

MANITOBA HEALTH RESEARCH COUNCIL

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ANNOUNCEMENT
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**STUDYING THE TREATMENTS FOR CCSVI FOR
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS)**

The Manitoba Health Research Council (MHRC) is now accepting applications for clinical trials studying the treatment of Chronic cerebrospinal venous insufficiency (CCSVI) in patients with MS.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

Further details can be found at www.mhrc.mb.ca.

Chronic cerebrospinal venous insufficiency (CCSVI) describes a theory in which portions of the venous system (the body's network of large and small veins) in the head and neck are narrowed or blocked and therefore unable to efficiently remove blood from the brain and spinal cord (central nervous system). Dr. Paolo Zamboni from the University of Ferrara in Italy published preliminary findings about an apparent association between CCSVI and MS in June 2008, following a study of 65 patients.

Treatments for CCSVI using angioplasty to open veins in the neck and chest are intended to increase blood flow from the brain and spinal cord. There are many unknowns about the procedure and the condition it is designed to treat.

In Spring of 2011, the Premier of Manitoba announced that the Province was willing to fund clinical trials of the procedure to treat CCSVI for people with MS for up to five million dollars. MHRC is looking to the research community for proposals to answer this research question: Is the procedure to treat CCSVI, a safe and effective treatment for MS patients to provide relief of symptoms and improve quality of life?