

Ci2i CONNECT: Overview and Ways to Collaborate

Guiding Principles

- **Equity of Access:** All clinical, surgical and researcher members in the Toronto community may participate.
- **Mutual Benefit:** Matches are intended to support co-learning, co-development, and co-publication.
- **Transparency:** Participants agree to clear communication of goals, expectations, and milestones and/or deliverables.
- **Voluntariness:** Participation in any match is non-binding and exploratory in nature.

Outcomes & Impact

- Increased and strengthened collaborations
- Co-authored abstracts, publications, or grant applications
- Enhanced translation between bench and bedside
- Discovery-driven refinement of clinical trial design or endpoints

Current Projects:

Includes calls for proposals, initiatives currently seeking scientific collaborators, and more.

1. Cardiac function and Immuno-Oncology

Dinesh Thavendiranathan, MD, SM, a cardiologist at the Toronto General Hospital, UHN, would like to set up a program titled, "Understanding the mechanisms and consequences of immune infiltration after ICI treatment on cardiovascular function".

We are seeking to identify a panel of Department of Immunology (DOI) faculty at the University of Toronto interested in deep immune profiling on cardiac tissue to join this initiative.

Ci2i CONNECT Mailbox: ci2iconnect@uhn.ca

Current Projects:

Continued

2. Open call for project proposals for collaborative mRNA research program

UHN's Ci2i mRNA Vaccine Centre of Excellence is a collaborative program established in 2023 following [UHN's drug discovery partnership with Providence Therapeutics](#). The program aims to develop mRNA-based therapies by combining UHN's clinical research expertise with [Providence Therapeutics'](#) advanced mRNA technology.

In partnership with UHN's Clinical Research Collaborative Centre (CRCC), the mRNA Vaccine Centre of Excellence invites UHN principal investigators to submit project proposals that advance ongoing research to unlock the potential of mRNA-based therapies for the benefit of UHN patients.

Priority areas include the following:

- Developing mRNA vaccines and therapeutics
- Producing and testing mRNA delivery platforms
- Advancing mRNA therapeutics for clinical trials in oncology, infectious disease, autoimmunity, or transplantation

Proposed projects will be evaluated by representatives from Providence Therapeutics, Ci2i, and CRCC.

To request an application form, please contact doug.millar@uhn.ca.