
Guidelines for Genomic Medicine/Precision Health Applications

The purpose of the following guidelines is to ensure that genomic medicine/precision health research projects being proposed to Alberta Health Services (AHS) will meet the health needs of Albertans and Canadians; can be effectively integrated into care delivery; and are of the highest scientific merit.

The guidelines provide applicants, partners, organizations, and reviewers with important considerations that would lead to potential endorsement by AHS as an end user of the outcomes of the research project.

Benefits to Patients

- The proposal provides a clear line of sight as to how the research outcomes will benefit the health of Albertans and Canadians.
- Patient engagement is recognized and demonstrated; and the patient perspective is integrated throughout the application.

Strength of Evidence

- A systematic and critical review of available pre-clinical or early clinical data is included.
- An analysis of the context demonstrates the relevance for the technology, and that it is coming of age.
- Evidence indicates that this new technology addresses an unmet health need or that it replaces a less effective intervention which would be removed from health services delivery.

System Alignment

- The project clearly outlines the value to the health care system in terms of outcomes, access, safety and quality. Alignment with the health system priorities is articulated.
- AHS capital equipment requirements are taken into account and a life cycle perspective is adopted and aligned including the need for integration into existing and future infrastructure.
- AHS information technology and data requirements and capabilities are considered and aligned including privacy and security factors related to access and sharing of patient/clinical information.
- It is feasible that the technology can be implemented into practice within a five year time frame.

Economic and Financial Implications

- Value for money has been taken into account using appropriate approaches, methods, and economic tools. The headroom component of the Validation Evaluation and Implementation (VET) analysis may be used to demonstrate potential economic viability.

Legislative, Legal, and Ethical Implications

- Consideration is given to ethical and legal implications particularly in cases of new and emerging technologies.
- An approach to risk mitigation is included for equipment that is considered to be “for research only”.

Collaboration

- Alignment and continuity from bench to bedside is critical for successful translation, adoption and implementation as well as the necessary allocation of resources.
- Whenever possible, the project involves a comprehensive membership from across the province, nationally and global centers of excellence.
- A collaborative approach also integrates participation from: Strategic Clinical Networks administrative leaders and clinical end users within AHS setting the stage for transformation of health care in Alberta.

Requests for AHS support on grant applications must be received at least 4 weeks prior to the deadline for submission. Grants received less than 4 weeks prior to the deadline will not be considered.

If you have questions or feedback about these guidelines, please contact:

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