



Oak Valley
Health



Annual Report

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About Us

Oak Valley Health is committed to conducting research that improves the health of the patients and communities we serve. We believe that our patients should have access to cutting-edge treatments delivered with the best models of care, in their own community.



Our centralized Office of Research supports research being conducted across all departments and specialties at Oak Valley Health. The Office of Research supports principal investigators and research teams, and acts as a liaison between sponsors, agencies, and other institutions, both internally and externally. We offer regulatory and financial support for all types of research studies.

Our Program

Our Research Program endeavours to *improve health through research, from bedside to beyond*. Our 2023-2029 Research Plan highlights our goals and metrics as we continue to build, partner, and invest in our program and our researchers. Please visit our [website](#) for our newly released 2023-2029 Research Plan.

Our Goals

1

Build a research program that will optimize success through innovation

2

Foster and develop collaborative research **partnerships** within our community and beyond

3

Attract and retain talented researchers, and **invest** in our staff through learning and mentorship



Our Impact

Oak Valley Health researchers have created new research endeavours through innovation and awards. It is through partnerships and funding opportunities that we are able to offer alternative treatment options, investigate treatments or therapies, and look at new models of care or cutting edge health-related technologies.

The Midwifery Led Postpartum Program at Oak Valley Health was the successful recipient of a \$40,000 grant from the EYRND Ontario Health Team this spring. This grant will fund a research project examining the experiences of, and barriers to, accessing mental health and addiction (MHA) services for the perinatal population.

Dr. Sachin Ramkissoon and Dr. Perry Guo were successful recipients of Oak Valley Health's first QIPS research grant by the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP). The Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycle will be used to guide the implementation and evaluation of the Triage Point-of-Care (POC) meter, using Trop I True testing within the Emergency Department (ED). The POC testing will be completed concurrently with standard of care testing for low-risk patients with chest pain requiring serial troponin levels.



To see a list of research publications and highlights, please visit our website at:

www.oakvalleyhealth.ca/research/research-highlights/

Our Team

The Office of Research is comprised of a dynamic interprofessional team that provides research support based on the type of research study and activities needed. Our staff include Clinical Trial Nurses, Clinical Research Coordinators, Research Assistants, Students and Volunteers.

We are proud to support the growth of future research professionals and provide placement opportunities to a multiple of Clinical Research post-graduate programs. Students can conduct a 12-week hybrid placement working on a number of clinical research trials across disciplines.



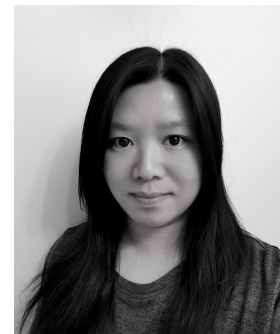
Lisa Harper
Senior Director



Michelle Dimas
Manager



Jinal Patel
Clinical Trials
Nurse



Albie Law
Clinical Research
Coordinator



Ainslee Smith
Clinical Trials
Nurse



Ariana Kertsanis
Research
Coordinator



Mark Munteanu
Research Student



Parmis Mirzadeh
Research
Coordinator

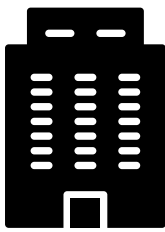
A Year in Review

Our metrics below demonstrate our commitment to and growth to our emerging research program. With new partnerships and collaborations we have been able to make significant investments within our research team.



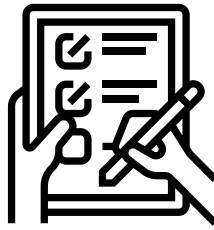
60

Principal Investigators



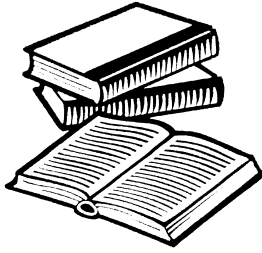
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sq. ft. Research Space



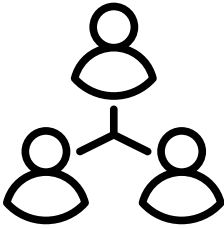
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Active Studies under OVH REB



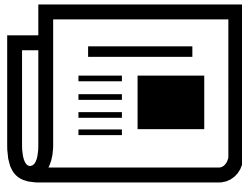
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Research Trainees



5

Research Staff



3

Publications



19

Research Partnerships



\$248k

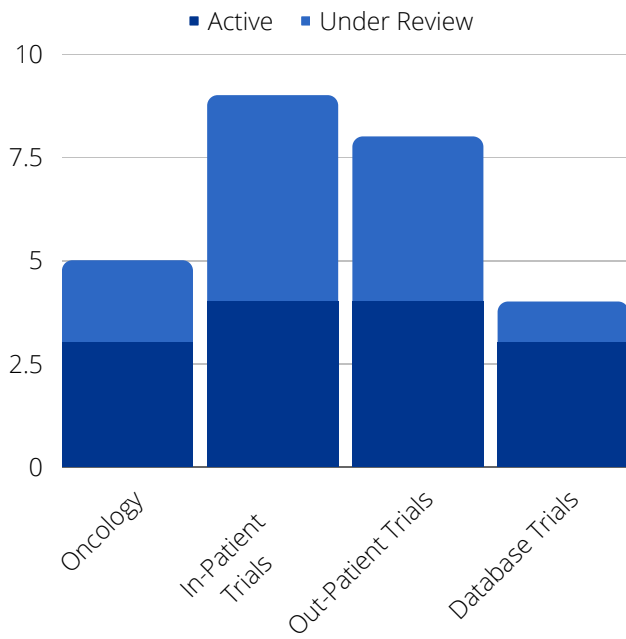
Research Funding



Health-related technologies. Dr. Dipayan Chaudhuri is bringing his HELMET NIV trial to ICU patients. The study will investigate the feasibility of a non-invasive ventilation helmet vs. face mask in patients with acute respiratory failure.

eHealth Solutions. Alanna Landry is partnering with SickKids to offer text messaging support for type 1 diabetes patients transitioning from pediatric to adult care. Patients will receive extra support during their transition, such as educational resources and ability to answer questions through the mobile algorithm.

Randomized Control Trials (RCTs)



Innovative research. Dr. Valerie Sales and Dr. Subarna Thirugnanam in collaboration with Northern Therapeutics are investigating the safety and efficacy of a genetically engineered cell therapy product among patients with septic shock. This study will contribute to the greater body of knowledge that may result in saving thousands of lives, and/or restoring the function and quality of life of septic shock survivors.

↑ 66%

INCREASE IN
RESEARCH
REVENUE

↑ 29%

INCREASE IN
NEW
RANDOMIZED
CONTROLLED
TRIALS (RCT)

↑ 51%

INCREASE IN
NUMBER OF
PATIENTS
ENROLLED IN
TRIALS

↑ 40%

INCREASE IN
TOTAL NUMBER
OF
INVESTIGATORS

↑ 16%

INCREASE IN
RESEARCH
PARTNERSHIPS

Our Metrics



Over the last year we have been laser focused on meeting our targets and growing our research program. Along with increasing research revenue, increasing enrolment in trials and partnerships, we have also developed home grown research trials, all of which are seeking external funding support.

Oak Valley Health was also the recipient of our first Ontario Health Team (OHT) and Canadian Association of Emergency Physician (CAEP) grants. These grants will allow our researchers to bring to fruition their homegrown research ideas.

Knowledge Dissemination

On November 23, 2022, the Office of Research and the Markham Family Medicine Teaching Unit hosted their first Research Day mini-conference. This in-person and virtual event welcomed Dr. Andrew Pinto and Dr. Rima Styra as keynote speakers addressing changing trends in health care during COVID-19.

The mini-conference included a poster presentation session with a mix-and-mingle for staff and community members, as well as a moderated presentation session to learn about active or completed studies happening across the organization or within our community.

The event also included research awards and prizes throughout the day. To view our Research Day posters, presentations and award winners, please visit our website:

www.oakvalleyhealth.ca/research/research-day-2022/

What Next?

The Office of Research and the Markham Family Medicine Teaching Unit (MFMTU) are in preparation for Research Day 2023.

This year's event will include posters, presentations and guest speakers with a global health theme. Stay tuned for more details!



Work with Us

Our Office of Research staff are members of the Canadian Critical Care Trials Group (CCCTG) and the Canadian Cancer Trials Group (CCTG). Oak Valley Health is a participating site of the Network of Networks (N2), Clinical Trials Ontario (CTO), and The Canadian Community ICU Research Network (CCIRNet). If you are looking for research partnership or collaboration, please contact our office.

Oak Valley Health is one of Ontario's leading community health care organizations. Across our two hospitals, Markham Stouffville Hospital and Uxbridge Hospital, as well as our Reactivation Care Centre, we provide high quality, patient-centred care to more than 437,000 patients each year.



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