



Centre for  
Medical Technologies  
& Innovations



# NHG Centre for Medical Technologies & Innovations (CMTi) Clinician Innovator Preparatory Programme Plus (CiPP+) INFORMATION SHEET

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The NHG CMTi Clinician Innovator Preparatory Programme Plus (CiPP+) aims to encourage clinicians to participate in Health Technology (HealthTech) innovation to improve healthcare delivery and outcomes for their patients. The programme would also prepare them to **compete successfully for the Singapore Biodesign (SB) Innovation Fellowship Programme or National Medical Research Council (NMRC) Transition Award (TA) / Clinician Innovator Award (CIA) within the next 2-3 years** and further build his/her career in HealthTech innovation.
- 1.2. Awardees are required to complete the programme within two years.
- 1.3. The programme provides an award quantum of up to S\$40,000 for protected time and/or other related support costs that help in the innovation project; and mentorship.
- 1.4. The programme is overseen by the NHG Centre for Medical Technologies and Innovations (CMTi) Committee which comprises of key subject matter experts from NHG institutions.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1. Applicants should be doctors ((i.e. clinically qualified with MD/MBBS/BDS) or health science / healthcare professionals with non-medical degrees, such as nurses, pharmacists and other allied health professions with primary appointments at NHG institutions.
- 2.2. All applicants should also fulfil the following criteria:
  - a) Have completed the NHG Clinician Innovator Preparatory Programme (CiPP) or demonstrate equivalent level of competency in foundational training in HealthTech innovation
  - b) Is a clinician Principal Investigator (PI), Co-PI or Co-Investigator (Co-I) of an ongoing or new HealthTech innovation project that has been awarded or pending outcomes of competitive grant funding<sup>1</sup>; and/or is in collaboration with industry partner(s).

<sup>1</sup> Examples of eligible funding sources, not limited to but including:

- National Health Innovation Centre Singapore (NHIC) – Innovation to Develop (I2D), Innovation to Industry (I2I), Innovation to Startup (I2Start)
- Agency of Science, Technology & Research (A\*STAR) – Biomedical Engineering Programme (BEP)
- Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research & Technology (SMART) – Innovation Grant
- Enterprise Singapore (ESG) – Startup SG Tech (SSG Tech), Enterprise Development Grant (EDG)
- NHG Joint Grants e.g. NHG-LKCMedicine ALIVE Serious Games Grant (SSG), NHG CMTi-NHIC Joint MedTech Grant
- Other Cluster/ Institutional-level Grants e.g. NHG CMTi MedTech Grant, Ng Teng Fong Healthcare Innovation Programme (NTF HIP) Funding, Rapid Prototyping Grant, Small PROjects Utilising Teams (SPROUTS) Grant, etc.

*Information is accurate as at time of print. Please refer to [www.research.nhg.com.sg](http://www.research.nhg.com.sg) for latest information.*

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- The project or grant term must have at least one year remaining at the point of CiPP+ application without a request for grant extension.
  - c) Demonstrate interest in HealthTech innovation and intention to develop himself/herself as a Clinician Innovator (CI).
- 2.3. Awardees and applicants of NMRC Human Capital Awards and Talent Development Programmes such as Transition Award (TA), Clinician Innovator Award (CIA), Clinician Scientist Award (CSA), HPHSR CSA (HCSA) and Singapore Translational Research Investigator Award (STaR), will not be eligible for the CiPP+.
- 2.4. As awardees are expected to apply for the Singapore Biodesign (SB) Innovation Fellowship Programme or equivalent, NMRC TA or CIA within one year from the end of their CiPP+ award period, applicants should ensure they are able to fulfil the latest eligibility criteria for the respective programme.
- 2.5. The applicant's Department should be able to make provisions for the applicant's commitments towards HealthTech innovation during the CiPP+ award period (if awarded), and continue to facilitate his/her career pathway as a Clinician Innovator beyond the CiPP+ award.
- 2.6. Interested clinicians are strongly encouraged to contact the CiPP Secretariat for discussion on suitability of the programme prior to submitting an application.
- 2.7. Applicants are required to seek endorsements for their applications from the following personnel:
- a) Reporting Officer (RO);
  - b) Head of Department (HOD);
  - c) Director/Chief/Head of Family Group (applicable for health science / healthcare professionals only); and
  - d) Director of Research (DOR).

### 3. FUNDING SUPPORT

- 3.1. Each awardee will receive a funding quantum up to S\$40,000, for up to 2 years to cover:
- a) Salary support for innovation of up to 0.1 FTE, with an applicable annual salary cap by clinician's clinical designation (Table 1);
    - NHG Host Institution will need to top up the difference if the awardee's salary exceeds the applicable annual salary cap.
    - Salary support will cover the total annual compensation, inclusive of salaries, CPF, fringe benefits, as well as bonus / incentive payments.
  - b) Local or overseas conferences/ trainings and related travel expenses;
  - c) Services and expertise related to the innovation project such as biostatistics, bioinformatics, data analysis and management; and/or
  - d) Other related support costs that help in the innovation project.

Table 1: Annual Salary Cap by Clinical Designation

Clinical Designation	Annual Salary Cap
Senior Consultant	S\$300,000
Consultant	S\$200,000
Associate Consultant	S\$150,000
Health Science / Healthcare Professional	S\$100,000

- 3.2. The CiPP+ funding is not applicable to cover any direct costs related to the innovation project or routine clinical care or services.
- 3.3. There should be an ongoing innovation project for the CiPP+ award to apply. At point of CiPP+ award announcement:
- For projects that are ongoing/have started, awardees may determine the preferred start date within 3 months from award announcement;
  - For projects pending grant application outcomes, award commencement will be aligned with subsequent start date of collaboration / project agreement.
- 3.4. The funding would cease once the innovation collaboration / project agreement term ends or upon the 2-year award period, whichever is earlier. Award renewal is generally not allowable.

#### 4. MENTORSHIP

- 4.1. Each applicant is required to nominate a mentor who is an institution representative on the NHG CMTi Committee (refer to Annex 1). The CiPP Secretariat may help to facilitate the matching of appropriate mentor if required.
- 4.2. Each applicant will receive mentorship in the following areas:
- a) Guidance in their clinician innovator career development
  - b) Advice on their innovation project
  - c) Navigation to appropriate innovation resources
  - d) Engagement in institution or NHG cluster level innovation activities and initiatives
- 4.3. Applicants may propose other qualified NHG mentor(s) that is not part of the NHG CMTi Committee, with justifications and, subject to approval.
- 4.4. During the award, awardees will be granted access to the subject matter experts on an adhoc basis in area(s) of their own interest. Proposed topic areas may include venture building, medical technology development cycle, medical device regulatory affairs, intellectual property, etc. This will be subsequently facilitated by NHG CMTi.

## 5. REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAMME

### 5.1. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) / Deliverables

KPI / Deliverable	Details
<b>Application to Extramural Fellowships and/or Awards</b>	Singapore Biodesign (SB) Innovation Fellowship or equivalent, NMRC TA, or NMRC CIA <sup>2</sup>
<b>Publication(s) as First Author, Patents Awarded or Filed</b>	To build up track record for Singapore Biodesign (SB) Innovation Fellowship, and/or NMRC TA / CIA
<b>Completion of Innovation Project and Fulfilment of Required Project Deliverables</b>	To be demonstrated through relevant grant agency's reporting requirements
<b>Implementation of Healthcare Innovation Ideas into Clinical Practice, Health and Economic Outcomes</b>	To be demonstrated through CiPP+ Interim/Final Reports

### 5.2. Assessment

Awardees are required to submit an Interim Progress Report and a Final Report within 1 month after the mid-point of award and 3 months from the end of funding period respectively.

Awardees are required to present to the CMTi Committee at the mid-point and at the end of the CiPP+ award period.

Awardees are required to report their research and innovation achievements up to 5 years after the end of the award period.

## 6. APPLICATION PROCESS

6.1. The application to the NHG CiPP+ is open throughout the year. Please contact the Secretariat to indicate your interest in applying for the CiPP+ and to obtain the application package.

6.2. Applicants are required to submit all application documents **in softcopy** to the CiPP Secretariat at NHG Group Research through their Institution's Clinical Research Unit (CRU) / Clinical Research and Innovation Office (CRIO) by the stipulated deadline advised by the CiPP Secretariat.

- a) **Application Form;**
- b) **Applicant's Curriculum Vitae (CV);**

<sup>2</sup> The CiPP+ award will be subject to revisions upon successful award of the SB Fellowship Programme or equivalent, NMRC Transition Award (TA) or NMRC Clinician Innovator Award (CIA), if any, within the award period.

- c) **Mentor(s)' CV** – applicable only if he/she is not from the NHG CMTi Committee;
- d) **Project Proposal** (including the scientific abstract and breakdown of budget);
- e) **Collaboration Agreement (CA) / Project Agreement (PA)** (if applicable); **and**
- f) **Other Supporting Documents** (if applicable).

- 6.3. The Institution's CRU / CRIO will set an **internal deadline** for the above submission and ensure that the documents reach the CiPP Secretariat by the stipulated deadline. Please check with your institutions for the deadline. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.
- 6.4. Shortlisted applicants may be required to conduct a presentation of his/ her application and development plans to pursue a career as a clinician innovator to the review panel after the submission of their applications.
- 6.5. Please allow up to 6 months from application submission for processing and review.

## 7. APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 7.1. Applicants will be evaluated based on:
  - a) Applicant's level of interest and commitment in innovation;
  - b) Applicant's immediate plans for innovation (e.g. ongoing projects, grant applications, etc.)
  - c) How innovation fits in with applicant's future career plans; and
  - d) Proposed project's aims, methodologies, measurable outcomes, and significance of potential healthcare impact.

## 8. CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, please refer to the NHG Research Website ([www.research.nhg.com.sg](http://www.research.nhg.com.sg)) and/ or contact the CiPP Secretariat:

**Ms Nicole Yap**

Tel: 6340 2414

Email: [Nicole\\_YX\\_YAP@nhg.com.sg](mailto:Nicole_YX_YAP@nhg.com.sg)

**Ms Valerie Yeo**

Tel: 6496 6021

Email: [Valerie\\_Mh\\_YEO@nhg.com.sg](mailto:Valerie_Mh_YEO@nhg.com.sg)

**NHG CMTi Committee Members**

Each applicant is required to nominate a mentor who is an institution representative on the NHG CMTi Committee. Applicants may approach any members listed in the table below or contact the CiPP Secretariat to help facilitate the matching of appropriate mentor if required.

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position(s)</b>
NHG HQ	A/Prof Tey Hong Liang	CMTi Clinical Director Senior Consultant & Director of Research, National Skin Centre
	A/Prof Yong Keng Kwang <sup>#</sup>	Group Chief Nurse
	Adj Asst Prof Eric Wong	Group Chief Clinical Informatics Officer Senior Consultant, Emergency Department, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
Institute of Mental Health	A/Prof Jimmy Lee	Regional Chief & Senior Consultant, Department of Psychosis
Khoo Teck Puat Hospital	Dr Bin Wern Hsien	Head & Senior Consultant, Department of Anaesthesia Medical Director, Admiralty Medical Centre
	Dr Eugene Yang	Senior Consultant, Department of General Surgery
Tan Tock Seng Hospital	A/Prof Tan Cher Heng	Senior Consultant, Department of Diagnostic Radiology ACMB (Clinical Research and Innovation)
	Adj A/Prof Leong Khai Pang	Senior Consultant, Department of Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology Director, Special Projects (Centre Grant)
	Dr Loh Yong Joo	Head & Senior Consultant, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine Director, Clinical Innovation, Clinical Research & Innovation Office (CRIO)
	Dr Shawn Vasoo Sushilan	Senior Consultant, Department of Infectious Diseases Clinical Director, National Centre for Infectious Diseases
Woodlands Health	Adj A/Prof Ernest Kwek	Chief & Senior Consultant, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Clinical Director, Research
	A/Prof Koh Kwong Fah	Senior Consultant, Department of Anaesthesia, Clinical Director, Clinical Services
NHG Polyclinics	Dr Valerie Teo	Family Physician-Consultant Head, Kallang Polyclinic

<sup>#</sup> Nursing and allied health applicants may approach A/Prof Yong Keng Kwang as mentor instead of committee members from their own institution if preferred.