

## Expectations of researchers as it relates to patient partner engagement

The purpose of this document is to describe key questions to consider as you engage patient partners in your research. We ask that you provide some information and reflect on how you might engage patient partners involved with the [Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance](#) (CAPA). Answering the following questions will help patient partners make an informed decision about their involvement in your research.

- What is the role of the patient partner in the research project?
- What type of lived experiences are you seeking for your research project (e.g., specific disease experiences, perspectives of equity groups such as racialized communities, disabled people, Indigenous peoples, LGBTQ2S+, etc.)?
- How much time will patient partners spend on your research project?
- Will you provide compensation or some form of acknowledgement to patient partners? If so, how much / what kind?
- Are there any costs to the patient partner being involved in the research project? Will these costs be paid for or reimbursed?
- Are you flexible about how patient partners might be involved in your research, e.g., finding a time that suits patient partner schedules, commitments, and health status? If so, please describe how.
- Is there a role you wish CAPA to play throughout the research project (e.g. disseminating [plain language summaries](#), study recruitment through our [newsletters](#), writing a letter of support)? As we are small organization with limited funds, we typically ask research teams to budget a small amount of funding to offset the costs to be involved in your research project.
- Do you have a plan for how you will introduce yourself to the patient partner and address power imbalance in the researcher – patient relationship? The Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis (CIHR-IMHA) has a resources in the [on-line training modules](#) about the First Meeting Agenda and Support Strategies for Patient Partners.

## Additional patient engagement resources

- CIHR-IMHA has developed [on-line training modules](#) for researchers and patient partners
- [Patient Engagement Evaluation Toolkit](#)
- [Identifying potential barriers and solutions to patient partner compensation \(payment\) in research](#)
- [Guidance on authorship with and acknowledgement of patient partners in patient-oriented research](#)