

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

February 2014

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THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

Membership

We are pleased to welcome two official new members of the Arthritis Alliance:

- [The Canadian Rheumatology Research Consortium](#)
- [Celgene Inc.](#)



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. A complete list of members can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Arthritis Alliance of Canada Consumer Groups Update

The AAC consumer groups are excited to announce that they will be partnering through the National Arthritis Awareness Program's Arthritis Broadcast Network (ABN) platform to report the latest clinical and research news coming out of this year's Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) Annual Scientific Meeting being held in Whistler, BC. Consumer groups participating include: Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance, BC Lupus Society, Canadian Spondylitis Association, Patient Partners and the Consumer Advisory Board of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada.

Consumer "reporters" from each group will be interviewing keynote speakers and other attendees at the ABN booth in the Exhibitor's area at the conference. Consumer Reporters will explore topics such as treatment and medication options, alternative therapies such as Chinese medicine and exercise, access to arthritis healthcare and medical marijuana. The

interview footage will be published online both during and after the meeting, and on the consumer group's web sites and social media platforms. The ABN will be posting live updates throughout the meeting, and encouraging all meeting attendees to visit the ABN booth to share what's on their mind.

APPOINTMENT TO ORDER OF CANADA



Congratulations to Dr. Peter Tugwell on his appointment to the Order of Canada!
For details, please [click here](#)

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION

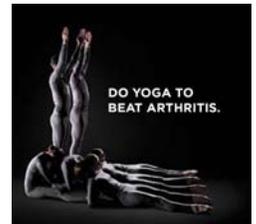
The Canadian Rheumatology Association has joined the Choosing Wisely Canada campaign, an initiative to help physicians and patients engage in conversations about the overuse of tests and procedures and support physician efforts to help patients make smart and effective care choices. The campaign is modeled after the US campaign started by the American Board of Internal Medicine in 2012, and to date has been adopted by over 50 other medical societies to create lists of tests or treatments where there is evidence indicating they may be unnecessary or not adding value. The CRA has developed a list of Top 5 recommendations using a multistage process combining consensus methodology and evidence based literature reviews. The CRA is also working with patient collaborators and Consumer Reports to ensure these recommendations are translated into lay-language and made accessible to patients and the public. The CRA's list of 5 will be announced on April 2nd.

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

ACE will be providing advocacy workshops as part of the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) Annual Scientific Meeting and the Arthritis Health Professions Association's pre-course programs. On Friday February 28, ACE and the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada will present its PRECISION project abstract – a consumer-led survey asking people with rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, lupus and lupus-like diseases, gout, osteoarthritis, inflammatory bowel diseases or skin diseases to identify what concerns they have regarding complications from their inflammatory disease.

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH FOUNDATION

On Sunday, March 2, 2014, help bring the Power of Movement to the 4.6 million people living with arthritis and autoimmune diseases by doing yoga. For information visit the website www.powerofmovement.ca. See you on the mat! Check out our [video](#), like us on [Facebook](#) and/or follow us on Twitter @PowerofMovement.



BONE AND JOINT CANADA

Over the last few months Bone and Joint Canada has been undertaking a stakeholder engagement to identify current practices in the management of Osteoarthritis across Canada. Through this engagement there has been identification of many excellent initiatives as well as opportunities to improve the health and wellness systems to better meet the needs of individuals with OA. In May, BJC will be hosting a meeting to review the findings of the engagement, to showcase some of the excellent initiatives as well as to facilitate discussion on opportunities to improve the system. If you want to provide information about your program or receive further information about the initiative please contact Rhona McGlasson at Rhona.McGlasson@bell.net

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE AND CONSUMER ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE CANADIAN ARTHRITIS NETWORK

The Consumer Advisory Council (CAC) for The Canadian Arthritis Network (CAN) and The Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance (CAPA) are fully merged as of December 31, 2013. The CAC would like to express our appreciation and thanks to CAN and to its Co-scientific Directors, Claire Bombardier and Monique Gignac for all the years of support and for fully including arthritis consumers into all their activities. The knowledge gained from our work with CAN will live on in CAPA who, in turn is also thankful for all the support during this time of transition.

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

The Arthritis Society responds to Globe story on rheumatologist shortage

As [reported](#) in The Globe and Mail, Canada faces a shortage of rheumatologists. In The Arthritis Society's response, it notes that one million Canadians may at some point need to see a rheumatologist – of whom there are fewer than 350 in the country.

To draw bright medical students toward rheumatology, The Society spends up to \$1 million a year on such programs as grants, knowledge transfer projects and young professionals' workshops.

"If wait times to see a rheumatologist get longer, more people will be forced to live with unnecessary pain, inflammation and irreversible joint damage," said Janet Yale, president and CEO of The Arthritis Society. "It doesn't have to be that way."

Read The Society's full response [here](#).

BC & YUKON DIVISION

Two New Rheumatologists Join the Community!

The arthritis community is very fortunate to have two new rheumatologists working with and advocating for people living with arthritis. Please welcome Dr. Megan Hiltz and Dr. Mitchell Uh.

Both doctors put priority on the relationships they are able to establish with their patients. The opportunity to connect with each person they treat was something they said was one of the most important motivating factors for choosing the field of rheumatology. "In rheumatology, you spend a lot of time with your patients and are with them throughout their lives. Rheumatology gives you a chance to get to know them, and that is something fairly unique about this specialty," Dr. Hiltz shared.

Dr. Uh's practice is based out of Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, and Dr. Hiltz is currently working at a group practice in Richmond.

QUEBEC DIVISION

ARTHRITIS IS A SERIOUS DISEASE LET'S HAVE A SERIOUS DISCUSSION

1st Quebec Forum on Arthritis

The inaugural Provincial Forum on Arthritis, presented by The Arthritis Society, runs October 18, 2014 at the Montreal Palais des Congrès. More than 30 conferences will be presented by experts, exploring topics that include arthritis types, nutrition, alternative treatments, orthopedic surgery, personal finances, arthritis at work, the psychological impact of arthritis, and much more. An exhibition hall hosts an opportunity to discover and compare products tailored to your needs.

At a lunch conference, you can network and meet people who live with the same disease as you. For 20\$ (lunch included), this event is not to be missed!

For more information or to register, call 1-800-321-1433 or 514-846-8840, ext. 2461, or visit www.arthritis.ca/QuebecForum

QUEBEC
FORUM ON
ARTHRITIS
2014



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS NEW CAOT RESOURCES: Occupational Therapy and Older Adults

Older adults are the fastest growing sector of our population, with nearly 5 million people aged 65 and older, according to Canadian statistics. A large majority of older adults live in private residences, and report their health as very good or excellent. However, the incidence of chronic illness increases with age, and one in ten people aged 75 and older require assistance with basic activities of daily living. Older adults play key roles in communities. Such roles may include volunteering, working, sharing knowledge and experiences, and caregiving.

As part of our yearlong campaign for OT Month, CAOT has release its latest series of resources Occupational therapy and Older Adults. [Click here](#) to see February's resources.

ALBERTA BONE AND JOINT HEALTH INSTITUTE Research Team to Evaluate Appropriateness Criteria for Knee Replacement

A team of researchers has won a grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to evaluate criteria for determining whether patients with osteoarthritis in the knee should proceed to knee replacement surgery. Researchers from across Canada will collaborate on the work. Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute (ABJHI) will manage the research data.

The work will be led by Dr. Gillian Hawker, Professor of Medicine and Rheumatology, University of Toronto, and Physician in Chief, Department of Medicine, Women's College Hospital and Dr. Deborah Marshall, Canada Research Chair of Health Services and Systems Research and ABJHI's Director of Health Technology Assessment. In lead-up work to the grant application, the researchers identified four criteria, including: demonstrated need for surgery; patient ready, willing and able to undergo surgery; realistic expectations of surgery; and surgery benefit outweighs risk. The researchers will evaluate to degree to which these criteria can accurately identify patients who will have a successful surgery.

Community Updates

ALBERTA INNOVATES - HEALTH SOLUTIONS AND ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES

An Alberta-based research team has won a three-year \$745,000 grant to design a central intake system for people with osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis that will reduce their wait for care and ensure they are referred initially to the right care provider. ABJHI will manage the data for the research.

The grant was awarded by the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System, a partnership between Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions and Alberta Health Services. The work will involve nearly 40 researchers led by Dr. Deborah Marshall, Canada Research Chair of Health Services and Systems Research and ABJHI's Director of Health Technology Assessment, and Dr. Linda Woodhouse, Scientific Director of the Alberta Bone and Joint Health Strategic Clinical Network (BJHSCN).

The researchers will set out performance objectives for the new central intake model, analyze different central intake models and select from them the features best suited to meeting the objectives. They will also develop a framework for measuring the performance of the central intake model once it is up and running. The work will be carried out in collaboration with the BJHSCN.

CANADIAN CONNECTIVE TISSUE CONFERENCE

The annual Canadian Connective Tissue Conference (CCTC) serves as a vehicle to integrate a basic science and clinical understanding of connective tissues in health and disease, with an emphasis on bone, cartilage, musculoskeletal tissue and skin. The objectives of this conference are to provide and share new knowledge to improve connective tissue health through research, facilitate interactions and collaborations among scientists across multiple fields, and to provide networking opportunities to junior scientists, post-doctoral fellows and graduate students. The 20th CCTC conference will take place at the Delta Armories in London, Ontario from June 9th-10th, 2014. For details, see <http://connective-tissue-canada.com/cctc-2014/>

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (CANRAD) NETWORK

We will be holding our CANRAD Network Spring Webinar on Thursday, April 24th, 2014 at 12:00PM EST. Dr. Jacques LeLorier will be presenting on the challenges of drug safety and effectiveness analyses. The CANRAD team includes a variety of decision makers, epidemiologists, clinicians and researchers interested in the use of administrative data for rheumatic disease research. All are welcome to the webinar. For more information contact Autumn Neville at autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca

OSTEOPOROSIS CANADA

Bone Fit™ Workshop - Osteoporosis Canada

Bone Fit™ is an evidence-informed exercise training workshop, for healthcare professionals & exercise practitioners providing training on the most appropriate, safe & effective methods to prescribe & progress exercise for people with osteoporosis.

Bone Fit™ Basics March 22, 2014: 1 Day Workshop for Personal Trainers, Fitness Instructors, Rehabilitation Aid and Personal Support workers, OTA's, PTA's & other certified fitness professionals.

Bone Fit™ Clinical for Rehabilitation Specialists March 22-23, 2014: 2 day workshop for Physiotherapists, Kinesiologists, & other certified exercise health professionals.

To register for either workshop visit www.bonefit.ca



Calendar of Events

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
Western Health Summit 2014	May 21-22, 2014	Edmonton, AB
OARSI World Congress on Osteoarthritis	April 24-27, 2014	Paris, France
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
Global Summit on the Physical Activity of Children	May 19-22, 2014	Toronto, ON
Canadian Pain Society's 35th 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	June 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
9th Annual Summer Obesity Boot Camp	July 19-27, 2014	Edmonton, AB
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
AAC's 2nd Annual Conference	October 30-Nov 1, 2014	TBD
American College of Rheumatology Annual Meeting	14-19 November 2014	Boston, MA

Arthritis Alliance of Canada Members

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 Rheumatology Research Consortium
 Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
 Canadian Spondylitis Association
 Cochrane Collaboration
 Consumer Advisory Board of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada
 Institute for Work and Health
 McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health
 Patient Partners

Member Companies

AbbVie Corporation
 Amgen Canada Inc.
 Celgene Inc.
 Hoffmann -La Roche Limited
 Janssen Inc.
 Pfizer Canada Inc.
 UCB Canada Inc

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@mtsinalon.ca.

For more information about the Arthritis Alliance, please contact: Jaime Coish at 416-586-4685 or jcoish@mtsinaion.ca, www.arthritisalliance.ca