

## MICYRN-CHEER PEDIATRIC RESEARCH ETHICS CONSULTING SERVICE

Multi-site pediatric health research studies are essential for advancing child health research in Canada. Initiating such studies at multiple sites presents significant challenges, involving management of complex, time-consuming processes such as obtaining research ethics approvals, as well as securing contracts and operational clearances within healthcare systems and hospitals. One key challenge for study teams is efficiently navigating the ethics review process across all participating sites. Each jurisdiction requires its own ethics review, and the differing platforms across the country can be complicated to navigate.

The [Maternal Infant Child and Youth Research Network \(MICYRN\)](#) and the [Canadian Collaboration for Child Health: Efficiency and Excellence in the Ethics Review of Research \(CHEER\)](#) Project are launching a Pediatric Research Ethics Consulting Service for multi-site, cross-provincial paediatric studies. This service aims to facilitate REB review processes for paediatric multi-site, cross provincial studies. This service, offered to academic investigators at no cost during the pilot period, includes:

- ▶ **MICYRN-CHEER Central Research Ethics Review Manager:** hands-on support to child health researchers and study teams, helping them to understand and navigate the necessary ethics approvals and preparing and facilitating ethics submission across various electronic platforms, systems and jurisdictions.
- ▶ **Collaborating-site Research Ethics Navigators:** working with the Central Ethics Review Manager, Collaborating-site Research Ethics Navigators will assist in customizing child health research ethics applications and materials to meet local and provincial requirements by serving as a repository of knowledge of local needs and nuances.

### Scope of Service

To be eligible for support projects must meet the following criteria:

- ▶ Multicentre with study sites located in at least 2 provinces. The lead site may be in any province. A multicentre study conducted in two phases with a pilot phase at a single site or in one province is eligible.
- ▶ Prospective pediatric observational or interventional health research study
- ▶ Peer reviewed research, i.e., by a designated steering committee and/or granting body (i.e.: CIHR).

To use this service please contact the Central Ethics Review Manager, Megan Allore, at [megan.allore@micyrn.ca](mailto:megan.allore@micyrn.ca) or complete the intake form available on [CHEER](#), [MICYRN](#) and [RareKids-CAN](#) websites.