

## CUASF-Pfizer Incontinence Fellowship Award 2020



### Background

Lower urinary tract symptoms, and specifically overactive bladder (OAB) with or without urinary incontinence, have a significant and growing effect on the quality of life for men and women in Canada. Pfizer Canada has long been a strong partner of the Canadian Urological Association Scholarship Fund (CUASF). Our goals in partnering to fund the CUASF-Pfizer Incontinence Fellowship Award are to:

- 1) Promote and facilitate the most comprehensive and contemporary clinical training in incontinence.
- 2) Foster clinical discovery and innovation in urological practice in Canada by supporting research projects during a clinical fellowship in incontinence, whereby improving care for patients with urinary incontinence.

This Fellowship underscores Pfizer's sustained commitment to patient care and research and development within the urology scientific community in Canada. The CUASF-Pfizer Incontinence Fellowship Award has been established to support worthy fellows who are committed to research and optimal care for patients with incontinence. Applications are peer reviewed by the Canadian Urological Association Scholarship Fund (CUASF). Funding for this award is provided by Pfizer. The CUASF provides receipt, processing, evaluation, and decision-making infrastructure for the program and will administer the funds for the Fellowship.

### Key Dates 2020:

Application Deadline	April 6, 2020
Notification Date	CUA 2020 Annual Meeting
Fellowship update submitted to CUASF	Within 12 months of receipt of the funding

### Objectives and Scope

The objective of the CUASF-Pfizer Incontinence Fellowship Award is to support a clinical fellowship and excellence in functional urology research project(s) or care enhancement project(s) around knowledge translation or mobilization in OAB, with the ultimate goal of improving care for patients with urinary incontinence.

Given the extent (particularly with the ageing population) and the burden (major impact on quality of life, association with isolation and depression...) of OAB (henceforth simplified as “incontinence”), and the availability of appropriate treatment options, there is a desperate need for research and clinical training in this area to be focused on knowledge translation initiatives. Research findings will not change health outcomes unless health care organizations, systems, and professionals adopt them in practice. Knowledge translation research aims to identify ways to promote the uptake of research findings by patients, health care providers, managers, and policy makers. The CUASF-Pfizer Urology Fellowship Grant Program will recognize and highlight outstanding fellow research/care enhancement projects in the area of knowledge translation.

The CUASF-Pfizer Incontinence Fellowship Awards are offered to fellows who have completed the Royal College of Physician and Surgeons of Canada training requirements in Urology. The awards will provide salary support to the recipient(s) during their fellowship training in “incontinence”. The recipient is permitted to receive additional salary from the institution providing the fellowship training, as required. The Incontinence Fellowship can take place at an academic institution within or outside of Canada. If the institution at which the fellowship training is taking place is located outside of Canada, the recipient of the award must have the intent to establish a urology practice in Canada following his/her fellowship training.

One (1) award of \$60,000 CDN is available in 2020. The award will be provided over a 12-month performance period for the 2019-20 academic year.

**Eligibility:**

The CUASF shall receive, process, and evaluate the submitted proposals and select those proposals that will receive Fellowships based on the following:

**Eligible Applicants:**

- Canadian urology residents who intend to establish their urology practice in Canada
- The main applicant must be a Canadian Urological Association (CUA) member (Active or Candidate)
- Agrees to provide a progress report, including any publication/congress plan, to the CUA for dissemination
- Will submit their research project(s) to the CUA for consideration of a podium or poster presentation within 1 year of completing their Fellowship training

**Eligible Research Proposals:**

The proposals being considered will be in projects focused in OAB, either idiosyncratic or as a result of urological disorders such as pelvic floor disorders, neurogenic disorders, etc. Proposals investigating means of improving the patient – healthcare professional communication around bladder problems, the optimization of patient follow-ups or any other proposals that will promote the uptake of research findings by patients, health care providers, managers, and policy makers will be considered. For proposals involving pharmacologic treatments, studies aiming to evaluate the effects of a Pfizer competitor or the use of a generic drug will not be eligible (these proposals are best addressed to the appropriate pharmaceutical company).

The proposal may belong to one of the following categories:

- Care enhancement projects around knowledge translation or mobilization in OAB, where the primary focus is to understand the results of particular healthcare practices and interventions as well as monitor and improve the quality of care.
- Epidemiology, health outcomes, and quality of life studies

#### **Guidelines for Application Submission:**

The proposal should include the following:

- Completed Online Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae of Fellow (Please submit a pdf version of your Common (CIHR) CV)
- Research proposal outlining the clinical and/or research project for the fellowship not exceeding (5) single spaced pages including budget and references all in standard 12 font (please see suggested headings outlined below). Note: The CUASF-Pfizer Incontinence Fellowship Award is not intended to fund the research project. The institution at which the fellowship takes place will need to provide funding for the research project.
- Letter of support from the academic institution fellowship program director or alternate agreeing to conform to the Terms of Reference. The letter should indicate the level of non-monetary support, infrastructure and commitment by the university/institution for the candidate.
- A detailed plan to apply for appropriate Ethics Committee approval and Regulatory approval (Clinical Trial Application in cases of non-marketed drugs or marketed drugs where the proposed use is outside the parameters of the Notice of Compliance) must be included along with the consent forms where human subjects are involved in the research project considered.

Each fellowship will be funded for one, 12-month period. A renewal will be judged as a new application for the following year.

The following are suggestions for preparation of the proposal outlining the clinical/research project plan. The headings suggested include 1) Statement of Objective(s), 2) Recent relevant research by applicant (if applicable), 3) Brief review of literature and background information, 4) Hypothesis(es), 5) Design and Methodology, Analysis of Data, 7) Anticipated Timeline, 8) Impact, 9) Budget and 10) References.

### **Review Criteria**

The CUASF-Pfizer Incontinence Fellowship Award proposals will be reviewed and approved by the Executive Council of the CUASF after recommendation from the Chair of the Scientific Council.

Award proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Applicant's CV
- Centre at which Fellowship Training will occur
- Quality of the research project

### **Notification of CUASF-Pfizer Incontinence Fellowship Award**

Announcement of the Fellowship will be made at the Annual Meeting of the CUA; however, the winners will likely be notified at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting to ensure they are present at the time of the announcement.

### **Submissions**

Applications should be completed on the CUASF website ([www.cuasf.org](http://www.cuasf.org)).

For any inquiries, please contact:

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