

Initiatives involving research platform

Created in April 2012 by the Fonds de Recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS), the **Research Network on Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity** aims to develop research excellence in these areas, to transfer knowledge and to foster the use of new knowledge so as to promote the quality of life of Quebec province population.

The network is launching a competition to fund Quebec research platforms through intercentre collaborative projects for the year 2022 - 2023. This competition invites researchers who are regular members of the network to propose collaborative projects in the fields of cardiometabolic health, diabetes and obesity in which a research platform is essential for the success of the project. One (1) project from the proposals received will be funded according to the usual criteria of excellence. These projects must involve at least two Quebec research centers and may also involve additional centers in Quebec, Canada (e.g. a member of Action Diabetes Canada) or internationally. The eligibility criteria and evaluation process are described below. Projects of excellent scientific quality that demonstrate a structuring effect for research within the network will be funded at a rate of \$10,000 for one year. This amount will be paid directly to the platform involved in the project.

**The application deadline is December 1, 2021, for funding beginning
no later than April 1, 2022.**

Applications submitted late, incomplete or that do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be evaluated. Funding recipients will be required to make a presentation of their findings at the joint annual meeting of the CMDO Network and the Société québécoise de lipidologie, nutrition et métabolisme (SQLNM), following the completion of the project.

A follow-up report will be requested at the end of the year (i.e. at the end of the funding period). In addition, an annual follow-up for two (2) more years will be conducted to document the impact of this project.

General Eligibility Criteria :

- 1) **The Principal Investigator** is a regular member of the CMDO Network;
- 2) **Only one application per year as a Principal Investigator** may be submitted for the *Initiatives involving research platform* competition. There is no limit as a co-investigator or platform leader;
- 3) All co-investigators affiliated with Quebec research centers must be members of the network before submitting the final application;

- 4) The person in charge of the research platform, only if he/she is a researcher, must be a member of the network before submitting the final application.
- 5) The application must include at least two Quebec research centers, each represented by at least one regular member of the network;
- 6) Applications may include additional centers in Quebec, Canada (e.g. a member of Action Diabetes Canada) or internationally;
- 7) The research project must be related to the fields of cardiometabolic health, diabetes and/or obesity.
- 8) The research platform must be posted on the CMDO website prior to application (www.rrcmdo.ca, tab – *Research Resources*) ;
 - a. [Click HERE](#) to fill out the electronic form directly online ;
 - b. We will post the platform as soon as we receive the information ;
- 9) The Quebec research platform involved must be one of the eligible research platforms for this competition :
 - a. See below for the criteria that the CMDO considers to make a research platform eligible ;
 - b. **Posting on the CMDO website (at #8) does not automatically make the platform eligible for the competition. Only the platforms listed in the list of eligible research platforms can be selected for the competition ;**
 - c. Request this list from the CMDO Network at concours@rrcmdo.ca ;
 - d. Want to add a platform to this list of eligible platforms? Send your request to the CMDO Network at concours@rrcmdo.ca ;
- 10) The application must include a formal submission (services offered) produced by the research platform involved;
 - a. The CMDO will reimburse the platform directly for part or all of the final invoice amount, following the services rendered and depending on the amount requested or eligible (up to \$10,000);
 - b. The submission must include the following information :
 - i. Name and address of the research platform ;
 - ii. Name of the research platform manager ;
 - iii. Name of the user researcher(s) ;
 - iv. Bid Amount ;
 - v. Details of services offered ;
 - vi. Work schedule.
- 11) Demonstration of the structuring effect for research within the network, according to its objectives (*e.g. establishment of new intersectoral collaborations within the network or internationally, standardization of methods, establishment of common resources*) ;

Documents required when filing an application:

- 1) Completed CMDO application form (*online, see below*) ;
- 2) A formal submission from the research platform detailing the services that will be rendered (*sent via email to concours@rrcmdo.ca*) ;
- 3) The updated FRQS curriculum vitae (including the Detailed Contributions section) of all researchers participating in the application. For all researchers outside Quebec, an equivalent of the FRQS CV is accepted (*e.g. CHIR CV*). *All CVs (in PDF format) must be sent by email to concours@rrcmdo.ca.*

Definition of a Research Platform (Criteria considered by the CMDO) :

The Quebec research platforms that the CMDO wishes to support in this competition have all or most of the following characteristics :

- A unique combination of state-of-the-art equipment, expertise and targeted services ;
- Highly qualified technical staff dedicated to the platform ;
- Accessibility to all Quebec researchers regardless of their departmental or faculty affiliation and openness to external demand ;
- A demand for services from a critical mass of internal and external users (varying according to the sector) ;
- Formalized display of the range of facilities and services, access conditions and approximate rates ;
- Governance structure ;

Research platforms that are listed as eligible platforms meet these criteria. Therefore, it is not necessary to add this information in the application for funds.

In addition, posting on the CMDO website (Tab - *Resources for researchers*) does not automatically make the platform eligible for the competition. Only platforms that are on the list of eligible research platforms can be selected for the competition.

Application evaluation process :

An external scientific committee will be formed to evaluate all applications submitted. The committee will be chaired by a researcher who is external to the Network or who has not applied. A member of the Network Steering Committee will attend the discussions as an observer and coordinator. The results of the competition will be announced in February 2022.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria :

1) Description of the project : Provide a description of the project including the scientific rationale, objectives and hypotheses, methodology and potential benefits. Please also include a paragraph that presents the originality of your project (*Potential for creating new knowledge. Originality of the hypotheses and research questions. Novelty of approach, new methodologies or new application of existing methodologies*) ;

2) Rationale for the use of the research platform and realism of the budget proposal : Explain the choice of this platform and its uniqueness among other platforms. Relevance of the requested budget in relation to the expected results ;

3) Competence and complementarity of the research team : Scientific achievements, publication history, funding and student training, complementarity of the participating teams and emphasis on student training (*e.g., how each person's expertise will be used to complete the project*) ;

4) Structuring effect for research within the network : : Immediate or potential impact of the proposed project on research within the network, depending on its objectives (*e.g., establishment of new intersectoral collaborations within the network or internationally, standardization of methods, establishment of a platform or common resources*) ;

Any request for additional information can be sent to the Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity Research Network (CMDO), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke, Endocrinology Department, CRCHUS, Tel: 819-346-1110 ext. 12703, e-mail: info@rrcmdo.ca.

Description of the form to be filled out – see next page.

Initiatives involving a research platform

Instructions for the application form

[THE FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT ONLINE, CLICK HERE](#)

The form can be saved for later completion.

ATTENTION :

- To save your application to complete it later, you must click on the *Finish later* icon (you will be asked for a username and password), then exit by closing the program.
- If you have saved your application and you click on *Exit and delete your answers*, all saved data will be deleted.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: *max. 256 characters including spaces*

Main theme (one choice only) :

- Cardiometabolic health
- Diabetes
- Obesity

Secondary theme(s) (if applicable) :

- Cardiometabolic health
- Diabetes
- Obesity
- Does not apply

Axes (several choices possible) :

- Basic and preclinical research
- Nutrition, physical activity and human pathophysiology (Clinical Research)
- Lifestyle habits, risk factors and population-based interventions across the life cycle (Population-based research)
- Organization of care (Health system research), knowledge sharing and use.

Principal Investigator (regular member of the CMDO Network) : *max. 100 characters including spaces*

Main affiliation : *max. 120 characters including spaces*

Affiliation with other research networks (several choices possible) :

- Another FRQS Network (*which one(s)?*) ;
- Diabetes Action Canada Network ;
- Other.

In the event that you are awarded funding, this information will be requested for all co-investigators .

Possibility of 7 Co-investigators: Co-investigator: *max. 100 characters including spaces*
Affiliation : *max. 120 characters including spaces*

For applications with more than 7 co-investigators, please contact the CMDO.

Name of the research platform: *max. 300 characters including spaces*
Name of the research platform responsible : *max. 250 characters including spaces*
Affiliation of the research platform responsible: *max. 120 characters including spaces*
Email of the research platform responsible: *max. 120 characters including spaces*

Quebec research centers directly involved in the work :
Choose from the research centers. Two choices minimum.

Research centers(s) outside Quebec directly involved in the work (optional) :

Location(s) of research: The name of the city(ies) (e.g. Sherbrooke and Quebec City) and a short description if necessary.
max. 256 characters including spaces

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJET

Provide a description of the project including the scientific rationale, objectives and hypotheses, methodology and potential benefits. Please also include a paragraph outlining the originality of your project (*Potential to create new knowledge. Originality of the hypotheses and research questions. Novelty of approach, new methodologies or new application of existing methodologies.*).
max. 5600 characters including spaces

3. BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Provide all bibliographic references related to the request for funds.
max. 2800 characters including spaces

4. REASON FOR USING THE RESEARCH PLATFORM AND REALISM OF THE BUDGET PROPOSAL

Explain the choice of this platform and its uniqueness among other platforms. Relevance of the requested budget in relation to the expected results.
max. 2800 characters including spaces

- ✓ **Provide us with the submission supplied by the research platform for the execution of the project to concours@rrcmdo.ca.**

5. COMPETENCE AND COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE RESEARCH TEAM

Provide a description of the team formed, its complementarity, scientific achievements, publication history, funding and student training (e.g. *how the expertise of each will be used to carry out the project*).
max. 2800 characters including spaces

6. STRUCTURING EFFECT FOR RESEARCH WITHIN THE NETWORK

Provide a description of the structuring impact of the research project in relation to the network's objectives (e.g., *establishment of new intersectoral collaborations within the network or internationally, standardization of methods, establishment of a common platform or resources*).

The objectives of the network are :

- 1) To promote, establish and strengthen, through mechanisms of meetings and scientific exchanges, the collaborations between the teams involved in the different research axes which aim at the implementation of large-scale multidisciplinary and inter-institutional "translational" projects covering aspects of basic research, clinical research, and evaluative and epidemiological research as well as knowledge transfer activities
- 2) To ensure the availability to its members of specialized platforms and common research services obtained through CFI infrastructure.
- 3) Increase Quebec's ability to recruit and retain top researchers in the field of obesity, diabetes and metabolic health by offering installation grants and promoting the interaction of new researchers with existing high-level teams.
- 4) Promote the training of student researchers, through salary support and scholarships to attend scientific conferences.
- 5) To enable the establishment of partnerships with other research organizations or private companies, and collaborations with other existing thematic networks, and to promote participation in national and international research initiatives and projects.
- 6) Promote knowledge sharing and utilization with health professionals and the public, and advise the FRQS and Quebec public health authorities on obesity, diabetes and cardiometabolic health.

max. 1400 characters including spaces