

## **POGO CHAIR IN CHILDHOOD CANCER CONTROL**

POGO established the first POGO Chair in Childhood Cancer Control at the University of Toronto in 2000. The Chair facilitates linkage with the academic community and provides opportunities for collaboration with students. The Chair is also the Medical Director of POGO and is positioned to provide leadership both in the evolution of childhood cancer control research and in the application of research to policy development and practice.

## **POGONIS**

The Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario Networked Information System (POGONIS 2.0) is a relational database and registry capturing selected, standardized data on all childhood cancer cases in Ontario. Each of the five tertiary centres in Ontario provides POGO with data relevant to the children in their care. POGONIS is a unique resource for the study of the epidemiology of childhood cancer in the province, for surveillance and evaluation, for the study of outcomes, and for facilitating the assembly of cohorts for investigation in multiple research projects. POGONIS data is made available to qualified investigators.

**For data requests, please contact:**  
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**Senior Database Administrator**  
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## **PRIVACY**

In November 2005, POGO was designated a 45.1 entity under the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA, 2004). This designation allows POGO to collect, use, and disclose personal health information for the purpose of “analysis or compiling statistical information with respect to the management of, evaluation or monitoring of, the allocation of resources to or planning for all or part of the health system, including the delivery of services” (PHIPA, 2004). This designation also enables POGO to link with other provincial databases, thereby augmenting its capacity to address research questions and supply valuable information for policy and program planning.

POGO gratefully acknowledges  
funding support from the Ontario  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

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## **POGO Research Unit**

*Facilitating and Conducting Childhood Cancer Research to  
Increase Understanding and Improve Outcomes in Ontario*



Initiated in 1996, the POGO Research Unit (PRU) focuses on research that contributes to a better understanding of childhood cancer and to improved outcomes for children with cancer, ultimately reducing the impact of the disease on children, families, and society.



## Contributing to a better understanding...

### THE POGO RESEARCH UNIT (PRU)

The need for a research agenda addressing underemphasized but important areas of investigation was identified by POGO in 1994. In 1996, the establishment of the POGO Research Unit was approved by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Four pillars of research were identified as the appropriate foci of PRU activity and remain relevant today:

- Epidemiology
- Health Services Research
- Economics
- Survivor Status/Quality of Life.

Since its inception, the PRU has supported over 60 research projects, representing over 300 investigators from more than 60 institutions.

### RESEARCH GRANTS

#### FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Fellowships are awarded to applicants working toward a PhD or pursuing a post doctoral degree, or to clinicians and healthcare practitioners of any discipline working on pediatric oncology-related research.

#### SEED FUNDING GRANT

Seed Funding Grants are offered each year to facilitate or support feasibility studies, self-contained studies, or preliminary work for development of grant applications.

#### OPEN OPERATING GRANT

The PRU's Open Operating Grant focuses on Ontario-based projects that involve at least three tertiary centres, may be time-sensitive, and/or fall outside of the priorities of typical funding sources.

Visit us at [www.pogo.ca](http://www.pogo.ca) for more details regarding PRU funding opportunities.

Document and understand province-wide patterns and trends

Carry out health services research with policy relevance

Investigate outcomes of childhood cancer from a global multi-disciplinary approach

Aid health policy development and evaluation in utilizing the resources in POGO's unique database, POGONIS

Facilitate linkages and knowledge transfer between healthcare services, providers, researchers, and decision-makers

Create a human research resource responsive to investigators seeking advice in the development of research projects

### PEDIATRIC CANCER OUTCOMES INITIATIVE (PCOI)

The Canadian Cancer Society, Ontario Division and POGO formed the Pediatric Cancer Outcomes Initiative (PCOI) in 2010. This initiative builds a childhood cancer research platform to stimulate research that improves the quality of outcomes for kids with cancer, childhood cancer survivors, and their families.

This initiative will retrospectively capture patient treatment and outcome data from 1985 to 1994 to augment POGONIS; conduct studies directed at improving outcomes and reducing the burden of cancer in children, adolescents, and their families; and launch a request for proposal (RFP) focused on outcomes and impacts of pediatric cancer.