

Call for applications: Healthcare Improvement Fellowship 2025-2026

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 2025 to June 2026.

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 the promotion of research and scholarship, education and training and networking and partnerships. (<https://bit.ly/2VTR0om>). In 2023, CQuIPS assumed oversight of the SQUIRE international writing guidelines for quality improvement.

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. Brian Wong (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 does the Healthcare Improvement Fellowship consist of?

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

1. Fellowship project:

- Based on their interests and priorities, Fellows work on a CQuIPS/CWC initiative under the supervision of a CQuIPS/CWC mentor.
 - CQuIPS projects could be in relation to its QI, research or education programs.
 - 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.
- Fellows will have regular contact with their mentor – as frequently as once a month.

2. Fellowship sessions:

- Monthly Fellowship sessions combine guest presenters, Fellow presentations and project updates, and networking activities. Sessions are organized as following:
 - i. One full-day in-person session in September 2025
 - ii. Two-hour virtual sessions monthly from October 2025 to May 2026 (except January)
 - iii. One full-day hybrid (i.e., in-person and virtual) session in January 2026
 - iv. One full-day in-person session in May 2026
- Guest speakers cover topics such as QI methodology, implementation science, equity and QI, and patient engagement

What are the expected deliverables of the Healthcare Improvement 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 Healthcare Improvement Fellowship?

- There is no cost for the Fellowship program; For the in-person sessions held in Toronto, Canada, there are travel costs and accommodations for out-of-town Fellows.
- 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 25, 2025**:

- A letter of interest outlining:
 - The preferred stream (i.e., CQuIPS or CWC) you are applying for
 - Past education and/or experience in QI and current professional QI roles and activities

- Potential CQuIPS/CWC initiatives that you would like to work on
- Abbreviated CV (5 pages max)
- A letter of recommendation from your Executive Sponsor (e.g., Department head, Program Director etc.)

Equity and diversity

CQuIPS/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/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/CWC wish 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. Brian Wong at BrianM.Wong@sunnybrook.ca (CQuIPS) or Dr. Andrea Patey at Andrea.Patey@iwk.nshealth.ca (CWC).