

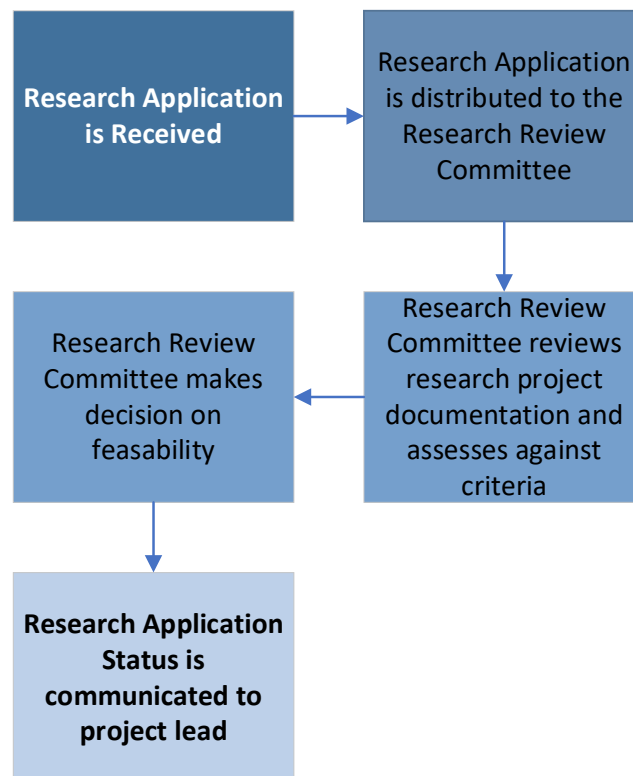
## General Overview

The Edmonton Oliver Primary Care Network (EOPCN) values research, evaluation & quality improvement and is committed to supporting the generation of knowledge for primary health care systems and improvement of patient care. The EOPCN welcomes applications by external researchers, research organizations, students and partners related to primary healthcare, both non-clinical and clinical in nature that advance the strategic direction of the EOPCN. Applications can be submitted to various EOPCN staff through partnerships or sent directly to the Director of Evaluation & Quality Improvement at kbrower@eopcn.ca.

The EOPCN is committed to ensuring that research collaborations are of high quality and appropriate to the patient population and therefore researchers are invited to submit their research proposal for consideration. Submitted applications are assessed based on set criteria to identify the research proposal's strengths and weaknesses, whether the research will advance knowledge in the field, improve health status or quality of life of EOPCN patients, complies with relevant privacy legislation, has ethical approval and is appropriate for the EOPCN setting.

The principles used to guide the review of applications at the EOPCN are fairness, quality review, confidentiality and conflict of interest.

## Review Process



## Evaluation of Applications

The Research Review Committee assesses applications in a two-step process:

1. Each member of the committee reviews the research application documentation independently
2. The committee convenes to discuss the application collectively and make a decision

Once the decision is made, applicants are notified and receive a summary of the decision. Constructive advice is provided, where appropriate to strengthen future applications.

## Review Criteria

The criteria used to assess applications is based on other organization's best practices (e.g., University of Alberta, MS Society of Canada) and includes the following components:

### Design and feasibility of the study or project:

1. The proposal is written so that the committee may make an informed judgment as to the scientific or scholarly merit of the proposed project
2. Principal Investigator and the research team are identified
3. The proposal clearly describes what is intended by the research project and how the project intends to reach objectives, and anticipated implications of the project's findings
4. The proposed project clearly exhibits application of sound investigative methodology
5. When the research requires statistical or qualitative analyses, procedures are specified and are linked to the research questions/hypotheses being investigated
6. The proposed project identifies a clear benefit to the EOPCN or to the broader primary healthcare community
7. The proposal outlines the requirements of the EOPCN to participate in the research and any in-kind supports required

### Significance of the research project:

1. The proposal demonstrates evident value. The project has potential for producing a quality scholarly product or publication or informing improvement in EOPCN or primary healthcare service delivery
2. The proposal indicates the extent to which new ideas may be generated or established concepts may be re-examined

### Ethics and process:

1. The proposal is supported by relevant scholarly literature
2. Approval from a relevant research ethics board or community ethics board has been obtained or a plan is in place to obtain approval
3. Data collection and privacy procedures adhere to relevant legislation and information is provided about the protection of participants
4. Project funding commitments from all sources must be documented, as appropriate

8. A knowledge mobilization plan is included, and if publication is sought, EOPCN will be named as a partner

#### Other Priorities:

1. Applications that are in direct alignment with the EOPCN strategic objectives or provincial direction for primary healthcare will be prioritized
2. Applications that demonstrate a tangible benefit to the EOPCN will be prioritized
3. Proposals which have an enhanced probability of external funding to support EOPCN delivery of programs and services will generally be favored