



# Patient-oriented Research Project Description

**Project Title:** Pathways to Preeclampsia: A Partnered Approach to Educational Materials and Knowledge Translation

**Project PI:** Dr. Marianne Vidler

**Start and End Dates:** 2021/02/01 to 2021/11/30

**Position Type:**  Paid<sup>1</sup> \$/hr       Volunteer

**Hours per Week:** 5-10 hours

**Number of Openings:** 3

**Clinical Research Area:** Obstetrics & gynaecology; hypertensive disorders of pregnancy; pre-eclampsia

**Location:** Remotely; or BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

**Experience Level:**  BSc  MSc  MD  PhD  MD-PhD  PDF

**Keywords:** Preeclampsia, hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, obstetrics, women's health

## Project Description:

Preeclampsia is a complication of pregnancy characterized by high blood pressure. If left untreated, it can cause serious, life-threatening pregnancy complications, for both parent and baby. Unfortunately, while rates of preeclampsia are increasing in Canada, many of its risk factors are difficult to communicate to a public audience (and to pregnant women and their families). In partnership between the Preeclampsia Foundation Canada (Community project partner) and UBC PRE-EMPT (PREgnancy Evidence, Monitoring, Partnerships and Treatment [University project partner]), we will work with patient partners to develop the 'Pathways to Preeclampsia' risk communication tool. Our patient partners are individuals who are former patients, survivors, and experts around the condition of preeclampsia. They provide invaluable input by guiding and informing research activities through their lived experience, and ensuring the research activities are relevant, representative, and meaningful to patient and public audiences. Using our conceptual model, developed to aid in determining individual risk factors for preeclampsia, we will survey the existing literature identifying risk factors for preeclampsia. With the guidance of patient partners, our 'Pathways to Preeclampsia' project will aim to consolidate and disseminate these research findings through development of a visually engaging and interactive tool. This tool aims to communicate individual risk factors for preeclampsia to pregnant populations in Canada. Our hope is that through having a better

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<sup>1</sup> Please connect with the project contacts listed below for additional details

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understanding of risk factors, pregnant populations at risk of preeclampsia will be better equipped to seek care early in pregnancy.

The student's role will benefit the project by contributing to researching and identifying the individual risk factors for preeclampsia. This role is fundamental to the project, as the development of an evidence-based conceptual model can only be possible with foundations built on strong and thorough underlying research and evaluation of existing evidence. The student's role will also benefit the project by bringing diverse and unique perspectives to the research team. Our project is multidisciplinary in scope, and we welcome the diversity of perspectives that are key to making this type of research meaningful and impactful.

## **Candidate's Role & Specific Tasks:**

The student will be responsible for surveying the literature for evidence of individual risk factors for preeclampsia, writing up their findings and communicating them with the project team and patient partners, writing lay summaries for a wider public audience, and attending meetings and discussions with patient partners and the research team.

The student will gain practical experience in patient-oriented research by attending meetings guided by patient partners. In these meetings, patient partners will advise and provide feedback on the research process, and will provide valuable input regarding how to best communicate research findings to a patient/ public audience in an effective and meaningful way. The iterative process of assessing and analysing findings together will help the student to gain experience working alongside patient partners, and will help them to gain experience in knowledge translation by learning strategies for disseminating and communicating research findings to a diverse public audience.

## **Mentorship Opportunities:**

The student will be mentored by a group of 3-4 core team members currently working on this project, including one PhD trainee. The student will have weekly/bi-weekly meetings with the core team members to discuss their progress with the research team, communicate any challenges, and to develop and learn new research methods and skills. The student will also have the opportunity to attend relevant workshops and seminars to assist with strengthening research skills and to deepen their understanding of patient-oriented research.

## **Application Instructions:**

Required Documents:  Cover Letter  Resume  Transcript  Class Schedule  Other: [Click here to enter text.](#)

If interested, please direct any further queries or the required document to Dr. Marianne Vidler at [marianne.vidler@cw.bc.ca](mailto:marianne.vidler@cw.bc.ca), or Kelly Pickerill at [kelly.pickerill@cw.bc.ca](mailto:kelly.pickerill@cw.bc.ca).