

NeoAdjuvant Equity and Outcomes Research Matching Grants

2024 Call for Proposals:

New concepts to improve the equity of uptake, experience and outcomes from neo-adjuvant therapy (NACT) in early-stage breast cancer

Timeline:	Applications Open:	June 3, 2024
	Letter of Intent (LOI) Deadline:	August 30, 2024
	Notice of Invitation (NOI):	September 6, 2024
	Invited Grant Submission Due:	October 15, 2024
	Notice of Decision:	November 29, 2024
	Grant Announcement:	SABCS Dec 11-13, 2024 BCC Event date TBC
	Funding Start:	January 8, 2025

Breast Cancer Canada has joined forces with AstraZeneca Canada to offer two collaborative grants focused on advancing research in new concepts to improve the equity of uptake, experience and outcomes from neo-adjuvant therapy (NACT) in early-stage breast cancer. The new partnership was formed to drive progress in care for early-stage breast cancer patients.

The funding is available to Canadian research teams, 1 from Western Canada and 1 from Eastern Canada, who are developing novel programs to improve accessible referrals for neoadjuvant therapy in early-stage breast cancer and report on clinical and patient reported outcomes.

Two Program Research Grants Available: Each Grant will include \$100,000 of funding. The research proposal eligibility would be inclusive of:

- **Identify and describe the NACT care gap** from the researcher for those patients that would benefit most (e.g. geographic access, socioeconomic vulnerability, multi-disciplinary referral, operational clinic issues etc.)
- **New Program solution**, implementation plan and evaluation criteria for proposed initiative to improve equitable access referrals
- **Real-world evidence on lived experience** in stage II and III eBC (subtypes focus of cancer is acceptable HER2+, TNBC, HR+)
 - Utilize PROgress Tracker Registry as a Patient Reported Outcomes measure of lived experience with NACT (including adverse events capture and symptom interventions / symptom biosignatures identify those at risk of high symptom distress)
www.progresstracker.ca
- **Clinical outcomes analysis** (i.e. pCR rates and EFS) such as retrospective in identifying the gap and/ or prospective criteria in evaluating the NACT program intervention
- **Adoption of the proposed research initiative program to other regions in Canada**, where similar gap has been identified, is an asset

Submitted proposals must be from:

- Canadian researchers
- Who will maintain the project conduct and data discovery within Canada

Projects must include:

- Program intervention to address identified gap to NACT care
- Patient lived experience data analysis through PROgress Tracker inclusion
- Real-world clinical outcomes analysis
- Include at a minimum, 1 clinician and 1 type of breast cancer patient advocate (individual or organized group) as an advisors to the research project.

Eligibility:

Applicant must be a Principal investigator holding an academic position at a Canadian University, Hospital or Healthcare centre.

Project is led by a **clinician or translational researcher**, the research team must include:

- one clinical expert in breast cancer
- at minimum one breast cancer patient advocate or a local breast cancer advocacy group
- artificial intelligence (AI) expertise for data mining and/or management
- research must be conducted in Canada

Projects are to accelerate the transition from current approaches of availability for NACT care in early breast cancer treatment, to an improved approach that advances access to the eligible population with evaluation of clinical and PROS outcomes.

LOI APPLICATION FORMAT: June 3 – August 2, 2024

- Single-spaced Arial or Times New Roman no smaller than 12 pt. Condensed text will not be accepted.
- 2 cm margins
- 500-700 words
- Do not include tables or figures at the initial abstract submission stage.
- Application breakdown:

- Objective: An extensive overview of breast cancer is not necessary. Briefly introduce the problem you aim to solve that has a focus in precision oncology.
- Methodology: Introduce the specific methods or theoretical approaches to be used. Provide brief rationale for using described methods.
- Provide brief details for data acquisition and analysis. Provide brief details for data management and security.
- Impact: Provide information about the impact your project will have on improving breast cancer screening outcomes/survivorship/quality of life.
- Research Team: Provide information about the principal investigator, co-applicant(s), and all team members. For each member, provide brief information about their contribution to the project. Include hyperlinks for lab or academic websites.
- Brief overview of Budget
- Email Application and LOI to research@breastcancerprogress.ca
 - Use filename format: Lastname_Firstname_LOI_NACT_BCC2024

NOI FORMAT (If invited to move forward in the grant review process)
August 9 - September 30, 2024

- Single-spaced Arial or Times New Roman no smaller than 12 pt. Condensed text will not be accepted.
- 2 cm margins
- 2,500 words (with spaces)
- Tables or figures can be included as long as total application does not exceed 8 pages

LOI breakdown:

- Objective: An extensive overview of breast cancer is not necessary. Introduce the problem you aim to solve that has a focus in precision oncology.
- Methodology: Introduce the specific methods or theoretical approaches to be used. Provide the rationale for using described methods. Provide prior research outcomes (if applicable) that are being leveraged to advance this next phase in research.
- Provide details for data acquisition and analysis. Provide details for data management and security.
 - If animals or human materials, human subjects and/or biohazards, please provide Protocol numbers and Research Ethics Approval numbers. If application is funded, funds will only be released once all documents are received.
- Impact: Provide information about the impact your project will have on improving breast cancer screening outcomes/survivorship/quality of life.
- Research Team: Provide information about the principal investigator, co-applicant(s), and all team members. For each member, provide detailed information about their contribution to the project. Include hyperlinks for lab or academic websites.

- Detailed account of Budget
- Email Application and LOI to research@breastcancerprogress.ca
 - Use filename format: Lastname_Firstname_LOI_NACT_BCC2024

2024 Accessible NACT Programs and Outcomes Grant Application

Principal Investigator	
Last name:	
First name:	
Email:	
Institute:	
Department:	
City:	Province:
Project Title:	
Budget Category:	
Date Submitted:	

Please note: Signatures are not required at time of initial application submission.

Breast Cancer Canada

AstraZeneca 

INITIAL LOI APPLICATION

Start APPLICATION here: