



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 funding¹; and/or is in collaboration with industry partner(s).

¹ 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.

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

Those with outstanding report(s) for grants/programmes administered or managed by NHG Group Research that is/are not submitted by the stipulated timeline, will not be eligible to submit new applications³ as Principal Investigator (PI) until such report(s) is/are submitted. This will exclude report(s) with extended submission timeline as acknowledged or accepted by the grant/programme Secretariat due to a valid consideration.

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.

² 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.

³ This refers to any new application for grant/programme administered or managed by NHG Group Research, including the Centre for Medical Technologies and Innovations (CMTi) MedTech Grant, CMTi-National Health Innovation Centre (NHIC) Joint MedTech Grant, NHG-LKCMedicine Clinician Scientist Preparatory Programme (CSPP), NHG-LKCMedicine Clinician Scientist Preparatory Programme Plus (CSPP+), NHG-LKCMedicine Clinician Scientist Fellowship (CSF), NHG-LKCMedicine Clinician Scientist Career Scheme (CSCS), NHG CMTi Clinician Innovator Preparatory Programme (CiPP) and NHG CMTi Clinician Innovator Preparatory Programme Plus (CiPP+).

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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)**;
 - 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) and/ or contact the CiPP Secretariat:

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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.

Institution	Name	Position(s)
NHG HQ	A/Prof Tey Hong Liang	CMTi Clinical Director Senior Consultant & Director of Research, National Skin Centre
	A/Prof Yong Keng Kwang [#]	Group Chief Nurse
	A/Prof Eric Wong	Group Chief Data & Strategy Officer Senior Consultant, Emergency Department, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
	Mr Wilfred Soon	Group Chief Informatics Officer
	Mr Khalid Anuar [#]	Deputy Director, Group Allied Health
Institute of Mental Health	Dr Christopher Cheok	Senior Consultant & Chief Forensic Psychiatrist
Khoo Teck Puat Hospital	Adj Asst Prof Bin Wern Hsien	Head & Senior Consultant, Department of Anaesthesia Medical Director, Admiralty Medical Centre Chairman, Technology Assessment Committee, Yishun Health
	Adj Asst Prof Clement Chia	Consultant, Department of General Surgery & Head of Breast Surgery Service
Tan Tock Seng Hospital	A/Prof Tan Cher Heng	Senior Consultant, Department of Diagnostic Radiology Assistant Chairman Medical Board (Clinical Research and Innovation)
	Adj A/Prof Loh Yong Joo	Head & Senior Consultant, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine Director, Clinical Innovations, Clinical Research & Innovation Office
	Adj Asst Prof 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, WH Office of Research Development and Scholarship
NHG Polyclinics	Dr Valerie Teo	Family Physician-Consultant Head, Kallang Polyclinic

[#] Nursing and allied health applicants may approach A/Prof Yong Keng Kwang or Mr Khalid Anuar as mentor instead of committee members from their own institution if preferred.