



## Objectives

CPSR invites collaborative proposals focused on optimizing the dose and timing of sensory-motor rehabilitation and recovery interventions following stroke. The goal is to address fundamental unanswered questions through collaborative proof-of-principle studies. It is expected that the outcomes of this research will form the basis of larger applications to other agencies (e.g., CIHR, HSF). Both preclinical (basic) and clinical research are encouraged, provided a clear rationale is included as to potential translational impact of the research for people living with stroke.

## Funding Available

Up to four awards of up to \$200,000 per grant will be awarded. The time period for conducting the research will be October 2019 to March 2022 (2.5 years).

## Eligibility & Conditions of Funding

- Each grant application must have one nominated Project Leader (lead applicant), but can have multiple Principal Investigators, and/or collaborators.
- Project Leaders may only submit one application (although can be listed on other applications).
- Project Leaders and Principal Investigators must have an appointment at a CPSR partner site ([www.canadianstroke.ca/en/about-us/our-partners/](http://www.canadianstroke.ca/en/about-us/our-partners/)), or be a member of REPAR (Quebec Rehabilitation Research Network (REPAR - Réseau Provincial De Recherche En Adaptation-Réadaptation); REPAR Members applying as Project Leaders must also have at least one Principal Investigator from a CPSR partner site.

## Guiding Principles

The proposed research should:

- Target optimizing the dose and timing of sensory-motor rehabilitation and recovery interventions following stroke. For example:
  - What is the optimal dose of therapy?
  - How frequent should an intervention be given for maximum benefit?
  - Who would benefit most from intensive intervention?
  - When is the best time to start an intervention? When is too early? Is it ever too late to achieve benefit?
  - Who is at risk for interventions started too early?
- If appropriate, use combination approaches
- Be collaborative (as opposed to single investigator-driven), within and preferably across institutions, and in particular, should include preclinical and clinical researchers
- Be translational, accelerating ideas through the research pipeline into clinical trials and the stroke community
- Engage those with lived experience with stroke along the translational continuum
- If possible, leverage other sources of funding



Applicants are strongly encouraged to reach out to CPSR Management as they develop their proposals to see how they might leverage existing CPSR infrastructure, preclinical and clinical resources, and connect with national and international collaborators. In addition, CPSR regularly works with several stroke community advisors (people living with stroke and caregivers). These advisors are willing to provide input to proposals and CPSR can help make these introductions. For assistance, please contact Farrell Leibovitch, Director of CPSR Research and Training Programs (contact information provided below).

In addition, there will be a pre-submission webinar for potential applicants where more information related to questions of dose and timing will be discussed along with supporting publications on these topics.

## **Process and Timelines**

All applicants intending to submit a full proposal will be asked to register their intent to apply. The purpose of the registration is to ensure eligibility, identify potential overlaps/collaborations, and inform the external review process.

All full proposals will undergo a peer review with projects rated on a 5-point scale. Top-ranked applications will be funded based on the total funding available (note: a minimum score of 4.0 is required to be eligible for funding).

Registrations and full proposals may be submitted in English or French.

In evaluating the proposals, reviewers will consider:

- Scientific excellence of the proposal
- Alignment with the guiding principles (as noted on page 1)
- The potential for the research to positively impact stroke survivors, now or in the future
- The appropriateness of the proposed budget and feasibility within timeframe

### **The key dates are as follow:**

Registration Deadline:	Monday, July 8, 2019
Application Deadline:	Friday, August 9, 2019
Notification of Award:	Friday, September 13, 2019
Funding Start Date:	October 1, 2019
Funding End Date:	March 31, 2022

### **Registrations and full proposals should be submitted by email to:**

Farrell Leibovitch  
Director, Research and Training Programs  
Email: [farrell@canadianstroke.ca](mailto:farrell@canadianstroke.ca)  
Phone: 416-480-6100 ext 7548



## **Registration Guidelines (*due Monday, July 8*)**

All those intending to submit full application must submit a registration first. Please note that details between registration and application submission can be changed. Registrations should include:

1. Name, title, and institutional affiliation of the team nominated Project Leader, Principal Investigators, or Collaborators
2. Proposed project title
3. Brief project description (approximately half a page)

## **Application Guidelines (*due Friday, August 9*)**

Applications should use at least 11-point Arial font with minimum of one-inch margins on all sides. Page and word limits must be adhered to (see below). Any sections that exceed their specific limits will be deleted prior to sending for review. Each application must address all sections described below.

### **Section 1: Project Title and Team (*1.5 pages maximum*)**

Please provide the following:

- Project title
- Name, title, and institutional affiliation of nominated Project Leader, and all Principal Investigators, or collaborators, as well as any trainees to be funded by this project.
- Description of the skills/experience of the proposed project team, including specific roles and responsibilities for nominated project leader, each principal investigator, as well as all other listed collaborators, and the value-added of proposed collaborations.
- If applicable, describe the specific role of any trainees supported by this funding. Ideally, trainee involvement would form a major part of a student's thesis or post-doctoral program.

### **Section 2: Lay Project Summary (*half-page maximum*)**

Please provide a summary of the objectives, research questions, rationale, methodology, and expected outcomes of the proposed project. This section should be written for the layperson (e.g. avoid scientific jargon and acronyms) and may be posted on the CPSR website and used in communications material if the application is successful.

### **Section 3: Research Project Description (*3 pages maximum*)**

Clearly state the objectives of the project and research questions being proposed, the rationale behind the approach, the methodology, and the expected outcomes for the project. List realistic annual milestones achievable within the time period. Explain the potential impact for stroke patients or their recovery and identify the specific actions that will be undertaken to ensure that the potential impact is realized.

**Note:** Two additional pages total will be allowed for figures or tables, and 1 additional page for references.



CPSR requires that all research studies and experiments must comply with the respective host institution (partner site) research policies and project leaders and PIs are responsible for obtaining human and/or animal ethical approval prior to study commencement. CPSR reserves the right to request this information at any time.

**Section 4: Budget** (2 pages maximum)

Please provide a detailed budget, with justification. If any leveraged funding will be used towards the research project, please indicate the level of both in-kind and cash contributions anticipated.

Eligible expenses include HQP & trainee salary support, research supplies, services and equipment, research travel or other relevant research expenses related to the proposed research. Personnel funding levels should be consistent with the applicant's institutional minimum and maximum limits for research staff and minimums recommended by Tri-Council Policy for trainees (i.e., \$17,500 for MSc, \$30,000 for PhD, \$40,000 for PDF). Indirect costs will not be eligible for CPSR funding. Any questions related to the eligibility of expenses should be directed to Farrell Leibovitch (see page 2 for contact information).

Applicants can either opt to have CPSR funds flow to the Project Leader (whose institution will disperse funds to other investigators as required), or have CPSR funds flow directly to specific investigators on the project team. In either case, the budget should clearly indicate which funding model is being proposed and who will be receiving the funds.

**Section 5: Supporting Documents**

**Curriculum Vitae:** Please provide short (<10 pages) CVs for the project leader and all listed Principal Investigators (e.g., NIH or OOGP Biosketch) and proposed trainees. Do NOT send CIHR full common CV format.

**Summary of Research Proposals:** Project Leaders and all Principal Investigators must include a copy of the "Summary of Research Proposal" or similar summary for each grant held or applied for (e.g. CIHR, HSF, etc.).

**Additional Supporting Documents:** Additional supporting documents such as letters of support, questionnaires, assessment forms, etc., may be included.