SPOR Evidence Alliance Seed Grant Impact Story



Lead: **RICHARD HENRY** PhD Post-doctoral fellow McGill University

Project Supervisor: Brett Thombs

Project:

Incorporation of recommendations for gender-diverse people in clinical practice guidelines: A review of traditionally sex-binary guidelines and recommendations

What key learnings did your seed grant funded project reveal?

- Existing guidelines often focus solely on cisgender individuals; there is little guidance for trans and gender-diverse patients.
- There does, however, seem to be a slight shift by time with more guidelines at least acknowledging that they are relevant to trans and gender-diverse populations, but there is a lack of evidence to provide any formal recommendations or implementation guidelines.
- At least one clinical practice guideline did mention medical techniques that could be used with individuals who had undergone gender-affirming surgery.

How will your findings benefit the health research environment?

- To our knowledge this is the first study of its kind to examine trans and gender-diverse individuals' inclusion in clinical practice guidelines.
- This study emphasizes the need for more inclusive guidelines, including making recommendations or describing that there was insufficient evidence.

How did you disseminate your findings?

- Preliminary findings have been disseminated via presentation at the KT Canada Seminar Series and Guideline International Network (GIN) Conference.
- There are two planned manuscripts, the first of which will be submitted soon for peer-review.
- We also plan on submitting our findings to various guideline groups.

What influences did the seed grant opportunity have in your subsequent research endeavours?

The seed grant enabled me to network with research mentors and collaborators. Through these relationships I have joined other grant funded projects as a coinvestigator.

What successes and milestones did the opportunity help you realize in your professional development?

 This seed grant has led me to being coinvestigator on several grants.

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