

**JDRF Canadian Clinical Trial Network (CCTN) Postdoctoral  
Fellowship in Clinical Translation in T1D Program  
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS**

**KEY DATES**

**Release Date:** February 12, 2016

**Application Due Date:** May 2, 2016

**Earliest Anticipated Start Date:** September 2016

This Request for Applications (RFA) contains the following information:

- Goals and Research Objectives
- Eligibility
- Budget
- Instructions to submit an application
- Review of Applications
- Terms of Award
- Program Contacts

**Collaboration with Eli Lilly Canada Inc.**

JDRF Canadian Clinical Trial Network (JDRF CCTN) is pleased to announce that Eli Lilly Canada Inc. has renewed their support of the CCTN Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Translation in T1D Program. In 2016, Eli Lilly Canada Inc. will provide \$120,000 in support of two CCTN Post-Doctoral Fellows for one year in the sum of \$60,000 each. These awards are intended to provide partial salary support for one year to enable the awardee to advance his/her career as an independent investigator. These fellowships will be taking advantage of the nationwide investment in clinical translation in type 1 diabetes research. Awards will be administered and managed by JDRF CCTN.

**Overview**

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease where the body's own immune system attacks the insulin-producing beta cells of the pancreas. We do not yet know what triggers this autoimmune process, but the result is the destruction of beta cells. When 50-90% of beta cells have been lost, the ability to control blood sugar levels is lost; the resulting diagnosis of diabetes means chronic high blood sugar. The underlying autoimmune process that causes type 1 diabetes distinguishes it from the more-common type 2 diabetes. This autoimmune process also means type 1 diabetes shares common pathologic pathways with diseases such as multiple sclerosis, autoimmune thyroid disease, and celiac disease. All people with diabetes (whatever the initial cause, and/or type) are exposed to the risks of various complications that develop from chronic high blood sugars – including nerve damage, vision loss, kidney failure, and cardiovascular disease. As type 1 diabetes develops early in life, including under age 5, people with type 1 diabetes are at-risk for developing complications as young as their mid-20s or early 30s.

JDRF is the leading global non-profit organization focused on type 1 diabetes research. Driven by passionate, grassroots volunteers connected to children, adolescents, and adults with the disease, JDRF is the largest charitable supporter of type 1 diabetes research. The goal of JDRF is to improve the lives of every person affected by type 1 diabetes by accelerating progress on the most promising opportunities for curing, better

treating, and preventing type 1 diabetes. JDRF collaborates with a wide spectrum of partners who share this goal.

Canadian researchers have made notable contributions to diabetes research, from Banting and Best's discovery and isolation of insulin, through the development of the Edmonton Protocol for the replacement of beta cells using islet transplantation. This country's historically strong focus on research in diabetes, coupled with investments made by non-profit organizations like JDRF, have resulted in a robust pipeline of potential diagnostic, preventative and therapeutic opportunities that hold significant promise to impact course of this chronic disease.

JDRF Canadian Clinical Trial Network ("JDRF CCTN," <http://www.jdrf.ca/cctn/>) is a platform that has been established for clinical research to test new treatments and technologies for type 1 diabetes. JDRF CCTN brings together the country's top physicians, scientists, researchers and innovators from leading hospitals, academic medical centres and industry. The network's mission includes the following goals: to create an improved, nationwide infrastructure for diabetes clinical translation in Canada, to enable greater clinical trial capacity; to conduct advanced clinical trials of leading-edge treatments and technologies for diabetes; to provide Canadians with diabetes access to the latest diabetes breakthroughs via participating in clinical trials; and to create new partnerships between academic researchers, not-for-profit organizations, industry and government.

JDRF CCTN recently expanded from its vanguard of clinical sites in Ontario to include sites in Western Canada. JDRF CCTN projects are accelerating the testing of new technologies and treatments to provide Canadians with access to the latest diabetes breakthroughs. A description of current CCTN trials and projects is available at <http://www.jdrf.ca/cctn>.

Descriptions of JDRF's Research Priority Areas are available at <http://grantcenter.jdrf.org/grant-center/research-priority-areas/>.

### **Eligibility**

Applicants must hold a MD, PhD, MD/PhD, or equivalent; and be within 7 years of receiving their doctoral degree. There are no citizenship requirements, although applicants must hold an appointment and be engaged in research at a Canadian institution.

These training awards are expected to potentiate JDRF CCTN's investment in type 1 diabetes research nationwide. Applicants engaged in human clinical research and/or research with potential to lead to clinical translation of new advances in T1D will be given highest priority.

Applicants demonstrating collaborations that build upon existing JDRF CCTN projects and infrastructure are especially encouraged to apply. However, applicants are eligible to apply from institutions not currently affiliated with CCTN and from anywhere in Canada. A description of current CCTN trials and projects is available at <http://www.jdrf.ca/cctn>.

Applicants are encouraged to review descriptions of JDRF's current Research Priority Areas, available at <http://grantcenter.jdrf.org/grant-center/research-priority-areas/>.

### **Budget**

Awards are up to \$60,000, in **Canadian funds**, for one year.

### **Instructions to Submit an Application**

Applicants should register and submit their applications in **RMS360** (<http://jdrf.smartsimple.us>). All applications must be submitted by **May 2, 2016 at 5:00pm, Eastern Standard Time**.

The application will include the following:

- General (Lay) Abstract (will be made public for successful applicants)
- Applicant's Statement describing current and future career goals (**not to exceed 1 page**)
- Research Plan (**not to exceed 4 pages**)
- Applicant's curriculum vitae
- Letter of Support from Mentor/Supervisor (**in addition to** the 3 letters of reference listed below). The letter should include: the plans for supervision, guidance, counseling or other formal or informal training of the applicant; a description of the resources and/or mentoring activities available through the institution to support career development of young investigators.
- Letters of Reference (**3 total referees** – this is a mandatory submission requirement in [RMS360](#))
- Proposed Budget (up to \$60,000 Canadian funds)
- Evidence of support from applicant's institution; description of other sources of support

### Review of Applications

Applications will be evaluated competitively by an external expert peer review committee. The following criteria will be among those considered:

- the candidate's qualifications and potential to conduct innovative research in T1D;
- the quality and originality of the proposed research and its potential to advance clinical care;
- the qualifications and level of support provided by the candidate's mentor; and
- the institutional environment, including programs and activities available to the candidate, as well as laboratory and patient facilities that will be made available to the candidate.

### Terms of Award

Recipients of the JDRF CCTN Postdoctoral Fellowships will be supported up to a maximum of \$60,000, in Canadian funds, for 1 year. Evidence of institutional commitment in the form of dollars and non-financial resources is also required.

JDRF is committed to the publication and dissemination of all information and materials developed using JDRF resources. All recipients of JDRF awards must agree to this principle, and must take steps in order to facilitate availability of data and samples. Awardees must commit to publishing their findings from their research so their work is in the public domain and available to other researchers.

Awardees supported by this program will become part of JDRF CCTN, with the same rights and responsibilities as other JDRF CCTN members.

Awardees will be requested to provide materials including their lay abstract for promotional purposes to inform the public about the research supported through the JDRF CCTN and Eli Lilly Canada Inc. collaboration.

### Program Contacts

Administrative Inquiries may be addressed to:

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