



Thunder Bay Regional
Health Research
Institute

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Clinical Research at TBRHSC

Clinical Research Services Department

Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute (TBRHRI)

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TBRHRI is the research arm of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. Its mandate is to facilitate clinical research strategic to regional health care needs.



Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences
Centre

Thunder Bay Regional
Health Research
Institute

healthy
together

En santé
ensemble

Research Happening at TBRHSC

Currently there are **170** open research studies happening at TBRHSC

Q. Who does research?

A:

Principal Investigator	Open Studies
Scientist	7
Professional Staff	7
Physician	131
External Organization	11
AHSC Partner (PhD)	10
Administrative Staff	4

Q. Why are there no learners listed above?

A: A learner must have a preceptor to lead the study as Principal Investigator. A learner can join as a co-investigator or team member.

56 of the studies above involve a learner on the project!

Q. What type of research is done at TBRHSC?

A: ALL TYPES!

- Chart reviews
- Clinical trials
 - Drug studies
 - Device studies
- Observational studies
- Quality Improvement
- ...and more!





Examples of TBRHSC Resident research

Calcific tendinitis: comparing minimally invasive modalities

Started by a PGY-3 Orthopaedic resident

A randomized clinical trial comparing two different treatment options by assessing various post-treatment outcomes

The effects of obesity on functional outcomes after total knee arthroplasty

Started by a PGY-2 Orthopaedic resident

A prospective observational study that follows outcomes (patient reported and functional outcomes) for knee replacement patients for 1 year post-surgery to determine if there is any effect of obesity on their health status post-surgery.

Long Term Outcomes in a Remote Northern Bariatric Centre of Excellence: Follow up study

Started by a PGY-2 General Surgery resident

A chart review collecting patient outcome data from a cohort of patients who underwent Bariatric surgery at TBRHSC



Navigating the Research Processes

There are two mandatory Reviews and Approval pathways at TBRHSC:

- 1) **Ethics review** and approval (TBRHSC or LU REB)
 - 2) **Institutional review** and authorization (Research Program)
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1. TBRHSC/LU Research Ethics Board review

- Two separate boards with different processes
- The two boards operate under a “reciprocity” agreement so only one review is required
- Which board you will need to submit your project to depends on the study methodology
- Visit tbrhsc.net/regional-partners/research-ethics-board/ for process, forms, etc.

2. Research Program review

- Review studies for institutional impact; ensure all required reviews and approvals have been received (including ethics); ensure research team members have required training
- Application can be submitted at the same time as REB application and review is done concurrently
- Research Program will issue the final approval (“Authorization”) from our VP Research, so that you can begin your study
- Visit tbrhsc.net/research/research-program/ for process, forms, etc.



How to start your research?

- **Complete ethics training now!** The certificate never expires and this is required for all people conducting research at TBRHSC and most other organizations:

www.tcps2core.ca/welcome

- Discuss your research ideas with your TBRHSC preceptor, or the Research Coordinator/Tutor in your NOSM program
- Determine objectives, study design, methodology, how you will analyze the data
- Create study documents – at minimum you will need a formal study protocol, data collection tools, and a budget
- You may also need a consent form, questionnaires, recruitment material/scripts etc., depending on the type of study.
- Follow the process on the REB and Research Program websites to submit project.



Who is available to help?

TBRHRI Research Support Services littlefs@tbh.net

- Help you develop your study documents, submit to REB, full support on your study from idea to completion. A fee for service model (often funded by grants, LEG funding, etc.). Contact us for a quote today! Study document templates also available at no cost.

TBRHSC Research Ethics office tbr_reo@tbh.net

- For projects going through TBRHSC REB

LU Research Ethics office research.ethics@lakeheadu.ca

- For projects going through Lakehead REB

Research Program researchprogram@tbh.net

- For institutional review – required for all projects at TBRHSC

NOSM Library askthelibrary@nosm.ca

- Can assist with literature reviews, research consultations, scholarly publishing services, etc. Also can connect you with your NOSM research tutor!

Clinical Trials horned@tbh.net

- Health Canada regulated clinical trials (e.g. drug or device studies) are required to go through Clinical Trials (\$\$\$)

