



Canadian Institutes
of Health Research

160 Elgin Street, 9th Floor
Address Locator 4809A
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0W9

Instituts de recherche
en santé du Canada

160, rue Elgin, 9^e étage
Indice de l'adresse 4809A
Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0W9

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de la santé mentale et
des toxicomanies

Institut de la nutrition,
du métabolisme et du diabète

Institut de la santé publique
et des populations

June 12, 2020

Dr. David Moher
Centre for Journalology,
Clinical Epidemiology Program
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute
The Ottawa Hospital - General Campus
[REDACTED] Box 201B, 501 Smyth Road
Ottawa, Ontario K1H 8L6

Dear Dr. Moher,

On behalf of the Government of Canada, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) regrets to inform you that your recent application submitted to the Operating Grant: COVID-19 May 2020 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity competition entitled, "The CIHR COVID19 open science dashboard", has not been approved for funding.

This competition was a partnership between CIHR, Alberta Innovates (AI), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR), New Brunswick Health Research Foundation (NBHRF), Research Manitoba (RM), Research Nova Scotia (RNS) and Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF). You will find posted in ResearchNet the competition results and the review documents related to your application.

The decisions of this funding opportunity are under embargo. We ask recipients and institutions not to promote the results until the public announcement takes place. The Government of Canada will be communicating with the recipients and their institutions shortly about the promotion of the results.

Due to the number of scientifically excellent projects as determined by peer review in the Operating Grant: COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity (May 2020) competition, CIHR has made the decision to apply a 15.5% budget cut to all grants; an approach that we commonly use in some other large programs (e.g., Project Grant Program). This budget cut allowed for more scientifically meritorious grants than originally anticipated to be funded. This decision was also informed by the size of the grants awarded and their short duration.

Please note that, as outlined in CIHR's equity strategy (<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50068.html>), CIHR is committed to creating an equitable funding system by identifying and eliminating systematic biases towards any individual or group that would hinder access to CIHR funds. In this competition, CIHR has treated applications related to Indigenous Health Research (IHR) and applications submitted in French as separate cohorts. This approach has ensured that:

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- IHR applications make up 4.6% of the total competition budget. This is one of the commitments in CIHR's Action Plan on Building a healthier future for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples (<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50372.html>).

- The proportion of applications submitted in French is approximately equal to the proportion of grants funded.

As CIHR does not notify co-applicants of the decision, we ask that you inform those individuals involved, along with their research institutions (if different from your own), of the outcome of this application.

Please note that shortly after the Notice of Decision, Nominated Principal Applicants will be contacted by CIHR to complete a short survey to provide feedback on their experience applying to this funding opportunity.

Consult the Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GloPID-R) website (www.glopid-r.org/our-work/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/) for the most up-to-date information on the global research response to COVID-19 and consider submitting your research proposal to other funding opportunities related to COVID-19 (www.glopid-r.org/resources/?type=funding_opportunities) and other open funding programs through the Government of Canada and National Alliance of Provincial Health Research Organizations.

Should you require additional information, please contact CIHR at EHTRF-FRNMS@cihr-irsc.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Tammy Clifford, PhD
Vice-President, Research Programs
Research Programs Portfolio

cc:

Dominique Charron - Vice-President, Programs and Partnerships, IDRC

Leah Carr - Interim CEO, New Brunswick Health Research Foundation

Patrick Odnokon - Chief Executive Officer, Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation

Bev Holmes – President and Chief Executive Officer, Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research

Tim Murphy – Vice President, Health, Alberta Innovates

Stefan Leslie - Chief Executive Officer, Research Nova Scotia

Christina Weise – Chief Executive Officer, Research Manitoba