

# CIHR Project Grant Workshop: Special Considerations during Application Development (including Sex & Gender Considerations in Health Research)

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# **Sex and Gender Based Analysis (SGBA): Considerations in Health- Related Research**

# CIHR Peer Review: Policy

- Purpose of SGBA: To promote rigorous science that is sensitive to sex and gender, thereby expanding our understanding of health determinants for all peoples.
- CIHR expects that all applicants will integrate sex and gender into their ***research design, methods, analysis and interpretation, and/or dissemination of findings*** within their research proposal, when applicable.

Resources:

[Progress Update: SGBA in Action at CIHR – CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/progress-update-sgba-in-action-at-cihr)

[Peer review: Policies and procedures - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/peer-review-policies-and-procedures)

[Science is better with sex and gender - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/science-is-better-with-sex-and-gender)

# CIHR Peer Review: Procedures

- Project Grant reviewers are asked to provide the following (including notes):
  - Please indicate your appraisal of the integration of sex as a biological variable as a strength, weakness, or not applicable to the proposal.
  - Please indicate your appraisal of the integration of gender as a socio-cultural determinant of health as a strength, weakness, or not applicable to the proposal.
- Reviewers are **required** to include their assessment of whether SGBA is appropriate for the research being proposed.
  - The **overall application score and written evaluation** will reflect if SGBA has been suitably addressed in the research proposed.

Resources:

- [Assessing Sex and Gender Integration in Peer Review – YouTube](#)
- [Peer review - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](#)
- [What you should know about the Spring 2021 Project grant competition - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](#)

# Application Details

- ✓ Task 2: Enter Proposal Information (Sub-task: Details)
  - ✓ Is sex as a biological variable taken into account in the research design, methods, analysis and interpretation, and/or dissemination of findings? Y/N
  - ✓ Is gender as a socio-cultural factor taken into account in the research design, methods, analysis and interpretation, and/or dissemination of findings? Y/N
  - ✓ If yes, please describe how sex and/or gender considerations will be integrated into your research proposal (limit of 2,000 characters).
  - ✓ If no, please explain why sex and/or gender are not applicable to your research proposal (limit of 2,000 characters).
- ✓ Task 7: Attach Other Application Material (Optional)
  - ✓ Certificate of Completion for the sex- and gender-based analysis [training modules](#) for the NPA

Resources:

[Project Grant – Registration Instructions - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](#)

[Project Grant: Application Instructions - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](#)

CIHR Checklists ([Biomedical](#) & [Research with Human Participants](#))

# SGBA in your application: Strengths & Weaknesses

Strengths:		Weaknesses:	
✓	Weave description of SGBA throughout your proposal	✗	ONLY address SGBA in the sex and/or gender textbox.
✓	<u>Understand and use</u> sex and gender <u>terminology</u> correctly	✗	Conflate sex and gender terminology
✓	Know the “real world” representation of sex and/or gender in your field of study	✗	Ignore this representation or fail to build on published data in your field
✓	Show reviewers you will be able to disaggregate and report results by sex and/or gender	✗	Fail to provide a strong justification for a single-sex study
✓	Include knowledge translation tools that will reach diverse audiences	✗	Fail to report sex of cells, tissues, animals or humans
✓	Seek out and identify sex and gender champions to strengthen your team	✗	Don't report results by sex and/or gender where applicable

# Resources

- ✓ CIHR [Training Modules](#)
- ✓ CIHR Checklists ([Biomedical](#) & [Research with Human Participants](#))
- ✓ CIHR Sex and Gender in Health Research [Factsheets](#)
- ✓ USask [Grants Repository](#)
- ✓ Work with your Research Facilitator (click on this [link](#) and search by discipline)
- ✓ SCPOR: [Sex and Gender in Health Research](#)
  - ✓ Resource: [Checklist for Integrating Sex and Gender Considerations](#)

# Indigenous Health Research



# CIHR defines Indigenous Health Research as...

- Any research topic or area related to health and wellness that is:
  - ✓ Conducted by...
  - ✓ Grounded in...
  - ✓ Engaged with...  
First Nations, Inuit, or Metis communities, societies, individuals.
- Embracing Indigenous wisdoms, cultures, experiences, and/or knowledge systems
- Respectful engagement and equitable opportunities for meaningful and culturally safe health research

# Peer Review: Indigenous Health Research Committee

- A proposal's central focus should be to carry out meaningful and culturally safe research involving Indigenous Peoples with the intent to promote health through research that is in keeping with Indigenous values and traditions.
- The proposal must also explicitly describe engagement with the community in relation to the research, as required by the TCPS 2 - Chapter 9 on Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada and Indigenous partnering community/organization ethical guidelines

# Application Details

- ✓ Task 2: Enter Proposal Information (Sub-task: Details)
  - ✓ Select 'yes' to the question regarding the TCPS 2 – Chapter 9 (*“Does your proposal address the [TCPS 2 - Chapter 9 Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada](#) and Indigenous partnering community/organizational ethical guidelines?”*);
  - ✓ Provide a detailed justification in the related text field to indicate how the proposal addresses the principles of the TCPS 2 – Chapter 9;
- ✓ Task 6: Complete Peer Review (Sub-task: Suggested Committees)
  - ✓ Select the Indigenous Health Research (IHR) committee as the first suggested peer review committee.



# Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in Research

# What are the benefits of EDI in research?

- ✓ Better research outcomes because EDI practices:
  - ✓ Engage a more extensive, representative, and diverse pool of talent
  - ✓ Increase spectrum of ideas and insights to broaden and vastly improve chances of producing breakthrough discoveries and innovation
  - ✓ Increase creativity, productivity, engagement, and innovation
- ✓ Increases availability of diverse role models
- ✓ Improves recruitment and retention

# Tri-Agency EDI Action Plan (2018-2025)

- Purpose: To foster a more equitable, diverse and inclusive research ecosystem in Canada that creates a culture where EDI considerations into all aspects of research is second nature.
- Objectives:
  - Fair access to Tri-Agency research support
  - Equitable participation in the research system
- NOTE: While Indigenous Peoples in Canada are equity-deserving groups that can be supported by an EDI strategy, researchers co-creating with Indigenous communities have responsibilities, expectations, and obligations to undertake research-related activities in ways that ***extend well beyond*** those identified under the principles of EDI.

# What can you do as a researcher?

- ✓ Create an EDI Strategy that is comprehensive, team specific, and actionable beyond the scope of one grant
- ✓ Things to consider:
  - ✓ What are the known EDI challenges in your field of research and institution?
  - ✓ Seek out information about equity-deserving groups, inclusive excellence, known systemic barriers.
  - ✓ Determine the specific actions and practices your team will undertake/develop/support/advocate for to address these challenges.
- ✓ Examine: team composition, recruitment and retainment practices, mentorship and PD opportunities, community engagement practices, potential impact of research

<https://vpresearch.usask.ca/rasi/resource-hub/edi-equity-diversity-inclusion.php>



# Resources

- ✓ USask [EDI](#) resources
- ✓ [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans – TCPS 2 \(2018\) – Chapter 4: Fairness and Equity in Research Participation \(ethics.gc.ca\)](#)
- ✓ [NSERC - Action Plan \(nserc-crsng.gc.ca\)](#)
- ✓ [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the Research System - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](#)
- ✓ [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion \(EDI\) in Action at CIHR - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](#)
- ✓ [Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research \(sshrc-crsh.gc.ca\)](#)
- ✓ [Guide for Applicants EN.pdf \(nserc-crsng.gc.ca\)](#)

# Research Data Management (RDM)

# Tri-Agency Research Data Management (RDM) Policy

- Research data collected through the use of public funds should be responsibly and securely managed and be available for reuse by others (where ethical, legal and commercial obligations allow).
- The Tri-Agencies support the ***FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable)*** guiding principles for research data management and stewardship
- The diversity of models of scientific and scholarly inquiry that advance knowledge means there will be differences in the standards for RDM among the disciplines, areas of research, and modes of inquiry that the agencies support.
  - For example, data related to research by and with First Nations, Inuit, Métis or Urban Indigenous communities whose traditional and ancestral territories are in Canada must be managed in accordance with principles developed and approved by those communities. This includes, but is not limited to, considerations of Indigenous data sovereignty, as well as data collection, ownership, protection, use, and sharing.

# What can you do as a researcher?

- ✓ Grant applications should include methodologies that reflect best practices in RDM
- ✓ Researchers should consider developing a data management plan (DMP) that describes:
  - ✓ How data will be collected, documented, formatted, protected, and preserved
    - ✓ Whether and how data will be shared
    - ✓ Where data will be deposited and/or stored
  - ✓ How existing datasets will be used and the new data that will be created
  - ✓ Who is responsible for managing project data (team responsibilities)
  - ✓ Ethical, legal, and commercial constraints related to data sharing

# Resources

- ✓ [Home - Research Data Management - Research Guides at University of Saskatchewan \(usask.ca\)](#)
- ✓ [Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy - Science.gc.ca](#)
- ✓ [Frequently Asked Questions Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy - Science.gc.ca](#)
- ✓ [GO FAIR initiative: Make your data & services FAIR \(go-fair.org\)](#)
- ✓ [Research Data Management | Digital Research Alliance of Canada \(alliancecan.ca\)](#)

**Thank you!**