

CIHR Grant Writing Workshop: The Why's and Wherefore's of Submitting to CIHR

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The Why's and Wherefore's

***“Successful”* CIHR Grant Holder and Reviewer**

- **Continuously funded with CIHR since 1989**
- **Currently hold 3 CIHR Operating Grants**
- **CHRP (1st round; CIHR/NSERC)**
- **CIHR Strategic Training Program:**
 - **Vision Health Research (\$1.44 million)**
- **Clinical Investigation A Committee Member**
- **Nominating Committee for CIA**

Problems Faced

- **Waterloo has a NSERC culture**
- **NSERC Grants are completely different**
- **Important to understand the differences**
- **CIHR is project oriented**
 - Looks for teams
 - Specific expertise
- **CIHR is MD centric**
 - The committees hold the power
(particularly for Operating Grants)
- **CIHR projects are hypothesis driven**
- **CIHR projects need preliminary data**
 - Find sources of seed funding

Know the Process, Know the Committees

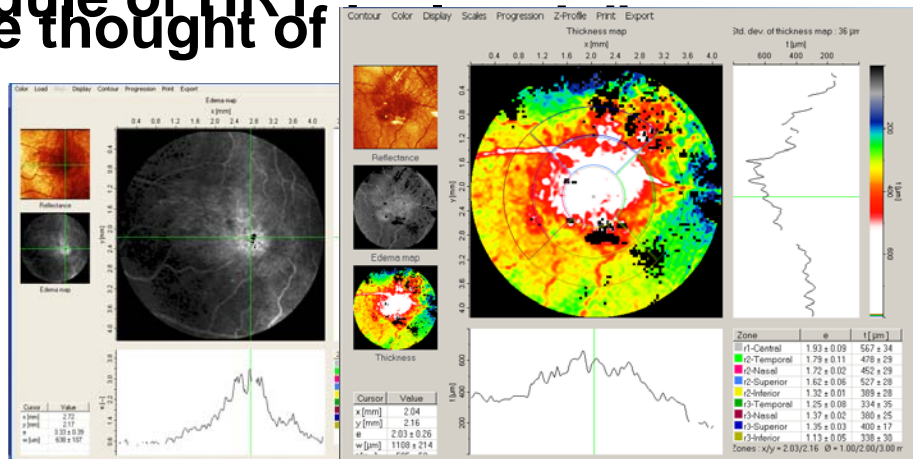
- **Know the peer review process**
<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/4656.html>
- **Criterion #1:** Research Approach
- **Criterion #2:** Originality of the Proposal
- **Criterion #3:** Applicant(s)
- **Criterion #4:** Environment for the Research
- **Criterion #5:** Impact of the Research

Know the Process, Know the Committees

- **Know the committees**
 - <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/4657.html>
 - All change recently
- **Each committee has its own culture**
- **There is always a different committee to approach**
- **Staff cannot help you with rogue committees**
 - There is no appeal process anyway!

The Difference Between a Good Idea and a New Development

- 5 years of industry funding
- MRC of Canada, Grant Review: \$750,000
- "If this was a good idea someone else would have thought of it"



Know the Process, Know the Committees

4.3 Access to Research Outputs

Applicants and peer reviewers are reminded that the [CIHR Policy on Access to Research Outputs](#) applies to all new and renewed grants awarded after January 1, 2008. Grant recipients must ensure that all published peer-reviewed articles are freely available online within six months, where possible under publisher agreements. Authors can adhere with the policy by archiving peer-reviewed manuscripts in an open access repository (e.g. institutional repository) or by publishing in an open access journal. Please consult the policy web site for more detail.

The Top 8 Things to Do to Write Great Grants

Guidebook for New Principal Investigators

R. McInnes, B. Andrews & R. Rachubinski

http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/documents/ig_guide_for_new_pis_e.pdf

1. Organize an Internal Review Panel
2. Start Writing Early
3. Write Daily
4. Finish the “Junk” in Month One
5. Tips for Good Grant Writing
6. Actually Writing the Application
7. Number of Grants, External Reviewers
8. Apply for an Appropriate Budget and Term



The Why's and Wherefore's

- **The Summary Research Proposal page is VERY important**
- **Include your Specific Aims and the Significance of the proposed research**

Do not underestimate the time it takes!



The Why's and Wherefore's

Perseverance pays

Excellence wins out eventually

The best ideas will be the least understood