



March 04, 2019

Dear Canadian Institutes of Health Research Review Committee,

I am writing this letter in my capacity as President of the Canadian Critical Care Society (CCCS), in very strong support of Kwadwo Kyeremanteng and colleagues who are submitting a Project Grant proposal aimed at "Who is likely to benefit from ICU care? Providing evidence on the balance between intensive and palliative care." This research will be achieved using data held at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES).

Many patients who are admitted to the ICU have a guarded prognosis based on their co-morbidities, functional status, and severity of illness or injury, and some will not benefit from the procedures and services provided in this setting. This project will use linked population-level health administrative databases in Ontario held at ICES to address the gaps in prognostication, prioritization, and triaging of potential ICU admissions, with a focus on identifying high-risk ICU patients. Specifically, this project aims to contribute to the development of a systematic approach for identifying high-risk patients who are unlikely to benefit from ICU care, based on their expected functional status and survival post-discharge. The findings from this work could help reduce unnecessary and burdensome ICU admissions for patients who will not benefit from this type of care, while improving the sustainability of our healthcare system.

Generally, we see the role of the CCCS to attest to the importance of work and how we can contribute to knowledge translation. This will include:

- 1) Helping the team to identify and liaise with relevant experts and knowledge users in the Canadian critical care community.
- 2) Working with the team to develop dissemination materials (newsletters, announcements) through our Knowledge Translation Committee and Clinical Committee, for provincial and national dissemination.
- 3) Engaging a broader group of ICUs for larger implementation and evaluation in the future.

The CCCS is dedicated to promoting research, education and patient care in Critical Care Medicine. We believe that advocacy is an important role for the Society, and we speak vigorously for Critical Care in Canada. We have an active web and social media presence. Our official journal is the Canadian Anesthesia Journal. Ultimately, we will incorporate key principles into various national education initiatives, including training objectives for the Royal College, continuing medical education activities and review courses for our trainees. This project will provide insights on patients that may or may not benefit from ICU admission. This will allow us to be more informed and potentially avoid undue suffering for patients and families.



In summary, we believe that this trial will ultimately have a high impact for patients, their families, and the Canadian Critical Care community.

Sincerely,

Bojan Paunovic, MD, FRCPC  
President of the Canadian Critical Care Society