

Bloorview Research Institute Strategic Priorities

2023-2030



The Bloorview Research Institute (BRI) is embedded within Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, Canada's largest pediatric rehabilitation hospital that is fully affiliated with the University of Toronto. It has ranked amongst Canada's top 40 research hospitals for more than a decade. The institute is the only university-affiliated research institute in Canada dedicated to pediatric disability and one of very few around the world.

BRI brings together teams of top researchers and trainees from a wide array of disciplines including physicians, psychologists, allied health professionals, engineers, neuroscientists, sociologists and even urban planners. Together, they work collaboratively with the community to co-design and conduct transformative, clinically relevant research focused on childhood onset disability, injury and developmental diversity.

Vision

To be a global leader in transformative, equity-driven research dedicated to enabling personalized versions of a good life across the lifespan, for all individuals with childhood onset disabilities, acquired injuries and developmental differences, their families and communities.

Mission

Through trusted, diverse and transdisciplinary local, national and international partnerships and co-design with children, youth, families and communities, we will:

- advance the understanding of disability and developmental differences to promote physical and mental health, participation and wellbeing across the lifespan.
- propel precision health discoveries through data science, integrating biological, psychological and social aspects of health and wellness.
- mobilize knowledge and evidence-based practices, technologies, treatments and interventions nationally and globally.
- use an inclusion, diversity, equity, accessibility and anti-racism (IDEAA) informed approach in all of our work.
- empower and support research teams by providing the resources, skills and technology required to inspire research excellence and impact.



Download and share
the plan at:
HollandBloorview.ca/BRI



BRI Strategic Priorities

The Bloorview Research Institute is dedicated to research and knowledge mobilization focused on:

- Improving the understanding of childhood onset disability, acquired injury and developmental diversity, from brain and body biology, to overall quality of life and wellbeing.
- Developing, enhancing and evaluating individual, system and community/environmental level interventions, treatments, technologies, policies and practices to facilitate personalized versions of a good life.
- Enriching the understanding of the lived experiences of children, youth, adults and families with childhood onset disabilities, acquired injury and developmental differences.
- Advancing knowledge and awareness of the intersections between disability and other identities of individuals from structurally disadvantaged communities to facilitate and advocate for equitable outcomes.



Built on the voices of over 100 scientists, investigators, researchers, research staff, trainees, hospital leadership, youth and families, and advocacy groups and aligned with the hospital's *Holland Bloorview 2030* strategic plan, BRI's four strategic priorities will guide our work for the next 7 years.



Advance research practices through IDEAA

Co-create inclusive, diverse, equitable, accessible and anti-racist research practices that confront inequities across all stages of the research lifecycle, from training, hiring and promotions to study design, recruitment and dissemination.

- Increase diversity of staff and trainees and establish career building employment and learning opportunities for structurally disadvantaged staff and trainees
- Actively address barriers to research participation and promote greater access to children, youth and families from historically under-represented communities
- Integrate IDEAA principles in research to address inequities arising from the intersections of disability and other marginalized and other structurally disadvantaged individuals and communities



Fuel precision health

Conduct research powered by data science and artificial intelligence (AI) to advance precision health solutions that consider the interconnection between biology, psychology, and socio-environmental factors for individuals with childhood onset disability, acquired injury and developmental differences.

- Build the infrastructure to securely and ethically collect, link and use internal and external, clinical and research data
- Advance the understanding of the variability within and across individuals, including biology, behavior, environment, and experiences to inform personalized solutions
- Support the development of a learning health system to promote best possible care outcomes



Empower a thriving research community

Co-create a supportive, meaningful and collaborative work environment where well-being, psychological safety and belonging are promoted and excellence, growth and development can flourish.

- Support diverse career pathways through mentorship, training, collaboration/partnership and opportunities for progression
- Reduce administrative burden to increase staff engagement, sustainability, impact and overall joy in work
- Value diverse and varied research contributions that impact the health and wellbeing of children, youth and families



Enable transformational impact

Propel transformative discoveries into public discourse to empower widespread access to the evidence needed to support optimal health, development, wellbeing and participation across settings, locally, nationally and internationally.

- Build expertise in implementation science to promote the uptake and spread of research findings into care, policy and practice
- Prioritize and incentivize knowledge mobilization and commercialization efforts to maximize the benefit of discoveries, interventions and tools for all those that need them when they need them
- Build, trusted, transparent and mutually beneficial partnerships globally with academia, government, industry, community providers, marginalized communities, clinicians, families, children and youth to co-design and inform clinical practice, policy development and system change



Key Definitions

Commercialization

The activities that turn research knowledge and discoveries into marketable products or processes to create social and economic value. At Holland Bloorview, commercialization helps create real-world, sustainable impact that gets our transformative innovations directly to the people who need them.

Knowledge mobilization

The practice of working with end users to ensure relevance, usability and value of research findings to maximize uptake and real-world impact in practical settings including clinical care, schools, policies and communities.

Implementation science

The scientific study of methods to promote the systematic uptake of research findings and other evidence-based practices into routine practice, thereby improving the quality and effectiveness of health services and care.

Learning health system

An environment of continuous improvement and innovation, where internal data, research and experiential knowledge are used collaboratively across clinicians, researchers, operations, children, youth and families to inform the best possible care and outcomes. In a learning health system, trying new ideas, embracing failure and success, is encouraged and incentivized.

Precision health

A proactive and personalized approach to care where interventions, services, and accommodations are informed by each individual's biology and environment, including their genetics, neurobiology, clinical presentation, and sociodemographic context.

Structurally disadvantaged

The disadvantage experienced by some individuals, families, groups or communities as a result of the way society functions (how resources are distributed, how people relate to each other, who has power, how institutions are organised). Existing systemic forces such as racism, ableism and sexism, privilege some groups over others. These unfair social structures have significant effects on overall individual wellbeing and health.

Holland Bloorview
Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

A TEACHING HOSPITAL
FULLY AFFILIATED WITH



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

Bloorview
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital
Bloorview Research Institute
150 Kilgour Road, Toronto, ON M4G 1R8
416-425-6220 info@hollandbloorview.ca
HollandBloorview.ca

