

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

October 2013
21 Days to the AAC conference!

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ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE'S ADVOCACY UPDATE

The Alliance, together with its Regional Advocacy Teams, continues its outreach to governments across the country. We are pleased to report that we have secured meetings in Manitoba, Newfoundland and Ontario as well meeting with the Honourable Kellie Leitch (Simcoe-Greyland), Minister of Labour.

Further public and government relations initiatives are underway to support the upcoming November 21st 2013 Inaugural Arthritis Alliance Conference and Research Symposium.

The Advocacy Committee recently disseminated its first “hot topic” paper. This paper addresses the issue of “private payers” and the increased reporting of issues involving insurers and coverage of arthritis treatments. Please click [here](#) to view the paper.

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE INFLAMMATORY MODEL OF CARE DEVELOPMENT

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada, in partnership with the Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis (IMHA), is pleased to co-host a developmental National Inflammatory Arthritis Model of Care meeting on Thursday November, 21st.

The meeting will:

1. Present and facilitate discussion on the elements of a pan-Canadian model of care for inflammatory arthritis and best practices from across the country in relation to the model
2. Share lessons learned in addressing gaps and barriers to improving care
3. Present findings and facilitate discussion on the model of care evaluation and measurement component to ensure continuous improvements in inflammatory care
4. Identify next steps in collaborating to improve care



ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE INAUGURAL CONFERENCE AND RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM NOVEMBER 21-23, 2013, AT THE WESTIN OTTAWA

To view the full conference program please click here:

<http://arthritisalliance.ca/home/index.php>

For information please contact Everdina Carter at ecarter@mtsinai.on.ca.



Community Updates

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

Pharmacy and arthritis partnership media coverage during Arthritis Awareness Month

During the month of September, the Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) and Arthritis Research Centre of Canada (ARC) partnership launch with Shoppers Drug Mart has generated significant media coverage. Key arthritis messaging on prevention, detection, screening, treatment and research was included in media reports that reached 900,000 internet users, 1.6 million TV viewers, 2 million radio listeners and totalled more than 2.6 million print impressions. Along with ACE's JointHealth™ communications impressions, the total was 11.2 million.

From an in-store perspective, Amanda Perry, pharmacist/owner at a downtown Toronto Shoppers Drug Mart commented: "This is one of the more popular health campaign launches we've ever had. More and more people are coming in and admitting they may have arthritis. People with diabetes, high blood cholesterol and blood pressure are also now screening for arthritis. In total, 31,000 people screened for arthritis, two thirds of them were women."

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Come do your best downward dog to beat arthritis and autoimmune diseases on Sunday, March 2, 2014. Power of Movement is Canada's largest yoga fundraiser in locations across Canada. See www.powerofmovement.com for more information and a location near you. Meet you on the mat!" Join us on [Facebook](#) and/or follow us on Twitter @powerofmovement



BONE & JOINT INJURY & REPAIR

There will be a Scientific Conference on Bone & Joint Injury & Repair sponsored by the Bone and Joint Health Interdisciplinary Program at Western University to be held in the London Convention Centre on Thursday, 16 Jan and Friday, 17 January, 2014. There is a call for presentation abstracts and poster abstracts, due by 1 October, 2013 (an extension of the 15 September date shown on the website) at www.boneandjoint.imaging.robarts.ca. Conference symposia will include sessions on Osteoarthritis, Inflammatory Arthritis, MSK Imaging, Evidence-based decision-making for Health Care Policy and Research, Orthopaedic Trauma, Biological Repair and Tissue Regeneration and Novel Therapies for Components and Implants.

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS NETWORK

Don't go it alone: Arthritis cross-disciplinary research leads to development of a Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program

Dr. Mary Bell, from Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, investigated the impact a peer support program on people living with early inflammatory arthritis (EIA). Her unique research team included two patients – also known as 'consumers' - Dawn Richards, PhD from the Canadian Arthritis Network's Consumer Advisory Council and Jennifer Boyle PhD. The intervention model they developed resulted in improvements for mentees in overall impact of arthritis on life, coping efficacy and social support.

A subsequent pilot randomized control trial supported with a grant from the Canadian Initiative for Outcomes in Rheumatology care showed that early peer support improved perceived social support but had little effect on other outcomes.

However, Drs. Bell and Jennifer Stinson at the Hospital for Sick Children have recently been awarded a Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR) grant to develop an online version of peer to peer mentoring for adolescents and the research team is now seeking funding to do a larger RCT. Research thus far has been made possible in part through funding from the Canadian Arthritis Network (CAN) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

For more information about the research, contact Mary Bell at mary.bell@sunnybrook.ca.

CONSUMER ADVISORY BOARD OF THE ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CENTRE OF CANADA

Does a Google a Day Keep the Doctor Away? Reaching Out with Arthritis Research (ROAR) Public Forum on E-Health Ethics

The Consumer Advisory Board of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada is hosting an event with patients with arthritis and other chronic illnesses, healthcare providers and other interested people to discuss the benefits and harms of online technologies in health and healthcare.

November 30th 2013 at 10:00am – 12:30pm (PST)

Please join us at Blusson Spinal Cord Centre, 818 West 10th Avenue or by live webcast. Follow on twitter at #eROAR13.

Registration coming soon at www.arthritisresearch.ca/ROAR.

Questions? E-mail ehhealth@arthritisresearch.ca or call 604-207-4006

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS (CAOT)

The Arthritis Broadcast Network (ABN) published: [Avoid work disability through occupational therapy](#)

Charl Young and Doris Bieberdorf, two occupational therapists with the [Mary Pack Arthritis Program](#) located at the Victoria Arthritis Centre in British Columbia sat down with the ABN and discussed how occupational therapy can delay or prevent disability from Arthritis.

[Click here](#) to find out more. Charl Young & Doris Bieberdorf held a pre-conference workshop at the 2013 CAOT Conference in Victoria titled: ““Oh My Aching Joints” – Occupational Therapy in Arthritis Care” which presented the role of occupational therapy in arthritis care as multifaceted including group education to individual hand splinting and foot orthotic intervention, to advocating on patients behalf.

Link: <http://www.arthritis.ca/page.aspx?pid=1141>

Link: <http://arthritisbroadcastnetwork.org/2013/10/avoid-work-disability-through-occupational-therapy/>

MCGILL UNIVERSITY

On Friday October 4th, Dr Henri Menard was interviewed on CTV Midday-News by Mitsumi Takahashi (anchorman) to give information on:

- Rheumatoid Arthritis: genetic predisposition, early alert signs for the patient to consult (joint pain, worse in the morning with prolonged stiffness and general fatigue)
- Osteoarthritis and advice on some lifestyle adjustments (nutrition, rest and exercises, sleep, impact on family and friends)

That was in the context of a specific request from Mitsumi Takahashi from CTV Montreal to highlight:

- Arthritis Awareness Month
- The MUHC (Royal Victoria Hospital site) Rheumatoid Arthritis Patient-Centered Program (Leaders Drs Ines Colmegna and M. Bazan)
- The Annual Patient Forum held at the Constance Lethbridge Rehabilitation Center with patient advocate Anne Lyddiatt, OT Marilyn Miller and rheumatologist Dr Michael Starr

OSTEOPOROSIS CANADA

PATIENT VIRTUAL EDUCATION FORUMS

Visit our website to view one or more of our virtual education forums topics ranging from nutrition, to physical activity to medications. It is geared towards the needs and interests of people living with osteoporosis. For more information on past and upcoming virtual education forums, please visit our Virtual Education Forum web page <http://www.osteoporosis.ca/osteoporosis-and-you/copn/virtual-forum/>

November 8, 2013 - Men and Osteoporosis: So you think it can't happen to you?

Beyond the Break – Special Topics

The fall sessions are scheduled and registration is now open! Targeted towards health professionals working with people living with osteoporosis, this modular series is designed to provide updates on the latest advances in recognition, diagnosis, treatment and education on osteoporosis.

These sessions are available via videoconferencing including live web casting with “Ask a Question” feature plus archiving. For more information, visit our website at www.osteoporosis.ca. For any inquiries regarding the program, please contact: Christine Cruz Fung, Program Coordinator, Client Services & Telemedicine ccruz@osteoporosis.ca or 1-800-463-6842 ext. 2224.

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

NATIONAL

On October 21, The Arthritis Society launched a nationwide campaign to urge Canadians to speak up and “Share The Pain” they experience in living with arthritis. The Society is aiming to change the conversation about arthritis and trigger a candid, national discussion on the reality of a disease that affects millions of Canadians of every age.

SHARE THE PAIN

The campaign website can be found at www.ThePain.ca. The site offers an exchange of experiences including tools to comment and “like” the stories of others. Participants can also share stories via Facebook, Twitter and by calling 1-855-599-PAIN. Please visit www.ThePain.ca and join the conversation!

BC & YUKON DIVISION

The Arthritis Society BC & Yukon Division is offering a Public Forum called “Rare Forms of Arthritis” in Vancouver on November 20. Featuring Dr. David Collins, Rheumatologist, this informative public talk will give people the opportunity to learn more about the rare forms of arthritis, current treatment options and some practical tips to manage symptoms such as fatigue. This presentation by Dr. Collins will focus on Myositis, Dermatomyositis, Sjogren’s Syndrome, Raynaud’s Syndrome, Polymyalgia Rheumatica, Granulomatosis with polyangiitis, Behcet’s Syndrome and others. For more information on this forum and for a full listing of all our upcoming programs please visit, <http://arthritis.ca/BC>.

ONTARIO DIVISION

Money, Meds & More: Navigating the system with arthritis

Tuesday, November 12, 2013 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Courtyard Marriott, 475 Yonge Street, Toronto

Finding your way through the financial aspects of living with arthritis can be a confusing journey. Join us for a practical session that will help you set the right course and ease the strain on your pocketbook. Expert speakers will explain the private versus public pay system for medication coverage, explore assistive device coverage, and discuss how to maximize your arthritis-related savings through tax claims.



Call 1-800-955-0563 to register for this FREE forum. For more information please [click here](#).

Calendar of Events

American College of Rheumatology ASC	October 27-30, 2013	San Diego, USA
Nurse Practitioners’ Association of Ontario	November 7-9, 2013	Toronto, ON
Ontario Orthopaedic Association AGM	November 13, 2013	Toronto, ON
Arthritis Alliance Conference and Research Symposium	November 21-23, 2013	Ottawa, ON
Bone & Joint Injury & Repair Conference	January 16-17, 2014	London, ON
Inflammatory Diseases: Recent Advances in Basic and Translational Research and Therapeutic Treatments	January 17-22, 2014	Vancouver, BC
Registered Nurses Association - Annual Nurse Executive Leadership Academy	February 9-12, 2014	TBD

Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, 9th Congress of the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation	February 20-22, 2014	Copenhagen, Denmark
Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting	Feb 26-Mar 1, 2014	Whistler, BC
Power of Movement	March 2, 2014	Nation wide
Inflammation, Infection and Cancer	March 9-14, 2014	Whistler, BC
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting	March 11-15, 2014	New Orleans, LA
Orthopaedic Research Society Annual Meeting	March 15-18, 2014	New Orleans, LA
Innate Immunity, Metabolism and Vascular Injury	March 23-28, 2014	Whistler, BC
Society of Rural Physicians of Canada - 22nd Annual Rural and Remote Medicine Course	March 27-29, 2014	Banff, BC
Ontario Physiotherapy Association - Inter-Action	March 28-30, 2014	Mississauga, ON
Canadian Foundation of Healthcare Improvement - Taming of the Queue	April 3-4, 2014	Ottawa, ON
11th Annual BIO Asia International Conference	April 8-9, 2014	Tokyo, Japan
Ontario Gerontological Association Annual Conference	April 9-10, 2014	Toronto, ON
Society for Biomaterials Annual Meeting & Exposition	April 16-19, 2014	Denver, CO
Canadian Conference on Medical Education 2014	April 26-29, 2014	Ottawa, ON
Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America AGM	April 30-May 3, 2014	Hollywood, CA
Canadian Orthopaedic Nurse Association Conference	May 4-7, 2014	Calgary, AB
GTA Rehab Network - Best Practices Day	May 5, 2014	Toronto, ON
Saskatchewan Health Quality Council Inspire: Health Care Quality Summit	May 6-8, 2014	Saskatoon, SK
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Annual Conference	May 7-10, 2014	Fredericton, NB
Primary Care Today Conference	May 7-10, 2014	Toronto, ON
Laurentian Conference of Rheumatology	May 8-10, 2014	Tremblant, QC
11th Annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology	May 12-15, 2014	Philadelphia, PA
Global Summit on the Physical Activity of Children	May 19-22, 2014	Toronto, ON
Canadian Pain Society's 35 th Annual Scientific Meeting	May 20-23, 2014	Quebec City, QC
Ontario Rheumatology Association AGM	May 23-25, 2014	Muskoka, ON
Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference	May 21-June 3, 2014	Saskatoon, SK
Canadian College of Health Leaders and Canadian Healthcare Association - Raising the bar: A critical time for bold leadership	June 2-3, 2014	Banff, AB
Canadian Connective Tissue Conference	June 8-10, 2014	London, ON
EULAR - European League Against Rheumatism	June 11-14, 2014	Paris, France
Canadian Nurses Association Biennial Convention	Jun 16-18, 2014	Winnipeg, MB
International Conference with FIMS (International Sport Medicine Federation)	June 17-21, 2014	Québec, QC
Canadian Orthopaedic Association AGM	June 18-21, 2014	Montréal, QC
Canadian Physiotherapy Association National Congress	June 19-22, 2014	Edmonton, AB
Canadian Paediatric Society Annual Conference	June 25-28, 2014	Montréal, QC
Biotechnology Industry Organization International Convention	June 23-26, 2014	San Diego, CA
Council of the Federations (COF) - 2014 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting	August 26-30, 2014	Charlottetown, PEI
American Society for Bone & Mineral Research	October 12-15, 2014	Houston, TX
Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses - Dynamics of Critical Care Conference	September 21-23, 2014	Québec, QC
Cochrane Collaboration Colloquium	September 21-26, 2014	Hyderabad, India
Quebec Rheumatology Association	October 23-25, 2014	Québec, QC

Member Organizations

Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute
Arthritis & Autoimmunity Research Centre
Arthritis Community Research & Evaluation Unit
Arthritis Consumer Experts
Arthritis Health Professions Association
Arthritis Research Centre of Canada
Arthritis Research Foundation
The Arthritis Society
Bone and Joint Canada
Canadian Alliance of Pediatric Rheumatology Investigators
Canadian Arthritis Network
Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance
Canadian Academy of Sports and Exercise Medicine
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Canadian Chiropractic Association
Canadian Obesity Network
Canadian Orthopaedic Association
Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation
Canadian Physiotherapy Association
Canadian Rheumatology Association
Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
Canadian Spondylitis Association
Cochrane Collaboration
Consumer Advisory Board of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada
Consumer Advisory Council of the Canadian Arthritis Network
Institute for Work and Health
McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health

Want to help?

You can help and get involved by:

- Visiting www.ArthritisAlliance.ca
- Sending promotional material (Joint Action Executive Summary, website information) to your friends, family and colleagues
- Providing feedback. Give us your ideas
- Giving us an update to share with the group
- Telling us about your upcoming events, initiatives, and announcements that are aligned with the Framework
- Helping us to promote Joint Action on Arthritis
- Telling our story and telling yours
- Telling your friends and family
- Writing and calling your local MP/MPP, your Premier, Minister of Health, etc.
- Sharing on Twitter, Facebook, and other social media channels

THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE NEEDS TO HEAR YOUR SUCCESSES, STORIES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL SUPPORT THE FRAMEWORK EFFORT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO BE FEATURED HERE, PLEASE FORWARD YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO [JCOISH@MTSINAL.ON.CA](mailto:jcoish@mtsina.on.ca).

ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada, formerly the Alliance for the Canadian Arthritis Program (ACAP), was formed in 2002. Its goal is to improve the lives of Canadians with arthritis.

With more than 35 member organizations, the Arthritis Alliance brings together arthritis health care professionals, researchers, funding agencies, governments, voluntary sector agencies, industry and, most importantly, representatives from arthritis consumer organizations from across Canada. While each member organization continues its own work, the Alliance provides a central focus for national arthritis-related initiatives.

For more information about the Arthritis Alliance, please contact:

Jaime Coish at 416-586-4685 or jcoish@mtsina.on.ca,
www.arthritisalliance.ca