



RÉSEAU DE RECHERCHE
EN SANTÉ DE LA VISION

COMMON INFRASTRUCTURES
VISION HEALTH RESEARCH NETWORK
2017 - 2018 Competition

Goal

The goal of the Common Infrastructures program is to provide resources and tools for researchers of the Vision Health Research Network (VHRN) that they could not otherwise afford, in an effort to promote vision research in Quebec.

Impact of the program

The VHRN common infrastructures have become essential to several laboratories of the Network. Their impact is undeniable in terms of number and quality of scientific articles published in peer-reviewed journals, presentations at provincial, national and international conferences, and research funds. Research based on the use of these infrastructures has, on several occasions, strategically influenced knowledge transfer and implementation of new practices. For instance, the VHRN Database Visual Impairment & Rehabilitation has notably influenced policy for low vision care in Quebec. The Common Infrastructures program is by far considered as being the most useful and most efficient of the VHRN programs and we intend for it to remain so.

Eligible infrastructures

The types of infrastructures currently allowed are listed below. For funding of other types of infrastructure, please consult with the executive committee of the Network.

- _ Cell, tissue or other biological material database
- _ Genetic databases
- _ Clinical databases
- _ Registries
- _ Common technical platforms
- _ Tools to measure visual function (development and validation of questionnaires, etc.)

Equipment, even for multiple users, is not typically the type of infrastructure supported by the Network. An exception could be made for the maintenance and/or development of an apparatus to be used by a very large number of researchers members of the Network. User fees are not supported by this program (usually covered by operating grants).

The Network will not fund an infrastructure that will benefit only a small group of researchers or a single team. To be financed by the Network, the common infrastructure must benefit several researchers from several teams, and ideally from several institutions. The common infrastructure must be readily available to all Network members upon request.

Ethics

In the case of a clinical registry, clinical database, genetic material, or tissue bank, the endorsement by the Ethics committee of the institution responsible for the bank or the registry is a mandatory prerequisite to any access and/or use of this data bank or registry.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications for common infrastructures maintenance funding will be evaluated according to the same performance criteria as those established by the FRQS for the evaluation of its Thematic Networks, including the VHRN. These same criteria are also specified at the top of each section of this form, as well as in the VHRN Scientific Report form.

Amount and duration of grants

The financial support of a common infrastructure is granted for one fiscal year (April 1st 2017 to March 31st 2018). The maximum budget for an infrastructure is \$ 20,000. Occasionally, on demonstration of a particularly high performance, this amount may rise to \$ 25,000. In all cases, the amount will depend on the availability of funds. Funding is renewable upon completion of a scientific report and a duly completed renewal application.

Documents to submit

The application must be submitted as single PDF document including, in the following order:

- 1) In case of renewal, a “Scientific Report” form duly completed
- 2) Application form for “the support of a Common Infrastructure” duly completed
- 3) Common CVs of principal investigators (FRQS, CIHR or NSERC format).
- 4) Letters of support when applicable (certificate of partnership)

Commitment

- 1) It is mandatory to mention support from the FRQS Vision Health Research Network in any publication or presentation resulting from the use of an infrastructure funded by the Network. The manager of an infrastructure funded by the Network (i.e. who endorses the application) is responsible to ensure compliance of this rule by each of the users of that infrastructure. Acknowledging the VHRN is free and it is a useful tool to demonstrate the impact of the VHRN.
- 2) Research resulting from the use of this infrastructure must be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Scientific Report

For all subsidized common infrastructures, a scientific report including scientific impacts and leverage effects must be completed at the end of the grant. Please use the Scientific Report form [available on the web site](#). **These reports will be used in the Network’s annual report and renewal application.**

Deadline for application submission: June 15, 2017

In the event that the deadline is on a Friday or Saturday, the candidate will have until Sunday night to submit his/her application.

Please submit an electronic version of your application to:

Vision Health Research Network
reseau.vision.hmr@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

For additional information, please contact:

Vision Health Research Network
514-252-3400 #1568
reseau.vision.hmr@ssss.gouv.qc.ca
visionnetwork.ca

The VHRN is supported by the *Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS)*



COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE
FRQS VISION HEALTH RESEARCH NETWORK
GRANT YEAR 2017-2018

Form

Deadline: June 15, 2017

TITLE OF THE COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE (English and French):

SHORT TITLE OF THE COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE (maximum 35 characters, English and French)

First Application

Renewal

Name and contact information of the person responsible of the infrastructure:

Name and contact information to whom requests to use the infrastructure data should be directed:

Statement and signature of the person responsible for the Infrastructure:

As the researcher in charge of the Infrastructure mentioned above, I declare that, in the case of a clinical, genetic or human tissue register or database, no data will be transferred or used without the prior consent of the ethics committee of the institution of the researcher who will use them;

As the researcher in charge of the Infrastructure mentioned above, I declare that contributors and users have been advised of their inclusion in this report.

Name

Signature

date

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Complete information of the Finance Director or the representative who will manage the grant

Last name, first name:

Email:

Phone number:

Institution (to which the cheque will be payable to)

Address where the cheque must be sent:
(civic number, street name, city, postal code)

Fund number (if available):

USERS (add the required amount of pages)

Identify the users and the contributors (name, title and institution) of this infrastructure for the upcoming year (past or new collaborations and users), as well as the expected changes.

In the case of a renewal, do not repeat the content of your scientific report.

- 1) **Researchers (basic science)**
—
- 2) **Researchers and clinicians (clinical research)**
—
- 3) **National collaborators**
—
- 4) **International collaborator**
—
- 5) **Undergraduate students**
—
- 6) **MSc Students**
—
- 7) **PhD students**
—
- 8) **Post-doctoral fellows**
—
- 9) **Research Assistant**
—
- 10) **Other (governmental agency, industry, etc)**
—

DESCRIPTION OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE (maximum 1 page)

Describe the infrastructure: nature of the infrastructure, type of data or biological material, type of studied parameters, number of patients, etc. Describe the management of this infrastructure and its accessibility to the members of the Network

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMING (maximum 2 pages)

Describe the projects that will be generated due to the use of this infrastructure **over the next year**.

In case of a renewal, do not repeat the content of your attached scientific report.

RELEVANCE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE (maximum 2 pages, excluding this page)**Describe the strategic and structuring nature of the infrastructure for the upcoming year.**

Application will be assessed following the FRQS performance criteria established for the evaluation of their Thematic Networks (**answer to all following items when applicable**).

- 1) Leverage effect (grants, public or private investments, partnerships with the biopharmaceutical industry or others). Describe and specify amounts.
 - Specify the title of the grant, the authors, the funding agency, the dates of beginning and end, and the amounts per year.
 - Explain briefly how the Network played a role in the attribution of the grant.
 - If it is an “in kind” partnership, describe and estimate the amount
- 2) Development of new strategic and structuring initiatives
- 3) National and international visibility
- 4) Biotechnology development
- 5) Added value for VHRN members and the scientific community
- 6) Development of cross-sector projects and poles of excellence
- 7) Training of the next generation
- 8) Promotion of clinical research
- 9) Added value for target community (new treatments, new personalized health care implementation of new health practices or policies).
- 10) Knowledge transfer, valorization and public communications activities
- 11) Free access to the results

In case of a renewal, do not repeat the content of your scientific report.

BUDGET AND JUSTIFICATION (maximum 1 page)

- Indicate the amount requested from the Network.
 - Detail and justify.
 - Detail, if appropriate, the types and amounts of support to be obtained from sources other than the VHRN (partnerships) for the funding the infrastructure **over the next year**. Partnerships are strongly encouraged, since they help the VHRN justify their funding.
 - Letters of support and partnership certificates may be attached (optional).
-