



Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation  
Fellowship Program

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Programme de bourses en réadaptation et  
récupération après un AVC

**CanStroke**  
Recovery Trials  **StrokeCog** 

# Stroke Recovery & Rehabilitation Certification Launch

**Sean Dukelow, MD, PhD**

**University of Calgary**

**On behalf of the Stroke Recovery & Rehabilitation  
Fellowship Committee**

**March 12, 2026**

# AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Review of Stroke Recovery & Rehabilitation Fellowship Certification Program
- Entrustable Professional Activities
- CSC Website Tools
- Next Steps



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# A National Fellowship Curriculum

Currently no program in existence.

Positive feedback about and success of the Canadian Stroke Consortium (CSC) Fellowship program, and

Supportive discussions with key leaders in the rehab field

= Need to create a program!

StrokeCog Platform (PI: Dr. Jodi Edwards, Ottawa) obtained funding to support the creation of the program!



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# A National Fellowship Curriculum

- 1) Establish national standards for training and stroke rehabilitation specialist competence, thereby improving quality of care and patient safety;
- 2) Sharing of resources and ideas between training sites;
- 3) National recognition of stroke physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R) as a distinct subspecialty;
- 4) Creation of an internationally recognized and respected diploma.



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# Stroke Recovery & Rehabilitation (FSCS-RR) Fellowship Planning Committee (2025)

- British Columbia: Jennifer Yao (Vancouver)
- Alberta: Sean Dukelow (Calgary), Gentson Leung (Calgary), Denyse Richardson (Edmonton), Jamie Yu (Edmonton)
- Ontario: Mark Bayley (Toronto), Jodi Edwards (Ottawa), Jamie Fleet (London), Shannon MacDonald (Toronto), Robert Teasell (London)
- Québec: Alexandre Poppe (Montreal), Elena Spacek (Montreal), Theodore Wein (Montreal)

# 6 centres currently participating in FCSC-RR fellowship programs in Canada



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Institution	Program Director & Contact Information
Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia Rehabilitation and Arthritis Centre, QEII Health Sciences Centre, <b>Halifax, Nova Scotia</b>	Dr. Monique Conrad <a href="mailto:Monique.Conrad@nshealth.ca">Monique.Conrad@nshealth.ca</a>
Elisabeth Bruyère Hospital, The Ottawa Hospital, <b>Ottawa, Ontario</b>	Dr. Jacqueline Cochrane <a href="mailto:jcochrane@bruyere.org">jcochrane@bruyere.org</a>
University Health Network-Toronto Rehab Institute and West Park Healthcare Center Sunnybrook health sciences, Sinai health system-Hennick Bridgepointe site <b>Toronto, Ontario</b>	Dr. Mark Bayley <a href="mailto:Mark.bayley@uhn.ca">Mark.bayley@uhn.ca</a> Tania Bruno (UofT Fellowships)
Parkwood Institute – St. Joseph’s Health Care <b>London, Ontario</b>	Dr. Jamie Fleet, <a href="mailto:Jamie.fleet@sjhc.london.on.ca">Jamie.fleet@sjhc.london.on.ca</a> Dr. Rachel Reardon, <a href="mailto:Rachel.reardon@sjhc.london.on.ca">Rachel.reardon@sjhc.london.on.ca</a>
University of Calgary <b>Calgary, Alberta</b>	Dr. Gentson Leung <a href="mailto:Gentson.Leung@albertahealthservices.ca">Gentson.Leung@albertahealthservices.ca</a>
University of British Columbia, Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, GF Strong, Holy Family <b>Vancouver, British Columbia</b>	Dr. Rajiv Reebye, <a href="mailto:Rajiv.reebye@vch.ca">Rajiv.reebye@vch.ca</a> Dr. Jennifer Yao, <a href="mailto:Jennifer.Yao@vch.ca">Jennifer.Yao@vch.ca</a>

# Proposed Levels of Certification

## Stroke Recovery & Rehabilitation Expert Stream (1 year)

- Fellow of the CSC – Expert (**FCSC-RR-E** – Expert)

## Stroke Recovery & Rehabilitation Scholar Stream (2 years)

- Fellow of the CSC – Scholar (**FCSC-RR-S** – Scholar)



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# Eligibility Criteria for Prospective Fellows

- Applicants (MD or MD/PhD) must have been accepted into a recognized site participating in the Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation Fellowship program in Canada
- Must be a Canadian resident or permanent resident or hold a valid Canadian work permit or student visa.
- Must have prior training and competency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation / Rehabilitation Medicine, Neurology Medicine, Internal Medicine, Geriatric Medicine

## **Fellow of the CSC Recovery & Rehabilitation**

- Expert (FCSC-RR-E): 1-Year Curriculum OR**
- Scholar (FCSC-RR-S): 2-Year Curriculum**

**Open to:** Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation / Rehabilitation Medicine, Neurology Medicine, Internal Medicine, Geriatric Medicine.

**FCSC-RR-E Objective:** For physicians practicing or who will practice in primary, secondary care and some tertiary settings seeking to acquire additional expertise in stroke recovery and rehabilitation medicine and to fulfil stroke leadership roles locally.

**FCSC-RR-S Objective:** For physicians practicing or who will practice in an academic tertiary care setting seeking to become stroke recovery and rehabilitation experts and to participate in stroke recovery and rehabilitation research, education, administration and leadership.

# Fellow of the CSC - Recovery & Rehabilitation – Expert (FCSC-RR-E): 1-Year Curriculum

Duration of exposure to individual rotations is flexible and may in part be tailored to a trainee's individual objectives, but total must equal 12 months.

## **Emphasis is on attainment of competency-based milestones:**

- Stroke rehabilitation unit x 6 months
- Stroke rehabilitation consults x 6 months
- Spasticity clinic x 2 months
- Stroke prevention clinic x 1 month
- Neuroradiology (diagnostic, exposure to INR) x 1 month (optional)
- Research/Quality assurance and improvement/electives



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# Fellow of the CSC Recovery & Rehabilitation – Scholar (FCSC-RR-S): 2-Year Curriculum

## **Year 1 - Emphasis is on attainment of competency-based milestones**

- Stroke rehabilitation unit x 6 months
- Stroke rehabilitation consults x 6 months
- Spasticity clinic x 2 months
- Stroke prevention clinic x 1 month
- Neuroradiology (diagnostic, exposure to INR) x 1 month (optional)
- Research/Quality assurance and improvement/electives

## **Year 2 - Emphasis is on research or QI activities.**



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# Fellow of the CSC Recovery & Rehabilitation – Scholar (FCSC-RR-S): 2-Year Curriculum

## **Elective rotations x 12 with emphasis on:**

- Research, Administration, Quality assurance and improvement, specialized clinical competencies
- Participation in stroke rehabilitation unit call during the second year will be determined as agreed upon with the fellow's Program Director
- The distribution of clinical and research activities over the two years of fellowship can be tailored according to the needs of the fellow and the local training site, but clinical exposure must be minimally equivalent to that required for one-year Expert stream fellows



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# **Fellow of the CSC - Recovery & Rehabilitation – Expert (FCSC-RR-E) and Scholar (FCSC-RR-S)**

- **FCSC-RR-E and FCSC-RR-S Fellows are expected to participate in scholarly activities such as:**
  - Interpret individual research paper
  - Perform a literature review
  - Participate in quality improvement project
  - Participate in clinical research project
  - Identify and enroll participants in an active QI/research project
- **Scholar FCSC-RR-S (2-year)**
  - Develop and complete a research or quality improvement study (required for 24-month program)



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# Online Tools – Coming Soon!

- CSC website ([www.strokeconsortium.ca](http://www.strokeconsortium.ca)) as main hub for:
  - Public face of FCSC-RR fellowship program
    - Description
    - List of training sites
  - Online fellowship registration for CSC members
  - Online learning material
    - learning activities already housed on the site (videos, literature reviews) and stroke rehab content to be added
  - Monthly online streamed Stroke Fellow rounds since 2017
- CanStroke website ([www.canadianstroke.ca](http://www.canadianstroke.ca)) for general information



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## UPCOMING CSC EVENTS



**CSC Webinar**  
**Next-Gen Reperfusion:  
 Extended Windows, Add-On Therapies,  
 and Smarter Stroke Systems**  
**Wednesday March 25, 2026 – REGISTER NOW!**



**Canadian Stroke Congress** **Congrès Canadien de l'AVC**  
 May 24 - 25, 2026 | Banff, Alberta  
 Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity

**2026 CNSF CONGRESS** | **MAY 25 - 28 BANFF**  
 Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel & Conference Centre



### Stroke Fellowship Certification

CSC's National Stroke Fellowship Certification Program facilitates standardization of advanced stroke training and evaluation of trainees across Canada.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[GO TO MY DASHBOARD](#)

[OUR GRADUATES](#)



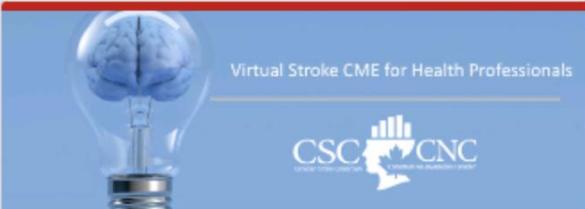
### Streamed Stroke Fellow Rounds

The next CSC's National Streamed Stroke Fellow Rounds will be held March 20 - see you then!

[LEARN MORE](#)



Knowledge Breaks



CSC Webinars: Virtual CME for Stroke



Research Resources

# Evaluation Tools

- EPAs
- Log of prescribed online learning activities
- Case log
- Final national online exam (ExamSoft)

# EPA: Entrustable Professional Activities

- EPA is a task of the discipline
- Can be delegated to a trainee and observed by a supervisor
- Each EPA integrates multiple milestones as we use multiple abilities simultaneously when performing professional activities (e.g. we use our medical expertise, but also our communication skills)



# EPAs for FCSC-RR

1. Comprehensive stroke rehabilitation assessment and management including secondary prevention and follow-ups
2. Selecting and interpreting diagnostic assessments appropriate for stroke rehabilitation
3. Identifying, assessing and managing patients with emergent and urgent medical issues in the stroke rehabilitation population group
4. Performing common procedures in a stroke rehabilitation context
5. Demonstrating competence, collaboration and communication skills in complex patients with stroke, their families and other professionals
6. Systems leaderships/quality; Management and leadership; Contributing to the improvement of health care delivery for persons with stroke
7. Facilitating the learning of others
8. Performing scholarly and research activities

# EPA Evaluation Form – Clinical Work



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Entrustable Professional Activity (EPA)  
Clinical Evaluation Form  
(please complete both sides)



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Entrustable Professional Activity (EPA)  
Clinical Evaluation Form  
(please complete both sides)

EPA Title (please check one):

- Comprehensive stroke rehabilitation assessment and management including secondary prevention and follow-ups (EPA 1)
- Selecting and interpreting diagnostic assessments appropriate for stroke rehabilitation (EPA 2)
- Identifying, assessing and managing patients with emergent and urgent medical issues in the stroke rehabilitation population group (EPA 3)
- Performing common procedures in a stroke rehabilitation context (EPA 4)
- Demonstrating competence, collaboration and communication skills in complex patients with stroke, their families and other professionals (EPA 5)
- Systems leaderships/quality; Management and leadership; Contributing to the improvement of health care delivery for persons with stroke (EPA 6)
- Facilitating the learning of others (EPA 7)

Date of Observation (dd/mmm/yr):	
Location of Observation:	
Type of Observation (Direct vs Indirect):	
Brief Description of what was Observed:	

Global Evaluation of Core Competency (check one):

I had to do myself <input type="checkbox"/>	I had to talk them through <input type="checkbox"/>	I needed to prompt <input type="checkbox"/>	I needed to be there just in case <input type="checkbox"/>	I didn't need to be there (in theory) <input type="checkbox"/>
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Feedback Provided to Fellow:

1. Please describe what was done well and why they should keep doing it.
2. Please describe something they can do to improve for next time.

Professionalism and Patient Safety

Do you have any concerns regarding this Fellow's professionalism?  
 YES                       NO

Do you have any concerns regarding Patient Safety?  
 YES                       NO

Describe:

Evaluator's Name (printed), and Role: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (dd/mmm/yr): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments from Fellow / Summary of Work Plan based on Evaluation:

Name of Fellow (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Fellow: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (dd/mmm/yr): \_\_\_\_\_

*FELLOW TO RETURN THIS FORM TO FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR AFTER COMPLETION*

# EPA Evaluation Form – Scholarly Work



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## Scholarly Work EPA Evaluation Form

### Entrustable Professional Activity (EPA) Scholarly Work Evaluation Form (please complete both sides)

EPA Title (please circle one):

Year 1

- Provided education on a stroke recovery or rehab related topic
- Interpreted an individual study or research paper
- Performed a literature review
- Participated in a quality improved initiative (e.g., Quality Improvement Rounds, Teaching Rounds)
- Enrolled a patient into a clinical trial

Year 2

- Formulated a research question and plan
- Led a research project
- Presented results of a research project

Date of Observation (dd/mmm/yr):	
Location of Observation:	
Type of Observation (Direct vs Indirect):	
Brief Description of what was Observed:	

Global Evaluation of Core Competency (check one):

I had to do myself <input type="checkbox"/>	I had to talk them through <input type="checkbox"/>	I needed to prompt <input type="checkbox"/>	I needed to be there just in case <input type="checkbox"/>	I didn't need to be there (in theory) <input type="checkbox"/>
--	--	--	---	---

Feedback Provided to Fellow:

1. Please describe what was done well and why they should keep doing it.
2. Please describe something they can do to improve for next time.



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## Scholarly Work EPA Evaluation Form

**Professionalism and Patient Safety**

Do you have any concerns regarding this Fellow's professionalism?

YES  NO

Do you have any concerns regarding Patient Safety?

YES  NO

Describe:

Evaluator's Name (printed), and Role: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (dd/mmm/yr): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments from Fellow / Summary of Work Plan based on Evaluation:

Name of Fellow (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Fellow: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (dd/mmm/yr): \_\_\_\_\_

*FELLOW TO RETURN THIS FORM TO FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR AFTER COMPLETION*

# EPA - Scholarly Work (FCSC-RR-S)

- At least 1 publication in a peer-reviewed journal from work done during fellowship (submitted, in press or published); case reports not included.
- At least 2 conference abstracts (poster or platform) from work done during fellowship, at least one as first author; case reports not included. Content overlap between one of the conference abstracts and the publication is allowed.



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# EPAs

- Evaluation opportunities to be integrated into usual care activities
- May be initiated either by fellow or by supervisor
- Fellow is responsible for tracking EPAs, including (during paper phase):
  - Completed EPA forms are sent to PD
  - Once reviewed by PD all EPA forms are scanned and emailed to [fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca](mailto:fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca)
  - Maintaining a log of completed EPAs is recommended



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# Program Tracking Log - Example

Activity	Stroke Scholar program (24 months)																							
	Stroke Expert program (12 months)																							
	Mo 1	Mo 2	Mo 3	Mo 4	Mo 5	Mo 6	Mo 7	Mo 8	Mo 9	Mo 10	Mo 11	Mo 12	Mo 13	Mo 14	Mo 15	Mo 16	Mo 17	Mo 18	Mo 19	Mo 20	Mo 21	Mo 22	Mo 23	Mo 24
EPA 1 Stroke Rehab																								
EPA2 Diagnostic Assessments																								
EPA Emerg/Urg Medical Issue																								
EPA 4 Common Procedures																								
EPA 5 Communication																								
EPA 6 System Leadership																								
EPA 7 Learning																								
EPA 8 -Scholarly Work																								



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# Learning Activities

## National Stroke Fellow rounds

- One-hour virtual, streamed rounds held once or twice per-month (September – June)
- Scheduled on last Friday of the month, during which one or two fellows present a focused discussion of a topic in stroke medicine, usually supported by case presentations.
- Attendees include fellows, stroke physicians and nurses from across Canada and abroad

## Literature Express Production

- Critical review with brief summary and critique of an article published within the last 12-24 months, or an older landmark paper that has influenced clinical practice.
- Article should not overlap with other Literature Express documents already written.
- May take the form of a brief written review or of a podcast-style video in the form of an interview about the article with a mentor



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# Learning Log - Example

\*Enter title of presentation/presenter

\*\*Enter title of presentation

\*\*\*Online learning schedule TBD by fellow and PD

Program Designation			Activity			
Scholar	Expert	Month	National Stroke fellow rounds (attending)*	National Stroke fellow rounds (presenting)**	CSC website Literature Express to write	CSC website online learning modules***
Scholar	Expert	Month 1				
		Month 2				
		Month 3				
		Month 4				
		Month 5				
		Month 6				
		Month 7				
		Month 8				
		Month 9				
		Month 10				
		Month 11				
		Month 12				
	Month 13					
	Month 14					
	Month 15					
	Month 16					
	Month 17					
	Month 18					
	Month 19					
	Month 20					
	Month 21					
	Month 22					
	Month 23					
	Month 24					

# Fellow Registration Process



Program Director (PD) refers eligible Fellow to CSC website upon acceptance into local program

Fellow must join CSC as Trainee (complimentary) and submit completed registration form to [fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca](mailto:fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca)

FCSC-RR Fellowship committee reviews application and confirms registration with Fellow and PD

Fees collected via online payment link (from [fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca](mailto:fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca))

Welcome package to Fellow via email (from [fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca](mailto:fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca))

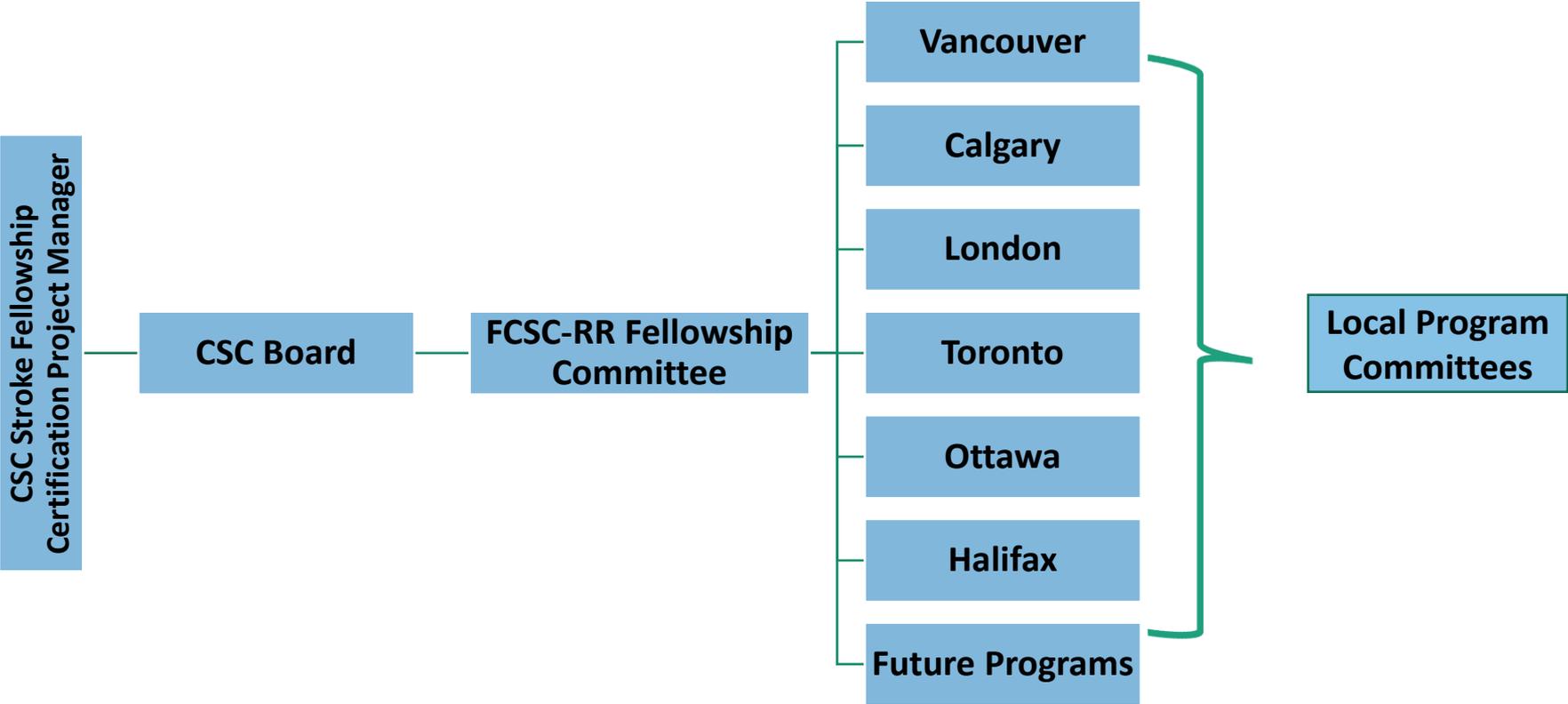
Fellow & Evaluators to document essential tasks & learning activities on progress tracking log

# Welcome Package Contents

- Welcome Letter from FCSC-RR Fellowship Certification Program Chair
- All EPAs (Descriptions and Evaluation forms) in PDF format
- Program Tracker/Learning Log:
  - Capture essential EPA timepoints and learning activities
- List of Resources on CSC website
- Website will be updated to include Welcome package documents by end of 2027



# Organizational Structure



# FCSC-RR Fellowship Committee

- Members include: FCSC-RR Program Development Committee Members, Participating Site Program Directors, and FCSC-RR Program Chair
- Regular meetings (q2 months) to ensure program is running smoothly, adapt and update as real-world experience grows
- Periodic review (end of training) of fellow portfolios/logs
  - If EPAs completed
  - If scheduled learning activities completed
  - If final ExamSoft exam completed (once available)
  - To be informed by local Programs

# Participating Centre Requirements

## A) ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

- There must be an appropriate administrative structure for each Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation Medicine program.

## B) RESOURCES

- There must be sufficient resources including: teaching faculty, number and variety of patients, physical and technical resources, as well as the supporting facilities and services necessary to provide the opportunity for all trainees in the program to achieve the educational objectives and receive full training as defined by the Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation Medicine fellowship objectives.



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# Participating Centre Requirements

## C) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

- There must be a defined educational program that includes relevant clinical, academic, and scholarly content. The program must be designed to ensure that each trainee is able to achieve all the competencies described in the *Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation Medicine Training requirements and General Objectives* document.

## COMPETENCY-BASED ASSESSMENT OF TRAINEE PERFORMANCE

- There must be mechanisms in place to ensure the systematic collection and interpretation of assessment data on each trainee enrolled in the Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation Medicine program.



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# Next Steps

## Current

- Dissemination of materials to programs
- PDs to encourage eligible immediate past (July 2025 – onwards), present and future fellows to register
- Implementation of EPAs at sites (PDF, paper)
- Stroke content online educational tools

## Future

- Stroke Recovery & Rehabilitation content online educational tools
- Housing of materials on CSC website (PDF and web-based)
- Online portfolio for each Fellow (Personalized Dashboard)

# Next Steps

## 2026

- Construction of online exam
- Online exam goes live
- First cohort of certified fellows
  - **FCSC-RR-E** – Expert
  - **FCSC-RR-S** - Scholar

## 2027

- Online EPAs and evaluation forms
- Independent central review of fellow portfolios for vetting, with recommendations from local PDs
- Translation of key guiding documents into French

# StrokeCog SRR Funding Competition

**Eligibility:** Applicants accepted into a recognized centre participating in the Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation Fellowship program in Canada, prior to March 1, 2027.

**Value & Term:** Up to \$160,000 for a two-year term for Scholar Program.

## Key Dates:

- Competition Opens: Mar 12, 2026
- Application Deadline: May 15, 2026 17:00 EDT
- Notification of Funding: June 4, 2026
- Funding Start Date: July 1, 2026 (or prior to March 1, 2027)
- Funding End Date: Two-years from the funding start date but no later than Feb 28, 2029.
- **More Details:** [www.canstroke.ca/strokecog](http://www.canstroke.ca/strokecog)



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LAUNCHING MARCH 12, 2026

# STROKE RECOVERY & REHABILITATION CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

## Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

Standardized national curriculum for PM&R training

-  Training objectives and core competencies
-  Basic program requirements
-  Evaluation methods and online learning tools
-  Designation approved

Advanced Stroke  
Rehabilitation  
Training

Opportunities  
Across  
Canada

1-Year or 2-Year  
Options  
Available

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For more information, please contact [info@canadianstroke.ca](mailto:info@canadianstroke.ca)

# Questions???

Main FCSC-RR  
Fellowship  
Program Contact:

Sandra Thornton

[fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca](mailto:fcsc@strokeconsortium.ca)



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