

MEMO

DATE: 2/28/2022

TO: Research Teams Working in SHA Facilities or Requiring Access to SHA Resources

FROM: Elan Paluck, Director of Research

RE: Resumption of Research at SHA facilities

In alignment with the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) discontinuation of the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy Directive for SHA team members, family and visitors, below is the latest guidance on the conduct of research within the SHA.

New Research:

- The SHA Research Ethics Board continues to review new applications (including amendments and renewals for open studies). Please note review timelines are currently 4-6 weeks.
- Applications for Operational Approval to Conduct Research in the SHA are being processed in the order they are received and approval is dependent on the ability of departments to support research requests.

Research Currently in Progress:

- All ambulatory (outpatient) clinic visits for research purposes and non-interventional studies, such as those involving surveys or interviews, and in person activities can resume, as long as the impacted departments grant their approvals and have the capacity to support the research.
- For studies that were granted Operational Approval prior to pandemic surges, the researchers should determine if units/departments have the capacity for in person research initiatives at this time.
- Non-essential research-related laboratory testing and diagnostic imaging procedures will be determined on a case by case basis. Please connect with ResearchApproval.Regina@saskhealthauthority.ca if you would like any assistance.
- As per SHA policies, remote access to Sunrise Clinical Manager (SCM) Research Accounts will not be granted for research purposes. Data collection from patient records must occur within a SHA facility. For access to charts once Operational Approval is granted, please contact your local health information services to book an appointment.