



CAP

COLLABORATIVE ACADEMIC PRACTICE

INTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM



Collaborative Academic Practice at UHN

To encourage discovery, UHN has developed a unique research education and enrichment program for UHN health professionals, providing the opportunity to pursue quality improvement and patient-centred research projects to improve care and increase staff job satisfaction and retention.

The Collaborative Academic Practice (CAP) Portfolio at UHN brings together the three pillars of practice, education and research of 14 health professions under the leadership of Dr. Joy Richards, Vice President, Patient Experience and Chief Health Professions at UHN. Its purpose is to ensure that UHN provides high quality, safe and evidence-based care for our patients and families. The 14 health professions that fall within the CAP portfolio include: Anesthesia Assistants, Chiropody, Clinical Nutrition, Kinesiology, Medical Imaging Technology, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Respiratory Therapy, Social Work, Speech Language Pathology, Spiritual Care, and Therapeutic Recreation.

CAP Research and Innovation

The CAP research and innovation pillar is focused on building, supporting and sustaining research and innovation capacity in health professionals across hospital programs, sites and professions to advance academic practice. Engaging clinicians in research and innovation is founded on the belief that those who provide care directly to patients and families have the best knowledge of what needs to be improved and how best to improve it.

CAP Internal Research Grants Program - Connecting Knowledge to Care

The CAP Internal Research Grants Program serves as a foundational strategy for generating new knowledge and translating it into practice to improve inter-professional and patient-centred care at UHN. Staff who have direct experience with the problem under exploration have valuable knowledge to contribute to and lead the research process.

Identified as “clinician-led” research, this kind of research requires substantive involvement of practicing clinicians in the development and implementation of the research process. This includes developing the research question, designing the study, conducting the data collection and analysis, developing recommendations for changes to policy and practice and participating in knowledge translation and mobilization.

The purpose of the CAP Internal Research Grants Program is to support high quality research that is: clinician-led, relevant to clinical practice at UHN, and that advances inter-professional and patient-centred care.

Program Streams

The CAP Internal Research Grant program is a blended model of education, mentorship, expert consultation, internal funding opportunities, and knowledge transfer activities. The program is designed to support high quality research through the principles of supportive and experiential learning, rigorous peer review and accountability. Grants are approximately \$5,000 each and are awarded in three streams:

Participatory Learning Stream – For health professionals with less research experience and includes seed funding, mentorship and education.

Direct Entry Stream – For health professionals with more research experience and only includes seed funding.

Knowledge Translation Stream – To support clinicians to present their work locally, nationally and internationally.

Funding Opportunities

PRIORITY	EXPENDABLE	ENDOWED
Fund Five Research Grants	\$25,000	---
Full CAP Internal Research Grants Program - 1 Year	\$105,000	---
Full CAP Research Grants Program – 5 Years	\$525,000	
Full CAP Research Grants Program – Perpetuity		\$3,000,000



“The Program gives health professionals who have an interest in research and improving care the opportunity to learn about the research process and participate in or lead clinical investigations they otherwise would not have. This experience can also lead to a new career trajectory in advanced practice or in research – essentially we are building our own future leaders and scientists.”

- Dr. Kathryn Nichol
Senior Director Academic Affairs, Research and Innovation

Your support will foster a spirit of inquiry, help us retain our best and brightest, and improve patient care at UHN.

CAP Internal Research Grants in Action

Meet Dr. Traci McFarlane. Traci is a researcher and a psychologist who works in Toronto General Hospital's Eating Disorder program. She cares for patients with bulimia nervosa, a serious and potentially life-threatening eating disorder.

Traci and her colleagues had an idea about how to change their practice to potentially improve patient outcomes.

They wondered what would happen if individual cognitive-behavioural therapy was offered in addition to the standard group follow-up treatment provided after graduation from the hospital day program. Could this combination result in better outcomes? Could it help to maintain progress? Dr. McFarlane and her team designed a research project to answer these very questions.

Results showed that individual therapy did make a difference for people with eating disorders – this group showed significantly fewer eating disorder symptoms.

As a result of this study, UHN has implemented individual therapy as maintenance treatment into regular practice for patients with eating disorders and Traci and her team are sharing these early findings with other hospitals.



Dr. Traci McFarlane, Psychologist, Toronto General Eating Disorders Program.

Help us support the Collaborative Academic Practice Internal Research Grants Program.

For more information please contact:

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About Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation

Established in 1986, Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation is dedicated to supporting excellence in health care by raising funds for research, medical education, and the improvement of patient care at Toronto General Hospital and Toronto Western Hospital, which, along with Princess Margaret Hospital and Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, comprise University Health Network (UHN).

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