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Backgrounder: Point-of-Care Diagnostics in Human Health – Phase 1

In an effort to respond to the global priority of antimicrobial resistance, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is providing \$1.39 million in funding to five research teams whose work will focus on advancing innovative point-of-care diagnostics to improve the health of Canadians. The teams will undertake research to support the development of new tests to rapidly and accurately diagnose antimicrobial resistance, and facilitating their uptake to market. It is hoped that the research will allow a more rational use of antibiotics so they maintain their effectiveness. The new funding is supporting projects led by academic researchers in collaboration with industry and other partners.

Principal Investigator	Project Title	CIHR Funding
Li, Yingfu McMaster University	Developing a strain-specific test for rapid diagnosis of Clostridium difficile	\$300,000
Burrell, Robert University of Alberta	A point of care nanostructured diagnostic device to discriminate between bacterial and viral infections: rapid and sensitive measurement of host biomarkers.	\$300,000
Zhang, Kunyan University of Calgary	Development of A New Multiplex PCR (M-PCR) Assay for Rapid Detection of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Directly from Clinical Samples	\$194,988
Loo, Vivian G Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre	Evaluation of Ultrasensitive Toxin Detection and Molecular Assays for the Diagnosis of Clostridium difficile Infection and Asymptomatic Colonization.	\$299,988

Operating Grant: Antimicrobial Resistance Point of Care Diagnostics in Human Health

Principal Investigator	Project Title	CIHR Funding
Steiner, Theodore S University of British Columbia	Development of immunologic tools for Clostridium difficile diagnosis and prognosis	\$300,000

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