

Call for applications: Healthcare Improvement Fellowship 2024-2025

The Centre for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (CQuIPS) and Choosing Wisely Canada (CWC) are now accepting applications for their Healthcare Improvement Fellowship program for September 2024 to June 2025.

About CQuIPS

CQuIPS, located at the University of Toronto Temerty Faculty of Medicine (www.cquips.ca), has the mission to accelerate and deepen the work of people and organizations that are passionate about enhancing quality and patient safety. Through scholarship, learning and networks, CQuIPS' goals are to deliver exceptional value, advance the field and grow the community (<https://bit.ly/2VTROom>).

About CWC

CWC is the national voice for reducing unnecessary tests and treatments in Canada (<https://choosingwiselycanada.org/>). Central to the campaign are recommendations developed by national clinician societies that identify frequently overused tests and treatments that are not supported by scientific evidence and may expose patients to harm. Choosing Wisely Canada mobilizes health care providers and their organizations to adopt the recommendations and make them part of routine practice.

Fellowship Directors: Dr. Joanne Goldman (CQuIPS) and Dr. Andrea Patey (CWC)

The Healthcare Improvement Fellowship consists of two streams:

- **Stream 1:** CQuIPS stream
- **Stream 2:** CWC stream

What are the aims of the Healthcare Improvement Fellowship?

1. Provide individuals who have completed advanced training in quality improvement (QI) the opportunity to further develop their experience, expertise and leadership in the field.
2. Foster a community of Fellows to learn with and from one another.
3. Integrate Fellows into initiatives that advance the overall mission and strategic priorities of CQuIPS and/or CWC.

Who is eligible to be a CQuIPS/CWC Fellow?

- Individuals must be a graduate of an advanced QI education program or equivalent experience.
- We encourage individuals from any healthcare professional training background and/or relevant graduate school training background to apply, including early-career leaders, quality and safety professionals and researchers.
- Applicants must attest to having protected time to carry out Fellowship-related work and attend Fellow sessions.

What is the focus of CQuIPS/CWC Fellow activities?

The CQuIPS/CWC Fellowship consists of the following core components:

1. **Scholarly project/research and CQuIPS/CWC involvement:**
 - Based on their interests and priorities, Fellows work on a CQuIPS or CWC initiative or a project that is strongly aligned with CQuIPS or CWC strategic priorities.
 - CQuIPS projects could be in relation to its QI, research or education programs. Note: Projects aligned with the CQuIPS priorities of equity and health system resilience are of particular interest.
 - CWC activities could include supporting or leading a component of an implementation project, participating in program evaluation, or supporting regional or national CWC initiatives (e.g., Using Labs Wisely, STARS), etc.
2. **Fellowship sessions:**
 - Monthly Fellowship sessions combine Fellow presentations and project updates, guest speaker talks and networking activities. Sessions are organized as following:
 - i. One full-day in-person session in September 2024
 - ii. Two-hour sessions monthly from October 2024 to May 2025 (except January)
 - iii. One full-day hybrid (i.e., in-person and virtual) session in January 2025
 - iv. One full-day in-person session in June 2025
 - Guest speakers cover topics such as QI methodology, implementation science, equity and QI, and patient/carer/family engagement
 - The two fellowship streams (i.e., CQuIPS and CWC streams) will be together for some sessions and in separate groups for other sessions.
3. **Mentorship:**
 - Fellows will be partnered with a CQuIPS or CWC mentor.
 - The mentorship arrangement is adapted to each Fellow with consideration of quality and safety and methodological areas of interests, professional backgrounds and organizational settings, and professional pathways.
 - Fellows will have regular contact with mentors. Frequency of contact will be decided upon by the mentor and Fellow and could be as frequently as once per month.

What are the expected deliverables of the CQuIPS Fellowship?

1. Fellows are responsible for delivering a presentation to the Fellows group, two project updates, and a final session reflection.
2. Fellows will meet regularly with their mentors and work on their defined Fellowship project/initiatives demonstrating progress over the course of the Fellowship.

Is there a cost or financial support available for the CQuIPS Fellowship?

- There is no cost for the Fellowship program.
- The Fellowship program does not provide a salary or stipend for fellows.

How do I apply?

To apply, please submit the following to cquips.fellowship@sickkids.ca by **April 26, 2024**:

- A letter of interest outlining:
 - Whether you are applying for the CQuIPS or CWC Healthcare Improvement Fellowship stream
 - Past education and/or experience in QI and current professional QI roles and activities
 - Potential areas of interest for the Healthcare Improvement Fellowship
- Abbreviated CV (5 pages max)
- A letter of recommendation from your Executive Sponsor (e.g., Department head, Program Director etc.)

Equity and diversity

CQuIPS and CWC strive to be equitable and inclusive communities and proactively seek to increase diversity among their community members. Our values regarding equity and diversity are linked with our unwavering commitment to excellence in the pursuit of our academic mission.

Accessibility

CQuIPS and CWC are committed to the principles of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). As such, we strive to make our recruitment, assessment and selection processes as accessible as possible and provide accommodations as required for applicants with disabilities.

Land acknowledgement

CQuIPS wishes to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

Questions? If you have any questions about the Fellowship or the application process, please contact Fellowship Directors Dr. Joanne Goldman at joanne.goldman@utoronto.ca (CQuIPS) or Dr. Andrea Patey at apatey@ohri.ca (CWC) .