

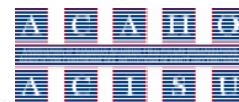
# SPOR: A Major Strategy for the Development of Clinical Research in Canada CTS: September 15, 2011

Jean L Rouleau, MD  
Scientific Director,  
CIHR Institute of Circulatory and  
Respiratory Health

Canadian Clinical Trial Summit  
*September 15, 2011*

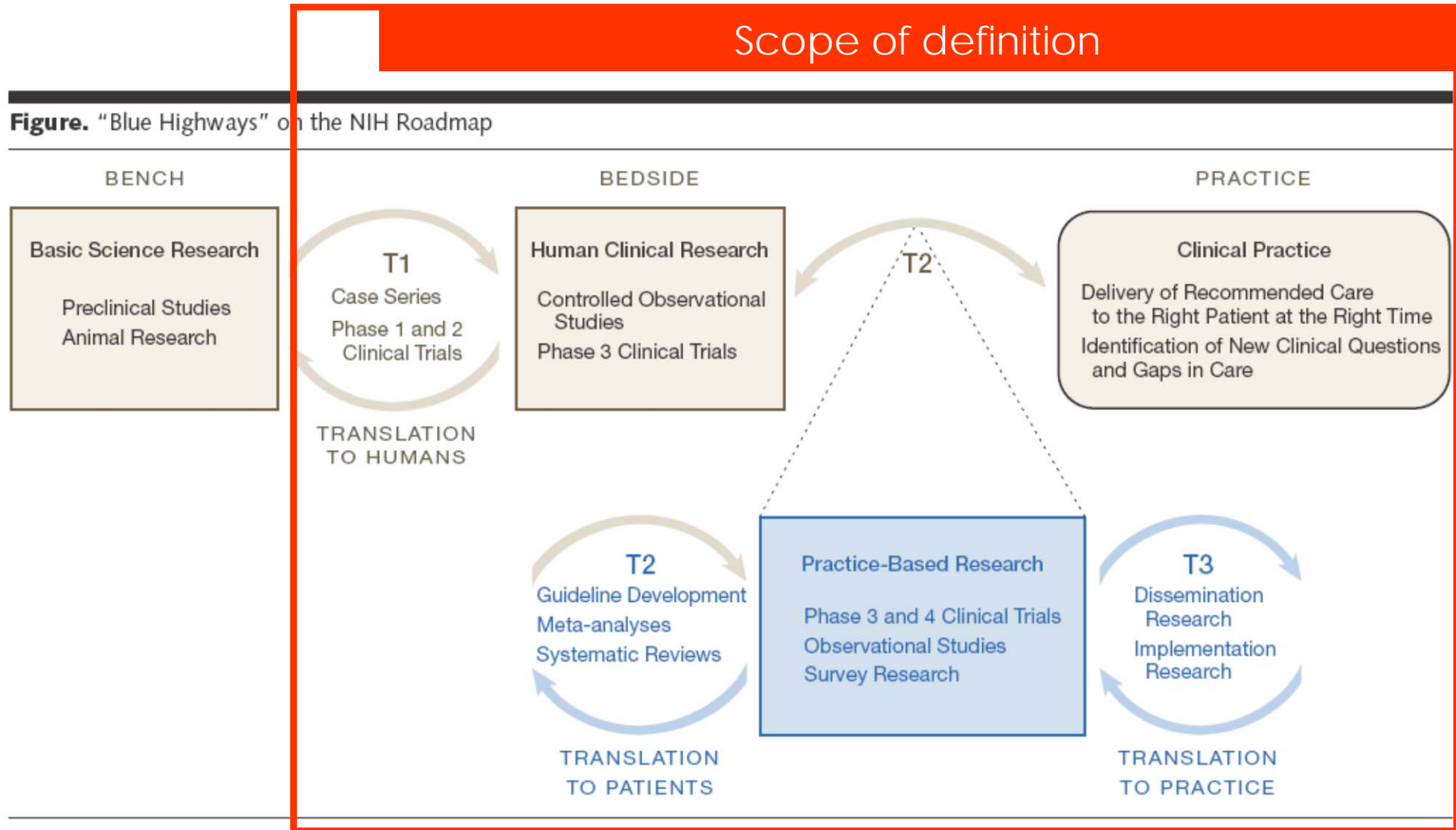
Canada's Research-Based  
Pharmaceutical Companies  
  
Les compagnies de recherche  
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CIHR IRSC  
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en santé du Canada



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# Definition of Patient-Oriented Research



Westfall, J. M. et al. JAMA 2007;297:403-406

# *The 8 CIHR Signature initiatives being developed into business cases/plans:*

## **CIHR Priorities**

## **Eight CIHR Roadmap Signature Initiatives**

*Enhance Patient-Oriented Care and Improve Clinical Results through Scientific and Technological Innovations*

*Patient Oriented Research Strategy  
Personalized Medicine*

*Support a High-Quality, Accessible and Sustainable Health-Care System*

*Community Based Primary Health Care  
Evidence Informed Health Care Renewal*

*Reduce Health Inequities of Aboriginal Peoples and other Vulnerable Populations*

*Pathways to Health Equity for Aboriginal Peoples*

*Prepare For and Respond To Existing and Emerging Threats to Health*

*Promote Health and Reduce the Burden of Chronic Disease and Mental Illness*

*Alzheimer's  
Epigenetics  
Inflammation in Chronic Disease*

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# Partners & Collaborators

## Partners:

- *CIHR*
- *private sector (e.g. Rx&D member companies)*
- *health charities (e.g. Heart & Stroke)*
- *universities and research institutes;*
- *federal, provincial and territorial governments;*
- *other research funders such as private foundations or foreign entities which fund patient-oriented research*

# Four major components of the Strategy on Patient-Oriented Research

- 1) Improve the research environment and infrastructure.
- 2) Set up mechanisms to better train and mentor health professionals and non-clinicians in health research.
- 3) Strengthen organizational, regulatory and financial support for multi-site studies.
- 4) Support best practices in health care.

# Establish national infrastructure: Multi-disciplinary research networks

Research Networks bring together a unified group to build a critical mass of technical and scientific expertise on a national scale to provide research leadership and enhance impact.

## RESEARCH NETWORKS



### Objectives

- Act as one coordinated group to effectively direct resources in specialty areas (e.g. mental health, primary care).
- Ask central questions to direct pan-Canadian studies most relevant to Canadians.
- Generate evidence from previous work and disseminate best practices to the patient-care community.
- Mentor and support the training of emerging talent.

# SPOR Networks Mandates

- **Four NETWORK Mandates:**

1. Improving the delivery of care by developing or validating a structurally altering intervention favoring the delivery of best practices: Development or validation of an intervention that changes a significant aspect of practice, and its implementation
2. Development of internationally competitive characteristics/platforms.
3. Training and Mentoring.
4. International Partnering and Leadership.

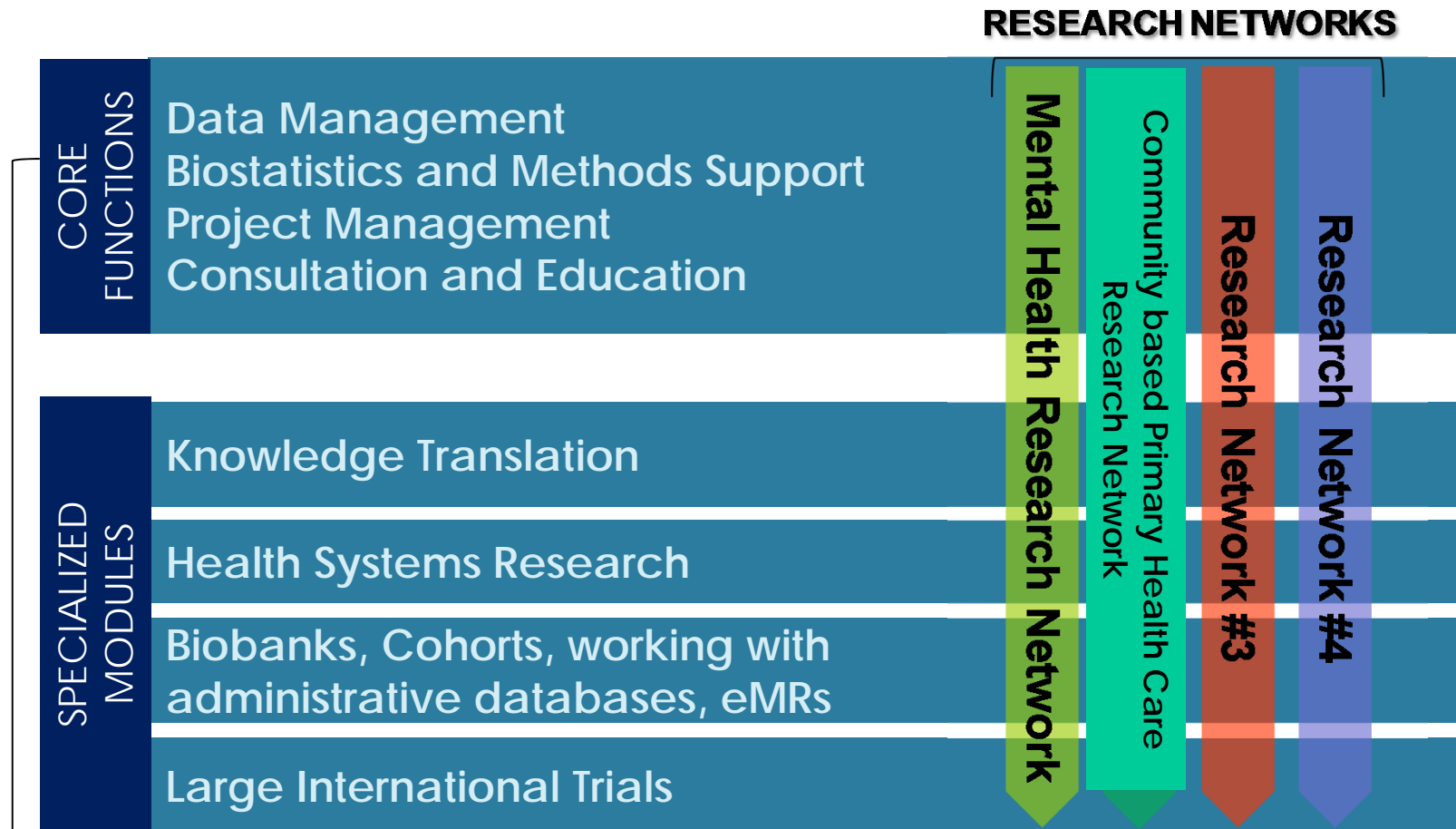
# Establish local infrastructure: SUPPORT units

Research networks are underpinned by local SUPPORT units that provide the resources and personnel to conduct research day to day.





# When combined, SUPPORT units provide the infrastructure and skills for highly specialized Research Networks to identify and tackle key clinical questions



# Composition of SUPPORT Units

**Multidisciplinary teams** of investigators and methodologists, associated with local and provincial decision makers, including:

- Patient and/or public representatives
- Clinical investigators from all related professions and specialties
- Clinical epidemiologists
- Biostatisticians
- Social scientists
- Health systems researchers and health economists
- Clinical trialists
- Research support staff
  - Nurse research coordinators
  - Research associates and assistants
  - Expert personnel in support and development fields, ex bio-informatics and programming, data analysts, etc...

# SUPPORT Units: Provincial Visions (1)

**Ontario:** One large SUPPORT Unit consisting of a core hub that is linked to nodes. The assets and resources of the network will be accessed through any point in the network. Moreover, nodes may also function as hubs on behalf of the core, based on specialization and critical mass.

**Québec (?):** One large SUPPORT Unit for the province, with multiple campuses, some with specific strengths, but all collaborating.

**Alberta:** One large SUPPORT Unit for the province, with two major campuses, each with particular strengths, and multiple smaller associated campuses.

# SUPPORT Units: Provincial Visions (2)

**Saskatchewan, Manitoba:** One SUPPORT Unit with a major hub and multiple smaller integrated campuses.

**BC:** The development of the vision is less advanced, but it would appear that they are heading towards one SUPPORT Unit with one or two large hubs, and numerous smaller associated campuses.

**Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI:** One SUPPORT Unit with a major hub in Halifax, and smaller campuses in New Brunswick and PEI.

**Newfoundland:** Vision being developed.

# Four major components of the Strategy on Patient-Oriented Research

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# Four major components of the Strategy on Patient-Oriented Research

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# Strengthen organizational, regulatory and financial support for clinical trials

- 1) **Streamline ethics review** for multicentre trials by developing common (regional or provincial) Ethics Review Boards with reciprocal arrangements: multiple provincial challenges that requires national leadership in order to assure coherence and reciprocity, **Penny Moody-Corbett (+ Health Canada)**.
- 2) Develop a **national template for contracts** and inter-institutional agreements, **ACAHO and RxD**.
- 3) Develop national standards for the **costing of procedures and services** associated with RCTs.

# Strengthen organizational, regulatory and financial support for clinical trials

- 4) Simplify and focus clinical research reporting (adverse events), and develop more flexible and adaptive protocols, **Salim Yusuf**.
- 5) Develop **national standards of operation** for all clinical research activities, **N2**.
- 6) Common **national administrative data base**, and/or common electronic medical records (**EMR**), **Robyn Tamblyn**.



# Four major components of the Strategy on Patient-Oriented Research

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- 4) Support best practices in health care.

# Strengthen the financial support for multi-site studies

- Increase direct funding of RCTs in partnerships with RxD, National and International granting agencies, and other funders.
- Funding of RCTs and other forms of clinical research by SPOR comprehensive, institute and other **SPOR related Networks**.
- Funding of RCTs and other forms of clinical research by **SUPPORT Units** (and their partners) focusing on comparative effectiveness or health care delivery research.

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- 4) **Support best practices in health care.**

**Steering Committee for the Canadian Coalition on A Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research**

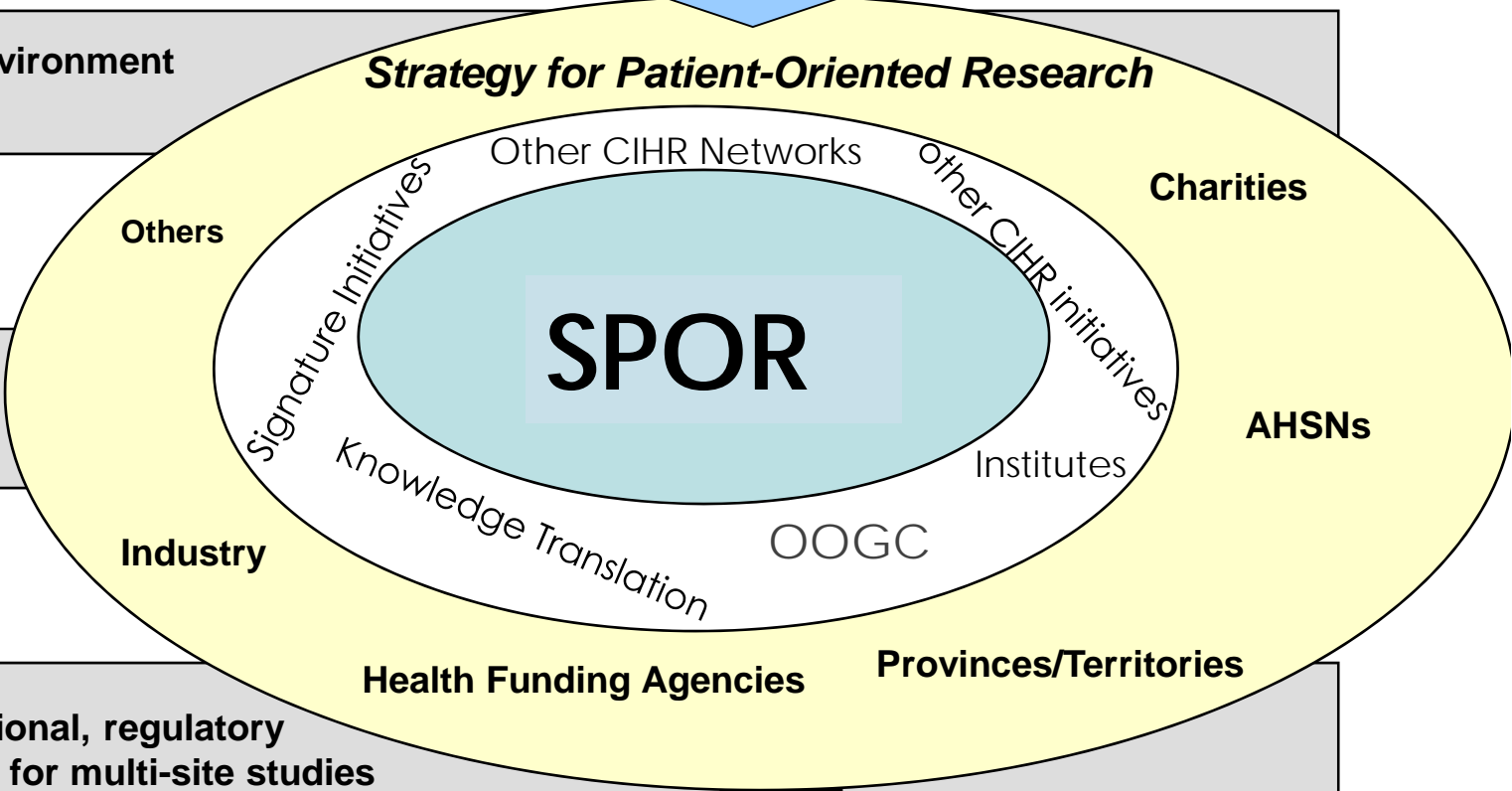
Knowledge creation



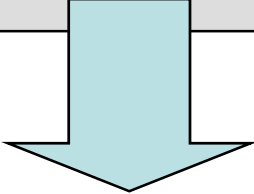
**Improve research environment and infrastructure**

**Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research**

**Building the talent pool**



**Strengthen organizational, regulatory and financial support for multi-site studies**



**Support best practices in health care**

# Le mot de la fin



Les sceptiques  
seront confondus

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