RAPP
RESEARCH APPROVALS PROCESSES PROJECT
Streamlining Research Approvals Processes Across BC’s Health Authorities
Why are we undertaking this project?

- Consultation with the research community has identified four key challenges that RAPP aims to address.
- RAPP will work with research approvals key stakeholders to identify solutions to address these four challenges.

1. Duplication
   - Multiple applications, reviews, approvals, and processes

2. Inconsistency
   - Inconsistent processes and assessments

3. Delays
   - Timelines can vary and be lengthy

4. "Black Box"/Ambiguity
   - Processes not well understood inhibiting flow of information impacting trust
What do researchers say?

• From the 2021 Briefing Document *Research is Care*, put forward by the COVID-19 Clinical Research Coordination Initiative to advise on addressing barriers to timely health research:

• *Reduce chronic operational barriers to health research.*
  • Address inefficiencies in privacy, ethics and operational approvals, and contracts processes, particularly with respect to cross-jurisdictional research by establishing a provincial mechanism. This will require addressing the policies and in some cases the legislation governing these processes.
  • Establish appropriate and seamless mechanisms to facilitate and enable rapid permissions for research.
  • Establish a new approach to health system data custody and control which does not impede execution of mandated provincial clinical care and policy.

https://med-fom-crci.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2022/05/Research-is-Care-Briefing-Document.pdf
What are the anticipated benefits?

The project will provincially coordinate and standardize research approval processes (ethics, privacy, data access, operational review and contracts and agreements) for multi-site studies crossing more than one Health Authority.

• **Researchers** will experience a clearer, timelier and more efficient research approval experience.

• **Health Authorities** will have increased capacity and greater coordination for supporting research.

• **Patients across BC** will have greater opportunity to participate in research studies and benefit from emerging treatments/care models.

• **The BC Health System** will support, attract and apply innovative research.
What is in scope for RAPP?

* UBC included where connected to health authority agreements and REBs

*While Indigenous approval processes are out of scope, the project plans to ensure there are complimentary approaches that are informed by Indigenous perspectives.
How will the system be coordinated? Exploring a provincial front counter

- Streamlined entry point for:
  - Research consultation, navigation, & education
  - Applications
  - Approvals Coordination
  - Health Authority support

1. Ethics
2. Operational
3. Data-Privacy
4. Contracts & Agreements
5. Information System
## What are the key deliverables and timing?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Phase 1 to March 2024</th>
<th>Phase 2 to March 2025</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>New Ethics Review Policy</td>
<td>Policy Impact Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational Review</td>
<td>Common application form</td>
<td>Research Information Management System assessment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Streamlined Health Authority operational approval processes</td>
<td>Front Counter for consultation, navigation, and coordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Access/Privacy</td>
<td>New Data Management Plan Use Case Model &amp; templates and associated approval processes</td>
<td>Single Site approvals planning and process</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Common Data Access Request form and associated approval processes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts &amp; Agreements</td>
<td></td>
<td>Standard Terms &amp; Conditions for commonly used contracts &amp; agreements</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

Contact the project team at:

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