeholders have informed a refreshed set of priorities.

Enhanced patient experiences and outcomes through health innovation

- Accelerating the discovery, development, evaluation and integration of health innovations into practice so that patients can receive the right treatments at the right time.

Health and wellness for Aboriginal peoples

- Supporting the health and wellness goals of Aboriginal peoples through shared research leadership and the establishment of culturally-sensitive policies and interventions.

A healthier future through preventive action

- A proactive approach to understanding and addressing the causes of ill health, and supporting physical and mental wellness at the individual, population and system levels.

Improved quality of life for persons living with chronic conditions

- Understanding multiple, co-existing chronic conditions and supporting integrated solutions that enable Canadians to continue to participate actively in society.

- In 2013-14, CIHR invested over \$35M in health services and policy research related to topics such as:
 - governance and accountability
 - health care financing and funding
 - health human resources
 - managing for quality and safety
 - change management and scaling up innovations
- For example: Dr. Jean Louis Denis, who is seeking to better understand the role that management and organizational methods can play in improving health-care systems.
- Health researchers are accustomed to working collaboratively across disciplines to address complex problems. In 2014-15, CIHR funded more teams of 10 or more researcher than it did individuals in its strategic envelope.



HEALTH RESEARCH ROADMAP II:
 Capturing innovation to produce better health and health care for Canadians
 Strategic Plan 2014-15 – 2018-19

- In developing Roadmap II, CIHR also refreshed its approach to **training** to better adapt to the evolving research landscape and changes in career paths.



The Realities

- Canada enrolls approximately 189,000 graduate students
 - 138,000 Masters students (full and part-time)
 - 51,000 PhD students (full and part-time)
- Calculating the number of Postdoctoral Fellows (PDFs) is more difficult because they are not tracked by academic institutions or agencies.
 - The Canadian Association of Postdoctoral Scholars estimates that there are approximately 6,000 PDFs currently in Canada
- Recent U.S. stats show that about 15% of PhDs in biology / health research end up as tenure-track academic researchers
 - Approximately 20% end up in non-tenure-track academic positions
 - Approximately 24% end up doing research in industry or government
 - Approximately 19% end up in science-related (non research) positions
- CIHR contributes over \$218M annually to research training
 - \$65M via direct means (i.e. through the funding of awards)
 - \$153M via indirect means (i.e. through the funding of grants)

Health Research Training Landscape: Considerations for Success

- The success of the Canadian Health Research Enterprise depends on our ability to understand how to position trainees for success in the training environment.

The following slides reflect what we've heard regarding barriers to success in the training environment:

- For Trainees:

- Limited tenure-track research positions
- **Unaware of the career opportunities outside of research**
- **Lacking the broader skills required for employment outside of research (e.g. professional skills)**
- Poor compensation at the post-doctoral level considering years of training

Positioning Trainees for Success

- Environment scanning, surveying, and ongoing stakeholder discussions are helping to shape our vision...

Working Vision



When trainees have completed their training...

Canada's health research trainees emerge as scientific, professional, and organizational leaders within and beyond the Health Research Enterprise

Positioning Trainees for Success

We've made a concerted effort to work with stakeholders to identify training goals that align with both academic and non-academic career development for the health research trainees.

These engagements have identified four major themes for action:

1. We need to foster a **paradigm shift** – essentially a culture change in the way we have approached training. Focusing not only of depth, but also breath, of skills.
2. We need to **enhance the trainee experience** and better prepare trainees for a broad range of challenging careers.
3. We need to **work together** with key stakeholders to maximize the impact and outcomes of health research training.
4. And to do this well, we need **solid data and evidence** to inform our training practices and programs.

