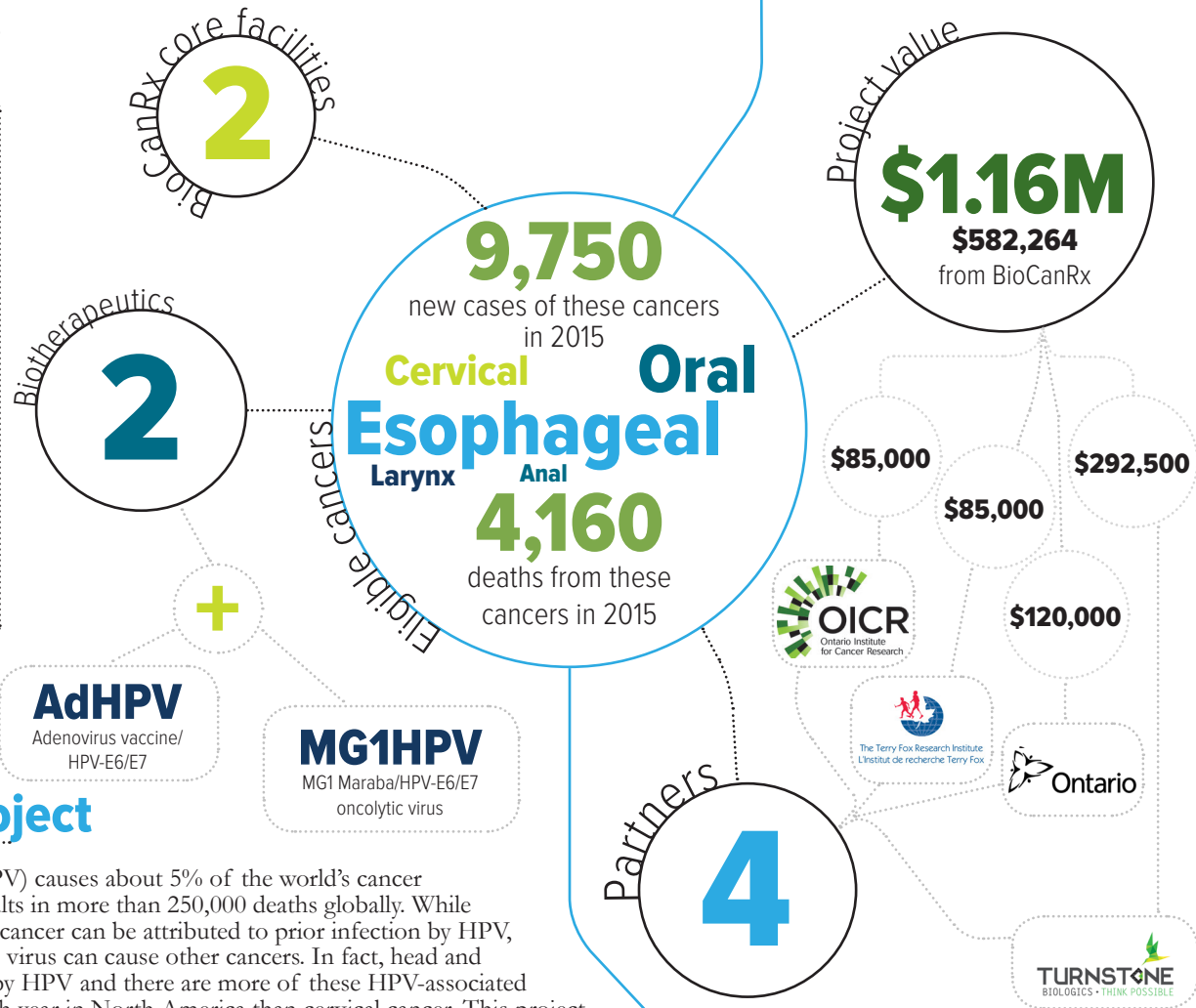


**Advanced preclinical development of the oncolytic vaccine platform to prepare requirements for a clinical trial of patients with HPV-associated cancers**

July 1, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2016

## Highlights

- Potential to put BioCanRx on the international landscape for oncolytic virus clinical trials
- Builds upon considerable expertise to orient the Canadian-made oncolytic vaccine platform for the treatment of HPV-positive cancers
- High likelihood the BioCanRx network will successfully move this program into clinical trials



## About the project

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) causes about 5% of the world's cancer burden and every year it results in more than 250,000 deaths globally. While virtually all cases of cervical cancer can be attributed to prior infection by HPV, we are now learning that this virus can cause other cancers. In fact, head and neck cancer is often caused by HPV and there are more of these HPV-associated (HPV+) cases diagnosed each year in North America than cervical cancer. This project proposes using another virus, called Maraba, to attack and kill HPV+ cancer. The very fact that these cancers are caused by a virus makes them more sensitive to killing by the therapeutic Maraba virus. More importantly, the cancer-killing Maraba virus is also designed to educate the patient's own immune system, teaching it to find and kill any cancer cells that the Maraba virus is unable to kill directly. This combination of attack by Maraba and by the patient's immune system may be able to significantly benefit patients with this class of cancers when other therapies have failed. Funding for this project will enable the final steps required before the clinical testing of this new therapy can proceed in Canadian cancer patients.

The technology being advanced represents a highly promising new twist on cancer immunotherapy that brings together oncolytic viral and viral-vectored vaccine technologies in a way that has led to unprecedented T-cell responses in rodent and non-human primate studies.

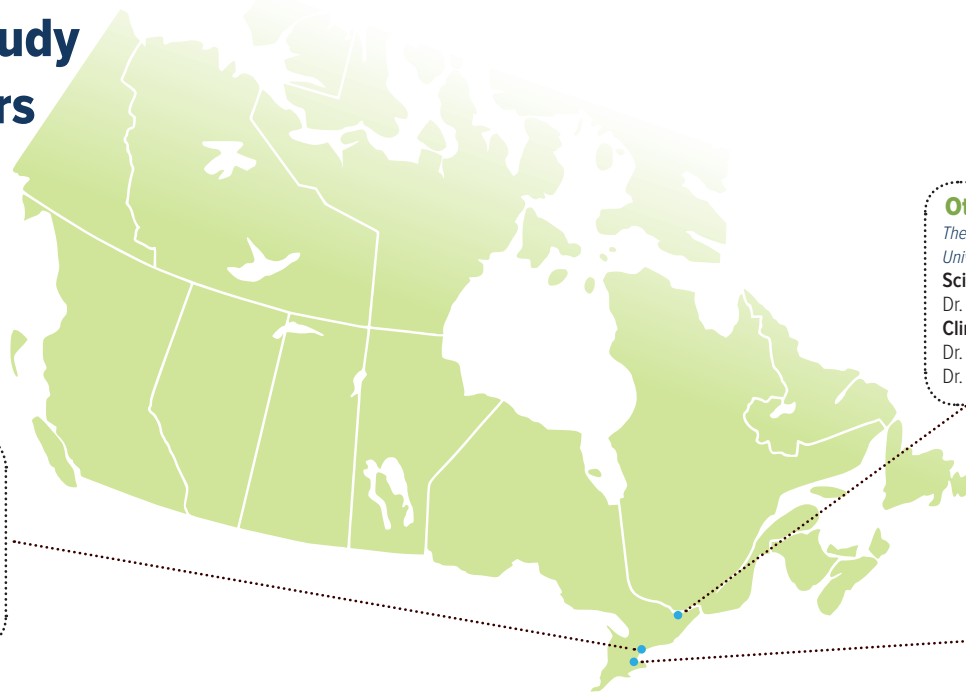
This Enabling Study will allow the team to complete work that has traditionally proven the most difficult to fund, namely preclinical animal testing and GMP manufacturing. Specifically, the project team will conduct the required preclinical animal testing and manufacturing of the GLP and GMP toxicology study lots, master virus banks (MVB) and bulk drug product that are required to complete and submit a clinical trial application (CTA) to Health Canada.

Key investigator

Dr. Brian  
**Lichty**

McMaster  
 University

# Enabling Study investigators



## Toronto

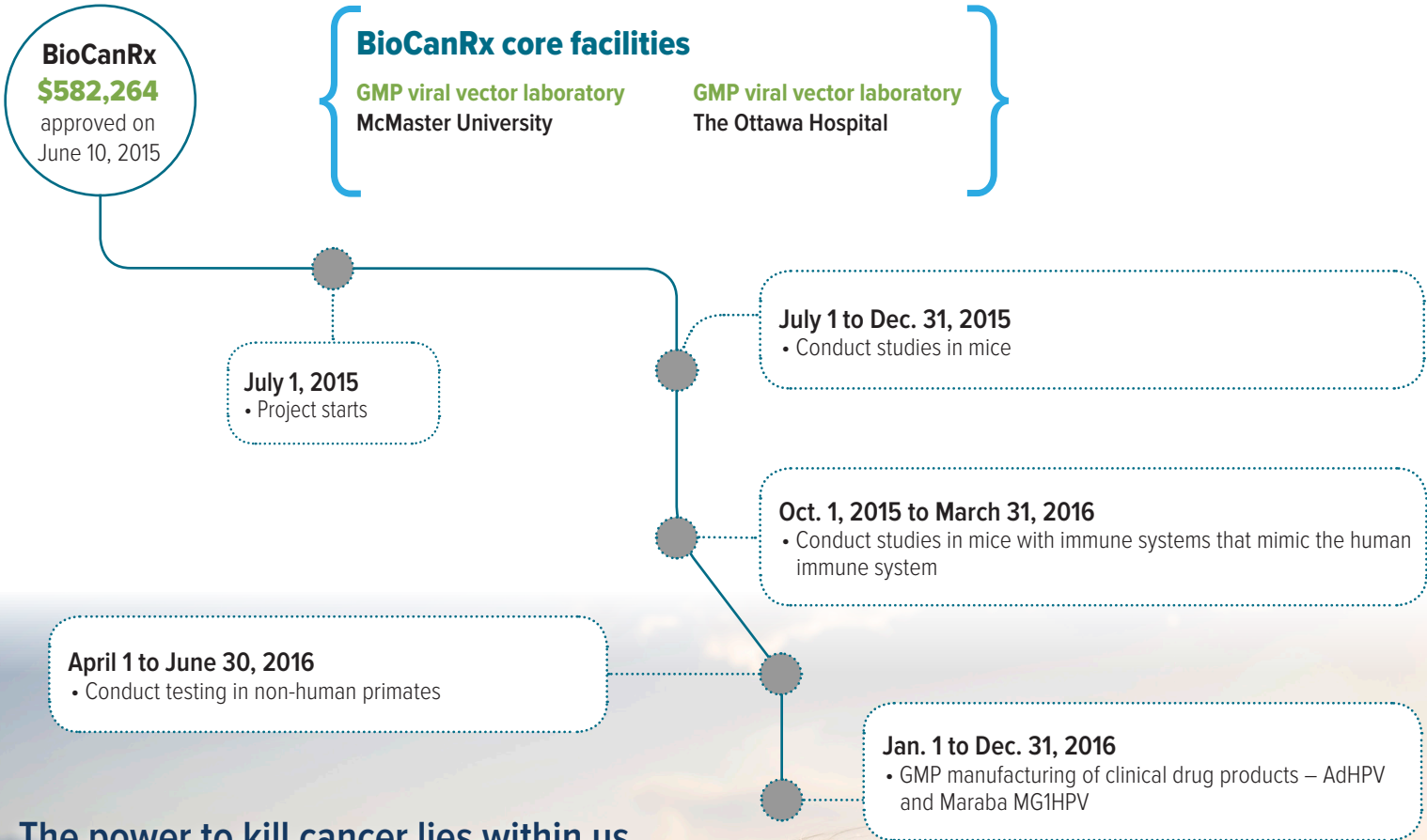
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre,  
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**Clinical advisor**  
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## Ottawa

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University of Ottawa  
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## Hamilton

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Dr. Ali Ashkar  
Dr. Brian Lichty  
Dr. Yonghong Wan  
**Clinical advisor**  
Dr. Hal Hirte



The power to kill cancer lies within us.  
Let's tell our bodies how.

