Please complete and return via email only (gdip.hres@utoronto.ca) by **September 4, 2018** (forms received after this date will not be posted).

**Supervisor Information**

**Name:** Prakesh Shah

**Email:** prakeshkumar.shah@sinahealthsystem.ca

**Degree(s):** MD, MSc

**SGS Department:** Pediatrics

**Academic Rank:** Professor

**Field of Research:** Clinical Epidemiology

Research Institution Affiliation (if applicable):

Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute, Sinai Health System

Allocation of student contact time: 1 hour per week

(number of hours per week YOU are available to the student for any concerns or to review progress)
Preterm birth (PTB), birth before 37 weeks of gestation, occurs in ~8% of pregnancies in Canada. It is associated with high mortality and morbidity rates that significantly impact families and the healthcare system. The Canadian Preterm Birth Network (CPTBN) is a transdisciplinary platform where investigators, stakeholders, and families work together to improve childhood outcomes of preterm neonates. Our national cohort includes 24 maternal-fetal/obstetrical units, 31 neonatal intensive care units and 26 neonatal follow-up programs across Canada with planned linkages to provincial health information systems. Our efforts are focused on three broad clusters of projects: Cluster 1 focuses on quality improvement efforts that use the Evidence-based Practice for Improving Quality methodology to evaluate information from the CPTBN database and review the current literature then identify potentially better health care practices and implement identified strategies, Cluster 2 assesses the impact of current practices and practice changes in maternal, perinatal, and neonatal care on maternal, neonatal and neurodevelopmental outcomes, and Cluster 3 evaluates the impact of PTB on families and health care systems by integrating CPTBN data, parent feedback and national and provincial database information in order to identify areas where more parental support is needed, and also generate robust estimates of resource utilization, cost and cost effectiveness around preterm neonate care. Through our national, collaborative efforts, we aim to improve care provision to extremely preterm neonates during the antenatal, perinatal and postnatal periods and to increase the survival without morbidity rate from 47% to 61% (a 30% increase) over five years. Projects are available in any of the three research clusters, and students will be able to select the project that most interests them.
If human subjects are involved, have the appropriate Research Ethics Board approvals been obtained?

✔ YES  ☐ NO  ☐ Application Submitted  ☐ N/A

Do you expect this work will be published within the 20 months?

✔ YES  ☐ NO  ☐ Uncertain
Student’s roles and responsibilities (please be as specific as possible):

Students will be responsible for searching and reading available literature relevant to the field and their research question, refining a research question and helping to establish a study design, collecting relevant data if necessary, analyzing data, interpreting the results, presenting research results at local meetings and scientific conferences, and drafting and submitting a manuscript describing their research findings.

Please indicate who will serve as the student’s direct report for daily oversight (PI, PhD student, technician, etc…):

Sarah Hutchinson, PhD from the Maternal-Infant Care Research Centre will be responsible for daily student oversight.