

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

4 key 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.*

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



What are the key deliverables and timing?

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

Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

Contact the project team at:

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