

## Participating REB Orientation Package

### Welcome to CanReview!

CanReview is a pan-Canadian collaboration supported by the Accelerated Clinical Trials (ACT) Consortium to enable a single research ethics review for multi-site clinical trials conducted across Canada, while ensuring the highest ethical standards. We are committed to engaging the clinical trials community, partnering with Canada's high-quality REBs, establishing proactive mechanisms, publicly reporting approval timelines, and advocating to remove legislative barriers so that, together, we can achieve a Canada-wide single research ethics review system.

### How it Works

#### **Participating REBs**

We're inviting Canada's high-quality REBs to support pan-Canadian, multi-site clinical trials. CanReview uses a distributed REB of Record model. Reviews are conducted on Stream, an online platform that enables all research sites participating in a multi-site trial to undergo one ethics review. There is no cost for an REB to participate in CanReview. Criteria for participation is outlined below.

#### **Fees**

Only industry-sponsored or industry-supported studies are charged ethics review fees. Invoices are sent directly to the sponsors listed in the ethics application forms. A fee schedule can be found [here](#).

#### **REB Selection**

CanReview accepts both investigator-initiated and industry sponsored multi-site clinical trials for review. For each clinical trial, a CanReview participating REB will be selected to be the single REB of Record. Selection criteria to be prioritized include REB specialization, the home REB of the country-wide applicant (in the case of investigator-initiated studies), and the equitable distribution of studies across CanReview participating REBs.

## Stream

Ethics reviews are conducted on Stream, an online platform that enables all research sites participating in a multi-site trial to undergo one ethics review. Stream facilitates collaboration between REBs, sites, sponsors, investigators and research teams. It provides a common ethics review entry point, consistent requirements, transparent metrics and timelines, notifications and reminders, and a central repository for study documents, making reviews easy, timely and efficient.

## Strict Timelines

An integral part of CanReview are strict and fair timelines placed on both the applying research teams as well as the reviewing Research Ethics Board. These timelines ensure that Canadian-based trials remain globally competitive while maintaining the highest ethical standards.

## Guide to Getting Started

### Step 1: Register as a Participating REB

CanReview is committed to ensuring the highest ethical and quality standards. At this time, CanReview's REB Validation Tactical Team, comprised of REB professionals from across the country, has endorsed these pathways to become a participating REB in Phase I of CanReview.

- Qualified via the [CTO REB Qualification Program](#)
- Accrediated through [Human Research Accreditation Canada](#)
- Qualified via the [CHEER REB Assessment Program](#)

REBs that have current status in either pathway are invited to get started with CanReview today. The CanReview team is available to support REBs seeking participation and consider reasonable opportunities for fast-tracking. CanReview will continue to examine and refine pathways to participation as the system comes online.

If you do meet this criteria, you can begin the process of registration by emailing [info@canreview.ca](mailto:info@canreview.ca).

### Step 2: System Onboarding

Virtual training is required prior to an REB acting as a Board of Record within the CanReview system. You will be asked to schedule an onboarding session with the

Stream team to learn how the online system works. All relevant team members are required to participate in training, which typically takes upwards of 1.5 hours and includes a demonstration and Q&A.

### **Step 3: Review Relevant Materials**

REBs pursuing participation are recommended to review relevant manuals, quick guides and training videos, and keep them filed for future use. Questions related to how the platform works can always be directed to the [Stream helpdesk](#).

Key User Guides:

- [Getting Started](#)
- [Navigating Stream](#)
- [Review Process](#)

### **Step 4: Register Your Team**

The Stream team manages registration for REB teams. Participating REBs are asked to identify members of their team who will require access to the Stream platform. This may include operations team members, managers, board members and chairs, and directors accepting studies on behalf of board members or chairs.

## **Here to Support You**

CanReview users can receive direct support at any time. A CanReview Navigator is available to help users walk through initial questions during onboarding and study set-up. The Stream team is available to answer questions related to the online platform. Users can also submit tickets through the Stream Helpdesk, which are promptly answered by the Stream team. Finally, weekly webinars are available to walk new users through the system and answer any questions.

Key Contacts:

- [info@canreview.ca](mailto:info@canreview.ca) – Connect with the CanReview Navigator and Stream Team
- [Stream Helpdesk](#) – Registered system users can submit tickets