

# JDRF Clinical Trial Network Proposal Overview

**Proposal:** To create a 10-year strategic partnership between Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Canada (JDRF) and the Government of Canada with an initial investment of \$125 million over 5 years to create a Clinical Trial Network for diabetes research.

**Project Goal:** To accelerate research advances for type 1 diabetes and its complications via the delivery of a Clinical Trial Network and inspire exemplary network innovation and management across a Canada-wide platform.

**Need:** Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease that is the most severe form of diabetes. It strikes infants, children and adults suddenly and leaves them dependent on insulin for life with the constant threat of developing complications such as kidney failure, blindness, nerve damage, lower limb amputations, heart disease, stroke and pregnancy complications. More than 300,000 Canadians live with type 1 diabetes.

The World Health Organization indicates 5-10% of a nation's health budget is spent on diabetes. In Australia, it has been determined that type 1 diabetes accounts for 42% of all dollars spent on diabetes treatment even though individuals with type 1 diabetes only comprise 10% of the diabetes population.

**Pre-Budget Recommendation - February 2008:** General recommendation number three (3) in the Finance Committee Pre-Budget Report states: "*The federal government create a specialized fund for medical research for children's health. In this regard, priority should be given to the establishment of a partnership with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Canada.*"

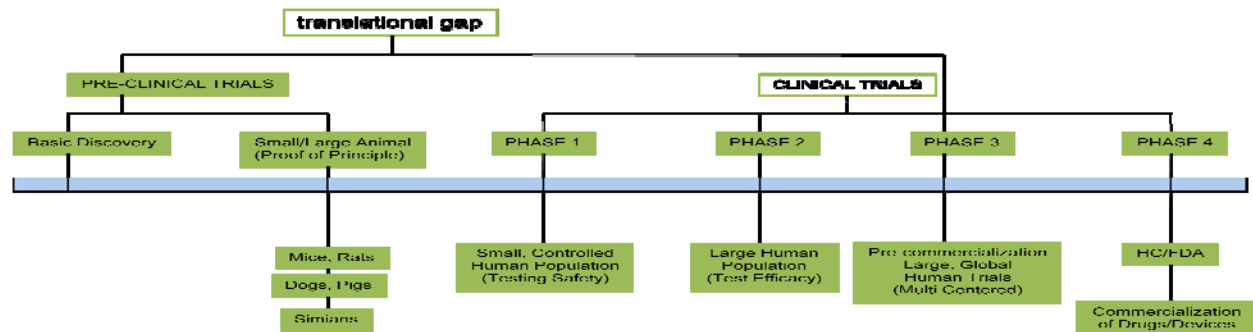
**Business Model:** JDRF's research management policies are founded on a sound business model. This brings with it expertise that is not available elsewhere in the world. The business model calls for regular evaluations, and there is a detailed proposal ready that will show a tangible and measurable return on investment to the Government of Canada. The distinguishing factor is that JDRF is seeking government investment in a partnership, not a handout.

**Consistent with the Science and Technology Strategy:** The proposed partnership conforms to the Government of Canada's Science & Technology Strategy, which explicitly encourages partnerships. In fact, the proposal is consistent with all four principles of the Science & Technology Strategy which involves promoting world-class research; focusing on priorities; encouraging partnerships; and enhancing accountability.

**Consistent with Advantage Canada:** Government investment in a Clinical Trial Network will help further the main objectives of Advantage Canada. Namely, the partnership will create a people advantage by attracting and retaining our best researchers. It will create a knowledge advantage by addressing a recognized gap in Canadian research. It will create an Entrepreneurial Advantage by cultivating a more competitive and dynamic research environment.

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## Research Continuum:



## Benefits, Impact and Legacy:

- A Clinical Trial enables promising scientific research to be developed into **viable therapies**.
- Scientific research funded by JDRF for type 1 diabetes has had many **applications to type 2 diabetes**, which affects approximately 3 million Canadians. Diabetes has had a particularly serious impact in aboriginal communities.
- Research projects could be **operational within 3 to 6 months**, providing immediate economic stimulus.
- Canada has **recognized strength** in diabetes research.
- Doing this critical research stage in Canada means that **commercialization** of therapies resulting from the research are more likely to remain in Canada. This could have significant long-term advantages for the biotechnology industry in Canada.
- This partnership will set the prototype and **create a legacy of a Canadian Clinical Trial Network**.

For additional information, please contact Jessica Dupuis, National Program Manager, Government Relations at 905-944-4608 or by e-mail at [jdupuis@jdrf.ca](mailto:jdupuis@jdrf.ca)