**MISSION**

To facilitate surgical research related to the COVID-19 pandemic

**BACKGROUND**

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a significant impact on the delivery of surgical care across Canada. There is a unique opportunity to support surgical research in this domain, which is not well represented in national funding opportunities. The purpose of this funding opportunity to support COVID-19 surgical research across all pillars defined by the OSR (basic science, clinical research, education, health systems). The OSR has a budget of $20,000 to support eligible research projects. Two-Four projects can be funded depending on scientific merit and budget requests.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

1. Proposal must be submitted by individuals with primary appointments to the Department of Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Calgary.
2. Research must relate to the impact or mitigation of COVID-19 on surgical care in Alberta. This could include, but is not limited to research involving COVID screening, protocols, impacts to patient care, novel patient care delivery, COVID education and impact on residency training or basic science projects.
3. Ethics approval (HREB or ACC) must be obtained prior to release of funds.
4. Applications to accumulate pilot data for larger funding competitions will be considered.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

1. All submitted proposals must follow the attached template provided.
2. All proposals must be submitted as a single PDF file (October 31st, 2021)
3. All submitted proposals will be evaluated through a competitive peer-reviewed process involving representatives from the Department of Surgery and the Office of Surgical Research
4. Successful applicants will be notified by November 15th, 2021.

**REVIEW CRITERIA**

The assessment of proposals by the peer-review committee will be based on the following criteria:

**Criterion 1: Concept (25%)**

* Significance and Impact of the Research (25%)

**Criterion 2: Feasibility (75%)**

* Approaches and Methods (50%)
* Expertise, Experience and Resources (25%)

**PROPOSAL GUIDELINES**

All submitted proposals must follow the template provided below. All submitted proposals must be prepared in Microsoft Word using 11 point Arial or Times New Roman fonts. Single spaced with 2 cm margins. All proposals must be submitted as a single PDF file. Please submit completed applications to the Office of Surgical Research, at **Katelyn.Boomer@albertahealthservices.ca**no later than October 31, 2021 (11:59 PM).

1. Title page: Title of research, Domain of research (select one: clinical research, health service research, educational research, or basic science research), Principal investigator(s) (include all titles and institutional affiliations)
2. CV of PI(s). Maximum 5 pages
3. Abstract page: emphasizing the research questions and its importance of COVID-19 related surgical care delivery (**500 words maximum**)
4. Proposal – **3 pages maximum**. Should include the following headings: **Background/rationale**, **Hypotheses**, **Study Aims**, **Methodology overview** – with reference to the a) Study setting; b) Study subjects; c) Study intervention(s); d) Outcomes and outcome metrics; e) Data analyses; f) Ethics (specify plans for seeking research ethics approval), **Timeline, Research Team** (include a brief statement of their contributions and expertise and, **Impact of Research.**
5. Budget **– one page maximum**. If additional funding is required, elaborate on existing or planned supplemental funding for the proposed program including the amount(s) and sources(s); including existing (established) grant applications and dollar amount, and/or planned (new) grant applications and dollar amount.
6. Support/letters from partners (**if applicable**)
7. List of references (**30 references maximum**)

**ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS**

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