

CCSIP R&D Business Plan: Canada and California Join Forces to Develop Bioimaging Technologies to Improve the Detection and Treatment of Disease

The World Health Organization estimates that cancer will cause more than 12 million deaths worldwide by 2030. These and other startling statistics emphasize the importance of early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer and other life-threatening diseases for global health.

With an aging population, increasing threat of pandemics and rising health care costs, there is growing demand for novel and cost-effective medical imaging and treatment systems.

Building on leadership from world-class scientists at McMaster University and the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), an interdisciplinary team of scientists, clinicians and students are combining their expertise and resources and launching a bilateral research consortium to develop low-cost and minimally invasive diagnostic and therapeutic devices for improved cancer detection.

With support from CCSIP and participation from three UC campuses (including UC Santa Barbara and San Diego) and four Canadian universities (including McGill University, and the Universities of Toronto and Waterloo), the team will draft a business plan that defines research priorities, identifies market opportunities, and aims to secure long-term funding for the consortium.

If successful, this collaborative R&D initiative promises to bring new biomedical technologies from the lab to start-up and established companies, build and broaden the biomedical talent base in both Canada and California, and ultimately improve the quality of health care delivery in both regions.

