

Clinical Trials Ontario Streamlined Research Ethics Review System

The CTO Streamlined Research Ethics Review System will support the timely, efficient and effective review of multi-centre clinical research in Ontario. This system will enable any single 'Qualified' Research Ethics Board (REB) to provide ethics review and oversight of clinical trials being conducted in multiple institutions across the province.

The CTO System is expected to provide significant benefits to sponsors, investigators, institutions and REBs conducting multi-centre clinical research by harmonizing processes and reducing the time and effort required to initiate research across multiple sites in Ontario.

In order to participate in the CTO System, Institutional REBs that review clinical research are encouraged to become 'CTO Qualified'. This can be achieved through the CTO REB Qualification Program, which provides REBs in Ontario with an external review of their governance, membership, operations and review procedures. **To request a CTO REB Qualification Review** or additional information, please visit the CTO website or email us at qualification@ctontario.ca.

Key features of the CTO Streamlined Research Ethics Review System:

- Supports a single REB in providing research ethics review and oversight to multiple research sites
- Can be used for any multi-site clinical research, i.e. industry sponsored or investigator initiated
- Features a web-based Research Ethics Review System (eREB) that will enable research ethics reviews, document management and communication across multiple REBs and institutions
- Ensures that all REB reviews done through the CTO system are conducted by high-quality REBS that have achieved Qualification status
- Investigators/applicants will use the same interface and REB application forms, irrespective of which REB is providing oversight
- Consistency in submission requirements
- Timely and reliable distribution of study events (e.g. safety updates, amendments) between the REB and multiple institutions
- Transparent and timely information to applicants regarding REB review status

Full information on each of these initiatives can be found at: <http://www.ctontario.ca/streamlined-ethics-review-system>.

Making Ontario a preferred location for Global Clinical Trials,
while maintaining the highest ethical standards.