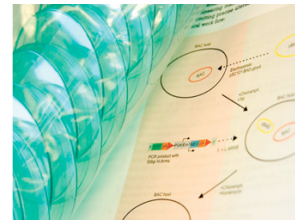


# Clinical Research at Sick Kids

Colin Macarthur MBChB, PhD  
Associate Chief Clinical Research  
MICYRN Workshop May 2011



# Outline

- Context for Clinical Research at SickKids
  - local, provincial, national, international
- Clinical Trials Activity at SickKids
- Development of a Clinical Research Infrastructure
- Challenges and Indicators of Success





**Stakeholder Value**

Improved health outcomes      Research translated to practice      Quality education and training

**Lead in World-Class Quality and Service Excellence**

- Create a culture of service excellence
- Champion continuous improvement
- Optimize patient safety
- Improve equitable and timely access
- Strengthen enterprise performance management
- Foster clinical research excellence

**Enhance Child Health Systems**

- Identify, promote and advocate for evidence-based solutions to address key child health issues in Canada
- Implement knowledge translation strategies to facilitate rapid uptake of new knowledge
- Build strategic partnerships and pursue opportunities to collaborate both internally and externally
- Engage in global opportunities to enhance child health and build capacity

**Innovate**

- Create a culture of innovation
- Facilitate and promote the generation of new ideas
- Ensure innovations and new ideas are shared
- Explore opportunities to commercialize

**Enable Our People**

- Facilitate skill growth and leadership development
- Advance a healthy and safe organization
- Recruit and retain a highly skilled, engaged and diverse workforce
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**Build Sustainable Infrastructure**

- Optimize current and develop new physical infrastructure
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- Promote a socially responsible work environment

**Maintain Financial Health**

- Achieve operational efficiencies
- Generate increased revenues
- Strategically invest funding
- Collaborate with the Foundation to align fundraising strategy with strategic priorities

**As innovators in child health, we lead and partner to improve the health of children provincially, nationally and internationally through the integration of care, research and education.**

# Vision

*“A world leading center for children’s health research where the research drives clinical change and clinical questions drive the research”*



# Provincial Context

**Bill 46: Excellent Care for All Act 2010**



Hospital Quality Committee

“To ensure that best practices information *supported by available scientific evidence* is translated into materials that are distributed to employees and persons providing services within the health care organization, and to subsequently *monitor the use of these materials* by these people”



**SickKids®**

# Provincial Context

**Bill 46: Excellent Care for All Act 2010**



*Ontario Health Quality Council*

“Making recommendations, *based on evidence*.....

on standards of care based on practice guidelines, and

concerning the provision of funding for health care services”



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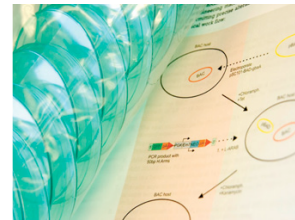
# National Context



CIHR IRSC  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

## Strategy for Patient Oriented Research

- Improve research infrastructure (SUPPORT UNITS)
- Training of clinician researchers
- Strengthen regulatory support for multi site studies
- Support best practices in health care



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# International Context

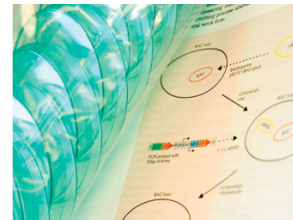
## National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

basic discoveries into therapeutics development



## NIHR Clinical Research Network

6 topic areas (medicines in children)



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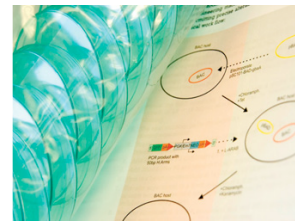
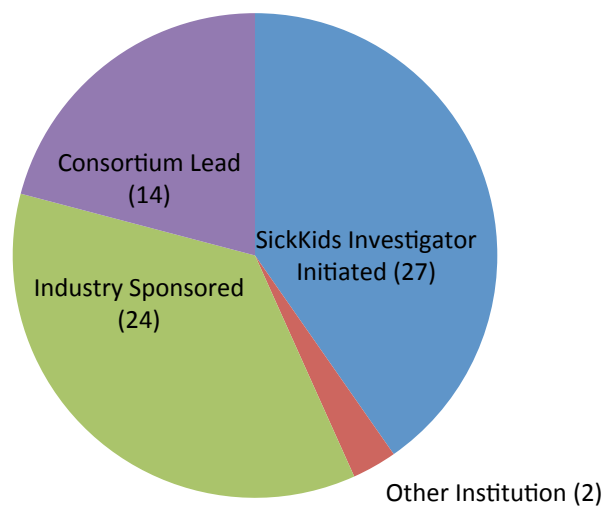
# Strengths

- Clinical staff
- Scientists
- Diverse and large volume patient population
- Affiliation with University of Toronto
- Academic and Research partnerships (local, national, international)



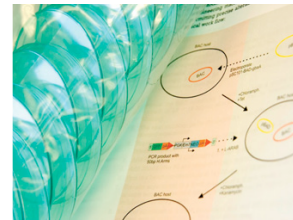
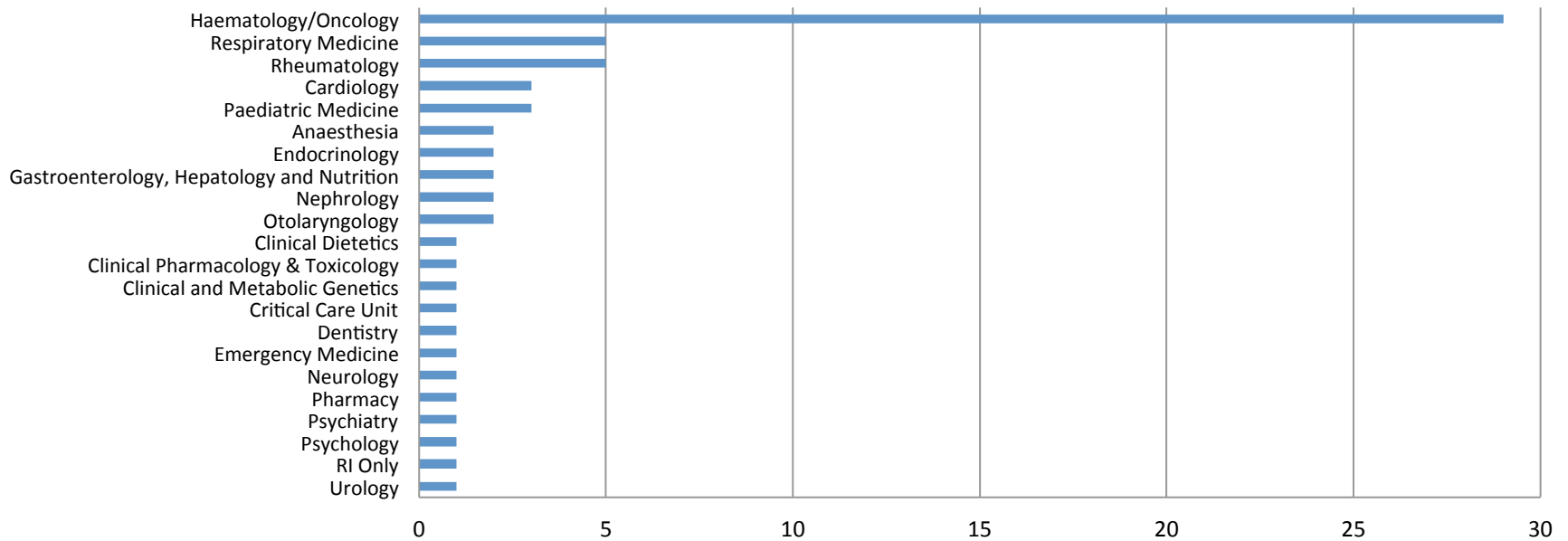
# Clinical Trials Activity at SickKids

**Clinical Trials by Sponsor**  
Studies Approved April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011  
N=67



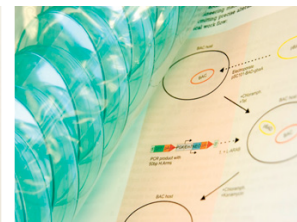
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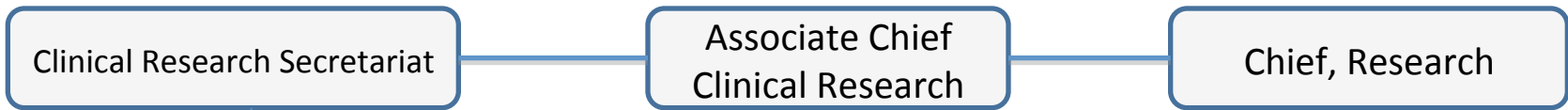
## Clinical Trials by Clinical Division Studies Approved April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011 N=67 (43 PIs)



# Clinical Trials Activity at SickKids

<b>Clinical Trials by RI Status of Principal Investigator</b>		
<b>Studies Approved April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011</b>		
<b>RI appointment</b>	<b>Number of Studies</b>	<b>%</b>
(Senior) Associate Scientist	28	42%
Project Investigator	27	40%
(Senior) Scientist	12	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>



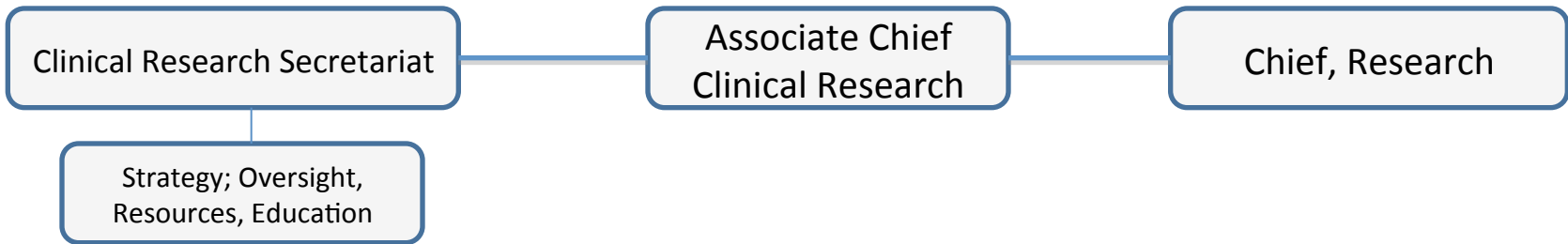


Strategy; Oversight,  
Resources, Education

# Clinical Research Support Unit

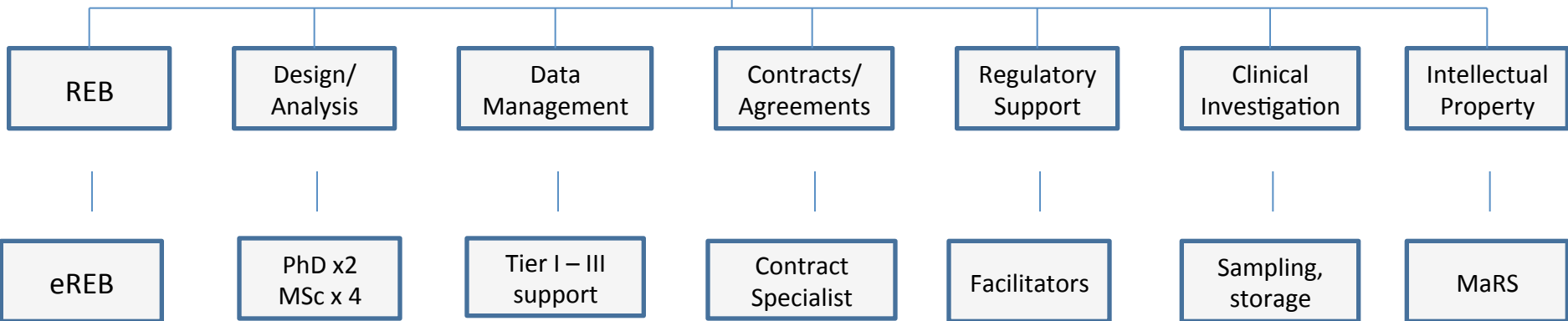
Director Operations  
Clinical Research





# Clinical Research Support Unit

Director Operations  
Clinical Research



OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES

# Challenges

- Integrate clinical research into RI
- Ensure clinical researchers are connected, valued, and respected
- Overcome planning fatigue
- Ensure collaboration among multiple players
- Alignment of strategic goals (RI, Hospital, Centers, Clinical Research)
- Key performance indicators



# Indicators of Success

- Development of a coordinated, integrated research infrastructure
- Capacity Building
  - Clinicians
  - Scientists
  - Trainees
- Academic indicators (funding, papers, awards)
- Health and well being indicators
  - Influence on practice (guidelines, outcomes)
  - Influence on policy (service delivery, outcomes)





# Vision

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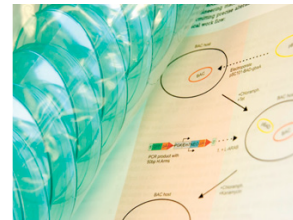
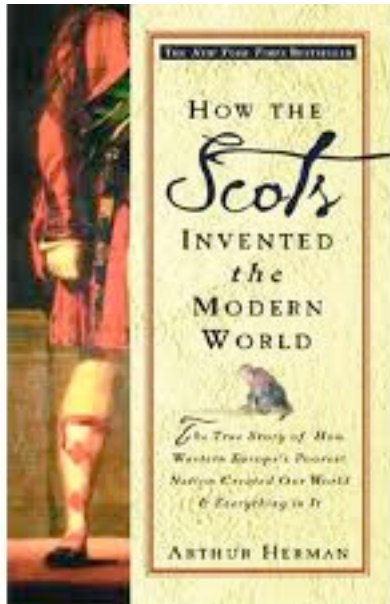
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**SickKids®**

# Vision for Clinical Research at Sick Kids

- *World leader in informing child health practice and policy through knowledge generation, synthesis and translation*
  - Enhance clinical research productivity
  - Enhance the use of research in health care (by families, providers, and policy makers)
  - Optimize the health of children (and their families)
  - Contribute to an efficient system of care for children

