

Project Title	Paradigm shift in the conduct of clinical trials
Principal Investigator	Jean-Claude Tardif
Principal Institution	Montreal Heart Institute
Summary	
<p>Created and led by the Montreal Heart Institute (MHI) in partnership with a pan-Quebec and global network of academic and private collaborators, this large-scale initiative aims to develop and deploy a multi-faceted informatics framework to support the conduct of high-quality, low-cost digital and virtual clinical trials using innovative strategies for patient recruitment, retention, and follow-up at performance thresholds well beyond conventional approaches. The approaches developed will make use of electronic encryption tools and medical-grade data sensors to conduct radically less expensive "virtual" clinical trials (not requiring face-to-face visits) that will allow for the testing of a greater number of potentially effective therapies. The approach will be demonstrated with studies in cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, inflammatory diseases, cognitive impairment and dementia, as well as infections and cancers.</p> <p>The initiative responds to the critical need for new approaches to conducting clinical studies to simplify logistics, reduce the cost and duration of traditional clinical trials, and access a larger number of patients, including in geographically remote areas. The initiative will bring competitive advantages to Quebec, foster the creation and growth of biotechnology companies, and allow for the testing of a greater number of potentially effective therapies at a level of funding that is accessible in Quebec.</p>	