

CCTG Recruiting for a Patient Representative Volunteer Role

Role Description

The Canadian Cancer Trials Group (CCTG) is currently seeking applications for a Patient Representative for the Investigational New Drug (IND) Committee. CCTG is an inclusive organization dedicated to building a diverse network.

This is a volunteer role for membership on the Investigational New Drug (IND) Committee, the IND Executive Committee, and the CCTG Patient Representative Committee. Patient Representatives participate in all aspects of their Site Committee activities, and collectively all Site Committee Patient Representatives make up the CCTG Patient Representative Committee.

The role of Patient Representatives at CCTG is to represent the perspective of patients and their families, and the public at large, in the development and delivery of clinical trials. The goal is to team with healthcare professionals/researchers to advance outstanding research in the treatment, care, and prevention of cancer to improve patient outcomes by assisting in identifying patient priorities, outcomes that are important to patients, and patient barriers.

The CCTG conducts the entire range of trials from early (first in humans Phase I-II) studies to large international randomized controlled (Phase II-III) trials across all cancer types. Its primary mission is to assess the effectiveness of interventions to prevent the development of cancer or improve the treatment and care of those patients who do develop cancer. Researchers in the IND program conduct early trials (Phase I and II) across all cancer disease sites stated below that in turn pave the way for larger Phase II and III trials to identify new and improved treatments for patients.

The CCTG facilitates access to cutting-edge cancer therapy for Canadian patients by:

- Conducting trials in all major cancer types, including brain, breast, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, gynecology, head and neck, hematology, lung, melanoma, and sarcoma.
- Testing strategies that include systemic therapy (e.g., chemotherapy, biologic therapy), radiation therapy, surgery, dietary supplementation, and strategies associated with lifestyle change.
- Working with a network that includes:
 - Over 80 institutions, including all cancer centres across Canada and many community hospitals; and,
 - More than 3500 Canadian physicians, research nurses, data managers, and pharmacists involved in cancer care in Canada to enroll patients in Canadian Cancer Trials Group studies.

Each Site Committee, as well as the Patient Representatives Committee meet once a year in person at the Canadian Cancer Trials Group's Annual Spring Meeting of Participants in late April / early May and additionally schedule teleconferences throughout the year (usually quarterly). Patient Representatives also have opportunities to participate in educational events to expand their knowledge of clinical trial research issues.

Applicants should have:

- An interest in cancer research;
- Patient experience with cancer or caregiver experience for someone with cancer;
- An ability to understand, at a top level, the scientific discussions that take place during meetings and / or be willing to become familiar with relevant research and medical language;
- An ability to review and provide written feedback from a patient perspective for new protocols, consents and patient-facing materials;
- Good communication skills and an ability to listen to others and be comfortable and confident constructively expressing their own views from a consumer perspective;
- The ability to commit the time required to become familiar with the role, and to prepare for and participate in the Patient Representatives Committee and Site Committee activities, meetings (teleconferences), email discussions, etc. as needed;
- The ability to commit to, prepare for, travel to and attend the CCTG's Annual Spring and Fall Meeting of Participants in Toronto each year;
- Electronic communication skills, including basic computer skills and access to the internet;
- Willingness and ability to commit to the above for a 3-year term.

CCTG is committed to equity and diversity and welcomes applications from individuals from equity deserving groups such as women, racialized persons, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, and persons who identify in the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

CCTG provides support in its recruitment process to applicants with disabilities, including taking into account the applicant's accessibility needs. Applicants requiring accessibility accommodations during the recruitment process are asked to send an email to ediia@ctg.queensu.ca.

Please note that if you are already a member of the CCTG network you would not be eligible for the patient representative committee role.

Please fill out the Patient Representative [Application Form](#) and forward to Nancy Dusharm: NDusharm@ctg.queensu.ca.

Feel free to contact her if you have any questions.