

APPENDIX 2

POPCORN 2.0: Performance Indicators Tracker

Legend

Not initiated	In progress	Completed	Not reached
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Start Up of Platform Administrative and Legal Activities				
Performance Indicator	2024	2025	2026	2027
Hire POPCORN Director of Operations at CHUSJ				
Transfer of funds from University of Montreal (primary institution) to CHUSJ (secondary institution)				
Execute yearly transfer of funds agreements with every participating site (x16)				
Transfer the funds to every site for the year				
Execute the Collaboration Agreement for academic projects, with the 16 sites				
Create new knowledge through research involving clinical and epidemiological studies in Content Pillar areas				
Continue to mentor trainees and new investigators to develop new research projects through POPCORN				
Ensure that POPCORN activities are informed by the content pillars				

Activity 1 Disease Surveillance in Children and Pregnant People				
Performance Indicator	2025	2026	2027	2028
1.1 Syndromic Surveillance Capacity				
Increase capacity for comprehensive syndromic surveillance by linking hospital data warehouses and developing standardized data collection modules and automated clinical data retrieval systems via federated learning environments				
Pilot implementation at CHUSJ and MUHC				
Implementation in five (5) POPCORN sites				
1.2 Indirect Consequences & Long-term Outcomes				
Establish the framework to characterize indirect health impacts, long-term outcomes, and care needs of Pathogen X pandemic on children and youth, using existing administrative data and surveys, with a focus on education and developmental health				
Explore perspectives of parents, children, and youth on how to minimize indirect health and well-being impacts in future pandemics				
1.3 Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)				
Quantify the burden of AMR pathogens and risk factors for infections in children and bank these clinical isolates for bacteriologic studies (e.g., to guide development of AMR vaccines / antimicrobials)				
Implementation of AMR project in all participating sites				
Execution of project and quality monitoring				
Data analysis and dissemination of results				

Activity 2 Serosurveillance and Biobanking for Pandemic Preparedness				
Performance Indicator	2025	2026	2027	2028
2.1 Residual Samples				
Maintain and expand POPCORN's ability to collect anonymized residual samples suitable for pandemic research (retrospective and prospective)				
Implementation of residual sample project in all participating sites				
Execution of project and quality monitoring				
Data analysis and dissemination of results				
2.2 Support National Biobanks				
Efficiently provide samples from children and pregnant women to industry / academic partners in support of national biobank networks				
Identify the National PI for leading the project and the collaboration with biobanks				
Renew collaboration with national biobanks and identify new partners				
Identify pathogens of interest, and develop appropriate laboratory assays				
Disseminate results				

Activity 3 Clinical Study and Trial Readiness Platform				
Performance Indicator	2025	2026	2027	2028
3.1 Pan-Canadian Platform for Clinical Trials				
Position POPCORN 2.0 as a “one-stop shop” platform for clinical studies and trials in populations served by our 16 participating hospitals: children, pregnant people, and healthcare workers				
Test the feasibility of a site-specific master contractual agreement with pharmaceutical company(ies)				

Activity 3 Clinical Study and Trial Readiness Platform				
Performance Indicator	2025	2026	2027	2028
Run a first randomized clinical trial in pediatrics and / or pregnant people with a private partner				
Run a first international trial within POPCORN				

Community Engagement Knowledge Mobilization, Patient Engagement, and EDI+I Principles				
Performance Indicator	2025	2026	2027	2028
Knowledge Mobilization				
Engage communities of knowledge users (patient partners and decision-makers), researchers, healthcare providers, and industry to inform project teams whether the project addresses end-users' needs; involve end-users in project design, delivery, and dissemination strategies				
Develop user-informed resources to mobilize knowledge in both French and English; embed evaluation within the resource development process and monitor website / social media metrics to evaluate reach				
Work with the collaborating centre in building these relationships to create an infrastructure that can respond rapidly to future pandemics				
Continue to refine methods and process for developing robust KM plans specific to priority projects				
Disseminate research findings via: (1) a rapid results webpage; (2) a structured social media strategy; (3) various communication channels (newsletters, parent magazines, education sessions, webinars, podcasts, websites); and (4) traditional academic outputs				
Patient Engagement				
Include Patient and Family Partners at all steps of project development and execution, supporting efficient implementation and community acceptability and pertinence				
Recruit and maintain a core group of patient and family advisors to support ongoing and ad-hoc engagement opportunities (ongoing objective as needs evolve)				

Community Engagement Knowledge Mobilization, Patient Engagement, and EDI+I Principles				
Performance Indicator	2025	2026	2027	2028
Develop SOPs and training material for network members to support embedded patient engagement practices				
Integrate Advisors and / or PE specialists across all three levels of the network and across all pillars				
Equity, Diversity, Inclusion + Indigeneity (EDI+I)				
Create 3 Community Advisory Boards (CABs) — Western, Central, and Eastern Canada — consisting of 6–7 members each, to inform all stages of research				
Establish an Indigenous Advisory Council to improve data collection and governance and guide interpretation and dissemination of results				
Provide training and mentorship for early career researchers and clinical research personnel, grounded in EDI+I principles				
Collaborate with established training platforms to enhance the skills and knowledge of researchers in maternal and child health				
Continue to develop partnerships with communities and researchers involved in community-based participatory research for POPCORN-related research				
Continue to adapt data collection tools based on evolving language, evidence, and experiences from research teams				
Provide learning sessions on engaging participants with diverse language backgrounds in research; provide learning sessions on intersectional analyses; continue to work with Patient Engagement and Knowledge Mobilization pillars to achieve this goal				