



UPLEARN UPDATE

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HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ideas to Proposal (I2P) 2026 Successfully Concludes**

The 2026 I2P course has successfully concluded, with two outstanding proposals receiving monetary awards, thanks to the generous support of the Waddington Family Funds.

The program supports early-stage investigators in developing primary care research ideas into focused research questions and competitive proposals through structured learning, hands-on assignments, mentorship, peer discussion, and feedback from experienced research leaders.

This year, 13 learners from across our network, bringing diverse clinical and research backgrounds participated in a hybrid course format, combining in-person opening and closing sessions with virtual modules in between.

Learners developed 8 proposals on a wide range of timely topics, including medical education, palliative and end-of-life care, digital mental health in primary care, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in health systems planning.

Two proposals stood out: one focused on improving primary care physicians' confidence in diagnosing adult ADHD, and the other aimed at developing a machine learning model to predict length of stay in acute care rehabilitation. More details will be featured in upcoming UPLEARN Update newsletters. Stay tuned!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Strengthening our Research Community: Welcoming DFCM's Newly Funded Investigators**

DFCM is pleased to welcome 10 newly funded investigators: 4 New Investigators, 2 Waddington Early-Career Researchers, 3 Clinician Scientists, and one Graduate Studies Award recipient.

New Investigators are focusing on practice-driven research across key areas. Their work includes strengthening team-based primary care delivery; using electronic medical record data to study immunization and cardiovascular risk; improving care and equity in early

pregnancy loss and global health; and advancing evidence-based approaches to substance use care and harm reduction.

Waddington Early-Career Researchers are advancing community-centred and equity-focused work. Current projects explore food security and nutrition, community engagement and partnerships, as well as immigrant health, access to care, and better integration across health systems to improve outcomes for diverse populations.

Clinician Scientists bring a strong health system and policy perspective, using large datasets and mixed methods to evaluate mental health, substance-use, population health interventions, workforce models, and health policy impacts. Their research also explores public health, task sharing, community health workers, digital health, AI, smoking cessation, and medical education, with a strong emphasis on equity and real-world relevance.

The Graduate Studies Award recipient focuses on health economics, primary care policy, and program evaluation, helping inform evidence-based decision-making and system improvement.

Together, these investigators reflect the growing strength, diversity, and impact of DFCM's research community and its commitment to improving primary care, health equity, and patient outcomes.

- **CIHR Update: Changes to CV Requirements for Project Grant Competitions**

CIHR has announced that the Tri-agency CV will not be required for Project Grant competitions before Fall 2027 (with at least one year's notice), is already being piloted in 18 funding opportunities (each specifying whether a CCV or Tri-agency CV is required), applicants can access full details, templates, and resources here: <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/54668.html>.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Have a project or proposal you would like to submit for UPLEARN support and partnership? Please use our [UPEARN intake form](#) to get started.
- Questions about UPLEARN or how to get involved? Please get in touch with Jamie Wang, Research Project Coordinator at jamie.wang@utoronto.ca.

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