

The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots. Overlaid on this are several semi-transparent, light blue circular elements. These include concentric circles, dashed lines, and curved arrows. A prominent feature is a large circular scale on the left side, with numerical markings ranging from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. The text is centered in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

SEX AND GENDER BASED ANALYSIS (SGBA): CONSIDERATIONS IN HEALTH-RELATED RESEARCH

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TERMINOLOGY

Gender

- Psychosocial and sociocultural attributes: Describes the socially constructed ways a person identifies and is identified
 - Gender Identity: How a person labels their own gender
 - Gender Expression: How a person outwardly expresses their gender
 - Gender Attribution: How others perceive a person's gender
 - Gender Roles: Imposed expectations and norms
- Terms: men, women, girls, boys, non-binary, gender non-conforming, gender diverse people

Resources:

[What is gender? What is sex? - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/what-is-gender-what-is-sex)

[Queer Terms - OUTSaskatoon](https://www.outsaskatoon.ca/queer-terms)

Sex

- Biological attributes of cells, tissues, humans, and animals: include DNA, hormones, reproductive organs, and secondary sex characteristics (i.e., vocal pitch, facial hair, distribution of fat tissue, etc.)
- Terms: male, female, intersex

Two-Spirit

- Describes how Indigenous people who are gender and/or sexually diverse identify.
- Encompasses the interconnectedness of cultural identity, gender, and sexual identity.

CIHR PEER REVIEW: POLICY

- Spring 2018: Review of SGBA within health-related research was embedded into peer review for the Project grant competition
- Now: CIHR expects all applicants integrate SGBA into their research design when appropriate
 - Purpose of SGBA: to promote rigorous science that is sensitive to sex and gender, thereby expanding our understanding of health determinants for all peoples.

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

- Reviewers are asked to:
 - explicitly assess whether the integration of sex (as a biological variable) and/or gender (as a socio-cultural factor) is a strength, a weakness or not applicable to the proposal
 - comment on their assessment and to provide recommendations to the applicants on how they might improve the strength of their applications with respect to the integration of sex and/or gender

UPDATE (Feb 2021)

- Reviewers will be explicitly required to include their assessment of whether SGBA is appropriate for the research being proposed.
 - If so, the overall application score and written evaluation will reflect if SGBA has been suitably addressed in the research proposed.
- This will supplement the current practice of simply identifying whether SGBA is a strength, a weakness or not applicable to the proposal.

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 \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](#)

WHAT IS CONSIDERED A STRENGTH?

Strong proposals will:

Integration of Sex:	Integration of Gender:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Include, report and analyse cells, tissues, animals, or humans by sex✓ Build on what we know about sex differences in the field of study✓ Design experiments that will disaggregate results by sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Report what is known about gender in the field of study✓ Describe how gender will be investigated✓ Use methods that address and mitigate bias (Consider recruitment strategies, data collection methods, KT plan)✓ Design experiments that will disaggregate and analyse results by gender

WHAT IS CONSIDERED A WEAKNESS?

Proposals that do not integrate sex and/or gender:

- ✘ Do not provide a strong justification for a single-sex study
- ✘ Fail to report that gender is relevant to the topic
- ✘ Ignore sex and/or gender differences reported in the scientific literature, or fails to build on published data
- ✘ Do not report sex of cells, tissues, animals, or humans
- ✘ Fail to disaggregate results by sex and/or gender where possible/relevant
- ✘ Conflate terms for sex and gender

☐ If sex and/or gender considerations are not applicable to your research proposal/design, applicants must include compelling justification


- ✓ [Key considerations for the appropriate integration of sex and gender in research – CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/key-considerations-for-the-appropriate-integration-of-sex-and-gender-in-research)
- ✓ [Sex and Gender Equity in Research: rationale for the SAGER guidelines and recommended use \(biomedcentral.com\)](https://www.biomedcentral.com/sex-and-gender-equity-in-research)

APPLICATION DETAILS

- Task 2: Enter Proposal Information (Sub-task: Details)
 - Within the online portion of the grant application within ResearchNet you will be required to answer two “Yes/No” regarding integration of sex and/or gender considerations.
 - A text box is provided to provide justification to your responses must then be completed.

Are sex (biological) considerations taken into account in this study?* --

Are gender (socio-cultural) considerations taken into account in this study?* --

If YES please describe how sex and/or gender considerations will be considered in your research design. *
If NO please explain why sex and/or gender are not applicable in your research design.*
(2000 character limit) 

Resources:

[Project Grant: Application Instructions - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/project-grants-application-instructions)

TIPS FOR INTEGRATING SGBA INTO YOUR PROPOSAL

- Consider the text box as a summary of the SGBA described within your proposal: This section should not be the only area of your application where this information appears!
 - Literature review/Background: Know the “real world” representation of sex and/or gender in your field of study
 - Methods: Clearly justify sample sizes and describe a data collection and analysis strategy that will show reviewers you can disaggregate, and report results by sex and/or gender.
 - Knowledge translation: Ensure methods will reach diverse peoples and audiences
 - Consider the strength of your team

RESOURCES

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