

MEDIA RELEASE**For Immediate Release:****March 22, 2022****London Health Sciences Centre announces \$5.7 million research
and innovation initiative**

(LONDON, Ontario) – London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC), London Health Sciences Foundation (LHSF) and Children's Health Foundation announced today the recipients of LHSC's Academic Realignment Initiative Awards. The partnership between the two Foundations and LHSC's research institute will fund 22 research and quality improvement awards, totalling \$5.7 million over five years.

“LHSC has a rich legacy in health research; it's a core component of our mission as a research-intensive teaching hospital affiliated with Western University,” says Dr. Jackie Schleifer Taylor, President and CEO at LHSC. “This initiative will support the curiosity of our people. These streams of work will help advance our understanding, diagnosis and treatment of disease; improve patient experiences; optimize health care training; and create system efficiencies.”

The Academic Realignment Initiative Awards were launched in fall 2021, and were open to all staff, physicians, researchers and learners across LHSC. The goal was to inspire the sharing of innovative ideas to progress our mission of care, research and education. An important aspect was to challenge the traditional definition of research to include not only laboratory-based science and clinical trials, but also quality improvement projects and other forms of innovation.

A total of 60 research and quality improvement proposals were received with 22 selected for funding. An additional two research chair positions will also be recruited in the future as part of this inaugural initiative.

“We are grateful to our Foundations for their partnership and to the donors who so generously support our work,” says Dr. Schleifer Taylor. “Thank you for helping us advance the broad spectrum of innovation within our walls.”

For additional information on the research and quality improvement initiatives chosen, visit: <https://www.lhsc.on.ca/research-training/academic-realignment-initiative-awards>.

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After-hours assistance:

Call LHSC Switchboard at 519-685-8500 and ask to page the communicator on-call

About London Health Sciences Centre

As one of Canada's largest acute-care teaching hospitals, LHSC is dedicated to providing exceptional patient care, while championing the spirit of medical advancement through teaching practices and breakthrough research. For 146 years, LHSC has been an integral part of the London community offering compassionate medical care for its people, as well as those across the Southwestern Ontario region, and the world. National and international medical firsts have been pioneered at LHSC, including the discovery of vinblastine and the use of cobalt radiation transforming the lives of people across the globe. Through collaborative partnerships with Western University and over 30 educational institutions, more than 1,800 health care professionals actively seek out training opportunities each year at LHSC, acknowledging the opportunity to work alongside some of Canada's top medical scholars. With more than 15,000 staff, physicians, and residents, LHSC is committed to achieving its vision '*Working together to shape the future of health*'. More information about LHSC can be found at www.lhsc.on.ca.

About London Health Sciences Foundation

As the charitable arm of London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC), we at London Health Sciences Foundation (LHSF) strive to enhance the standard of care for patients at our hospital. With your generosity, we support the development of critical initiatives such as ground-breaking research, state-of-the-art equipment,

specialized care with personalized treatment options and the education of our next generation of clinicians.

It is through the hope and kindness of our donors that the health and lives of patients at LHSC are impacted, today and tomorrow. We are committed to honouring your compassion with acts of gratitude, stewarding with respect and reporting with honesty, transparency and accountability.

As a Canada Revenue Agency registered charity accredited by Imagine Canada, London Health Sciences Foundation's donors enable discovery and innovation in research, education and patient care.

To see how donations enable extraordinary care, visit lhsf.ca.

About Children's Health Foundation

Children's Health Foundation, founded in 1922, raises funds to ensure that children and their families across Western Ontario receive the best possible care and the most possible hope when faced with a life-threatening or life-limiting diagnosis. By funding equipment, programs and research at Children's Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre, TVCC and Children's Health Research Institute, Children's Health Foundation ensures better childhoods for kids facing serious health issues, and hope, relief and support for those who love them. To learn more, visit www.childhealth.ca.

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