

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

January 2015
Happy New Year!

Inside this issue:

Arthritis Alliance of Canada

Measurement Framework for Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care.....	1
“Stand Up and Be Counted!” Survey.....	1

Member’s Corner

Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE).....	2
Arthritis Health Professional Association (AHPA).....	2
Arthritis Research Canada (ARC).....	2
The Arthritis Society	
National.....	3
BC & Yukon	3
Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance (CAPA).....	3
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT).....	4
Patient Partners In Arthritis.....	4

Community Updates

Canadian Rheumatology Administrative Data (CANRAD).....	5
CongressMed.....	5
GoMobile with CLEAR SPOR LOI.....	5
IMPACT MSK SPOR LOI.....	6
University of Toronto ACPAC Program.....	6

Calendar of Events.....	6
-------------------------	---

About the Arthritis Alliance	7
------------------------------------	---

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

Developing System Level Performance Measures for Evaluating Models of Care for Inflammatory Arthritis

As part of its comprehensive approach to develop pan-Canadian models of care (MOC) for inflammatory arthritis (IA), the Arthritis Alliance of Canada is developing System Level Performance Measures for Evaluating Models of Care for Inflammatory Arthritis. A core starter set of candidate performance measures was presented at the AAC workshop on November 1st in Toronto. Post workshop, the candidate measures and background information were posted to the Alliance website for public comment. Thank you for your feedback!

Dr. Claire Barber, one of the project leads at University of Calgary, will be presenting the System Level Performance Measures for Evaluating Models of Care for Inflammatory Arthritis at the upcoming CRA Annual Scientific Meeting in Quebec City, on *February 06, 2015 at 08:45 AM*.

“Stand up and Be Counted!” Survey

How many rheumatologists are there practicing in Canada and where are they located? Unfortunately, in Canada we don’t have a comprehensive answer to this question...yet.

The Canadian Rheumatology Association, in collaboration with the Arthritis Alliance of Canada will be launching a rheumatology workforce survey at the CRA Annual Scientific Meeting in February 2015. The purpose of this initiative is to quantify the current capacity for Rheumatology care in Canada, define the geographic distribution of care, and inform future planning. Please visit us at the CRA booth and complete the online survey to join us.

Stand Up and Be Counted!

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS Attention Arthritis Shoppers!

To kick off the third year of partnership between Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE), Arthritis Research Canada (ARC), and Shoppers Drug Mart/Pharmaprix (SDM), consumers this month will find arthritis information and specifically designed tools to make arthritis health accessible and personalized. Shoppers Drug Mart and Pharmaprix will focus on encouraging Canadian women to the arthritis screening tool and provide them with information on managing their pain and assessing their joint health. Through point-of-sale and flyer advertising, arthritis information brochure, social media channels, including Facebook and Twitter, and in-store national radio channel, Shoppers Drug Mart and Pharmaprix will reach a vast national audience through its 1,200 stores and on-line presence.

This month the collaboration between ACE, ARC and SDM was recognized with the *2014 Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Partnership Award* for developing an innovative program that “shows how researchers, patients and the private sector can work together to provide health solutions to Canadians.”

ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (AHPA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) Notice

Please note the AGM of the AHPA will be held on Friday, February 6, 2015 at the Fairmont Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City, Quebec from 12:45-14:30 p.m. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. We are currently accepting nominations for 5 positions on the AHPA Board of Directors. Elections will be held at our AGM in Quebec City. We are seeking individuals with an interest in the following Board responsibilities:

- President-Elect
- Secretary-Treasurer
- Membership Committee Chair
- Communications Chair
- Research Chair

Please visit AHPA website www.ahpa.ca for further information.

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA (ARC) Dr. John Esdaile awarded CIHR Partnership Award 2014



CIHR has awarded Arthritis Research Canada (ARC) and Dr. John Esdaile with its annual Partnership Award in recognition of their efforts to make arthritis screening and management more accessible to Canadians. In a national partnership with the Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) and Shoppers Drug Mart/ Pharmaprix, ARC contributed to the development of an arthritis awareness campaign that offers free arthritis prevention, screening and treatment information.

This screening program is to help Canadians obtain earlier diagnoses and to better manage their arthritis. Dr. John Esdaile believes that early diagnosis and intervention are the key elements of improving patient outcomes. For more information, please visit <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/>.

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

NATIONAL

Inflammation, so enmeshed with arthritis, is linked to many other chronic diseases from asthma to heart disease to cancer. Millions of Canadians have disorders either caused by inflammation, or that trigger it. The Arthritis Society is proud to partner with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and Crohn's and Colitis Canada for a [series of major studies](#) that will investigate how inflammation and chronic disease intersect. This \$21.9 million initiative for nine new research projects will help develop new methods of diagnosing, treating and managing inflammation-related chronic diseases. It represents a unified, cross-Canada effort designed to enhance patient care for the millions touched by inflammation-related disease states.



REMINDER: Clinical Practice Skills for Inflammatory Arthritis Professional Development Program for Occupational and Physical Therapists



The Arthritis Society is committed to educating health-care professionals in the most up-to-date arthritis best practices. This long-established professional development program, formerly called Total Assessment of Inflammatory Polyarthritis, has evolved over 37 years. The program is a blend of online, didactic and hands-on learning, delivered over a four-day period.

Date: May 6-9, 2015

Event Location: Four Points by Sheraton, 1150 Wellington Rd S., London, Ontario, Canada.

The program emphasizes best practice assessment and management techniques as applied to the most common types of inflammatory arthritis. Upon completion of the program, participants will have the skills to effectively recognize and report on the physical status of clients with inflammatory arthritis and to formulate an appropriate treatment plan. To learn more, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Participant Testimonial

"This is the most useful course I have been at in terms of learning information and skills that I can apply right away."

BC & YUKON DIVISION

Back Behind the Wheel!



GF Strong offers Driver's Rehabilitation Services for people all over the province. If you or someone you care about has been affected by arthritis in a way that affects driving ability, then Driver's Rehabilitation Services at GF Strong may be the answer for gaining or regaining driving independence. While many people enter this rehabilitation service through GF Strong, anyone in need is eligible as long as they have a physician's referral. There are some screening criteria and a clinical assessment involved, and we encourage you to call GF Strong at 604.734.1313 to find out if this program is right for you or your loved ones: http://www.vch.ca/media/GFS_DriverRehabReferral.pdf.

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE (CAPA)

The Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance (CAPA) is pleased to announce the publication of our latest [newsletter](#). Read all about our latest news including our feature on [Subsequent Entry Biologics \(SEBs\)](#).

CAPA continues to ensure the patient perspective is heard in health care decision making. In recent months, we provided input to the Ontario Drug Benefit Plan (ODBP) for the drugs Inflectra and Actemra (self-injectable). We have also been accepted to present a poster on the CAPA-led [Arthritis Patient Charter](#) at the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) annual meeting. You will also see CAPA at the annual symposium of the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technology in Health (CADTH). We will be presenting [our approach](#) and results for patient input submissions to CADTH in their review of drugs for Canada's publicly funded drug plans. If you are attending these events, please check us out at the poster sessions!

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS (CAOT)



**Join us for this dynamic and thought provoking webinar - How to Integrate Ergonomics into Engineering Designs – February 17, 2015 (12:00pm - 1:00 pm ET),
Presenter: Dr. Judy Village**

Are you ever frustrated with poorly designed products or workstations that create injuries and difficulties for users? Are you wary helping workers returning to the very work that caused their injury? This webinar will discuss overcoming barriers of working with engineers in order to reduce occupational injuries and optimize worker performance, based on a unique action research study. Ergonomists had to acclimate to the engineering design process, learn the engineering language and common design tools, and align ergonomics with the business goals of the organization.

This webinar will describe the change process and the implications for other professionals, such as occupational therapists, who want to work with engineers in primary prevention of occupational injuries by designing it right the first time. To register or find our more please follow the link:

http://www.caot.ca/CAOT_lunch_learn_detail.asp?pageid=4142&eventsID=165

PATIENT PARTNERS IN ARTHRITIS

We kindly encourage you to watch these videos by visiting www.policymatters.ca, embed the videos on your website, and share the videos with your members and social networks. If you'd like to share them on Twitter, you can use #policymatters. The two videos are as follows:

- 1) The Evolution of Biotechnology: the arrival of biosimilars (the featured video on the main page)
- 2) Biosimilars: What's in a name? (located in the "Other Videos" box).



Community Updates

ALBERTA INNOVATES HEALTH SOLUTIONS (AIHS) ALBERTA OSTEOARTHRITIS TEAM Osteoarthritis innovation in Alberta

Drs. Cy Frank, Linda Woodhouse, Walter Herzog and David Hart give an overview of the pioneering approaches and changes in attitude their seven-year project has instilled in the osteoarthritis community of Alberta, Canada and beyond. You can read entire article at <http://www.internationalinnovation.com/osteoarthritis-innovation-in-alberta/>.



CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (CANRAD) NETWORK



The **CANRAD Network** team includes a variety of decision makers, epidemiologists, clinicians and researchers interested in the use of administrative data for rheumatic disease research. We held a webinar on Tuesday, December 16th at 2PM EST with a presentation by Jeffrey Curtis, MD, MS, MHP, Professor of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Director of the Arthritis Clinical Intervention Program. For more

information pertaining to the CANRAD Network or our recent webinar please contact Autumn Neville at autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca or visit our website <http://www.canradnetwork.ca/>.

The **Canadian Network for Advanced Interdisciplinary Methods for comparative effectiveness research' (CAN-AIM)** team was funded by CIHR to develop novel methods using prospective longitudinal cohorts and to respond to key knowledge gaps regarding drug safety and effectiveness by answering queries which arise from Health Canada and other regulatory parties. Our demonstration project looked at the comparative effectiveness of anti-tumour necrosis factor (TNF) agents versus traditional disease-modifying agents (DMARDs) in reducing orthopaedic surgery in rheumatoid arthritis (RA). For information on our preliminary results or for more information on our team, please contact Autumn Neville at autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.



CongressMed



The 3rd World Congress on Controversies, Debates and Consensus in Bone, Muscle and Joint Diseases (BMJD) held under the auspices of the IOF and ESCEO, will take place April 23-26, 2015 in Montreal, Canada. <http://www.congressmed.com/bmjd/>. The 3rd edition of BMJD provides an effective forum for discussing and debating unresolved controversies by allowing ample time for speaker-audience discussions with world authorities in the fields of Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis, and Rheumatoid Arthritis.

**GoMobile with CLEAR –
Consumer Leadership Excellence that Advances Research on novel interventions
and technologies to optimize mobility and reduce disability for Canadians with chronic diseases.**

The GoMobile with CLEAR network is driven by consumer needs and preferences to achieve and maintain mobility and facilitate health while living with chronic diseases. Our Network brings together 200 stakeholders including, consumers, clinicians, researchers and health policy makers from across Canada, to share knowledge, expertise, resources, platforms, and technologies, in order to enhance the efficiency of research and ensure the rapid uptake of discoveries and tools into

practice and policy. On January 13th the GoMobile with CLEAR network submitted a letter of intent to CIHR for a SPOR network in chronic disease. GoMobile with CLEAR looks forward to working together for the next phase of the SPOR application process!

IMPACT MSK SPOR LOI

A letter of intent was submitted on January 13th for the Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR) Network, entitled “From Primary to Tertiary Care: the Impact of Risk Stratification and Targeted Intervention on Achieving Better Outcomes for Spine and Joint Pain (IMPACT-MSK).” The Network will optimize the outcomes of people with spine and/or joint pain, limiting chronicity and disability, by applying cross-pillar research into clinical care using a transformative approach that leverages advances in informatics to achieve early risk stratification and initiation of targeted management at the primary the care level. For more information, please contact Dr. Y. Raja Rampersaud at Raja.Rampersaud@uhn.ca.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

The Advanced Clinician Practitioner in Arthritis Care (ACPAC) program

The Advanced Clinician Practitioner in Arthritis Care (ACPAC) program is pleased to announce that applications for its 2015-2016 program will open on Friday January 30, 2015. ACPAC is a hybrid academic and clinical training program that prepares experienced physical therapists, occupational therapists, and nurses for extended practice roles in the diagnosis and management of patients with arthritis. Fellowships are available for this year’s program. The deadline to apply is Friday May 15, 2015. For more information contact Dr. Katie Landon (katie.landon@utoronto.ca) or to apply visit <http://chronicdiseases.ca/arthritis/apply-now/>.

Calendar of Events

Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting	February 4-7, 2015	Quebec City, QC
Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, 11 th Congress of the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation	February 18-21, 2015	Barcelona/Spain
Global Summit on the Physical Activity of Children	February 22-25, 2015	San Diego, CA
Power of Movement	March 8, 2015	Nation wide
Registered Nurses Association - Annual Nurse Executive Leadership Academy	March 1-4, 2015	Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting	March 24-28, 2015	Las Vegas, Nevada
Orthopaedic Research Society Annual Meeting	March 28-31, 2015	Las Vegas, Nevada
Ontario Physiotherapy Association - Inter-Action	March 27-28, 2015	Ottawa, ON
Society for Biomaterials Annual Meeting & Exposition	April 15-18, 2015	Charlotte, NC
Canadian Foundation of Healthcare Improvement- Taming of the Queue	April 16-17, 2015	Ottawa, ON
Ontario Gerontological Association 34 th Annual Conference	April 21-22, 2015	Toronto, ON
Canadian Conference on Medical Education 2014	April 25-28, 2015	Vancouver, BC
9 th Annual Summer Obesity Boot Camp	April 28- May 2, 2015	Toronto, ON
Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America AGM	April 29-May 2, 2015	Atlanta, GA
OARSI World Congress	April 30-May 3, 2015	Seattle, WA
Primary Care Today Conference	May 6-9, 2015	Toronto, ON

Canadian Pain Society's 36 th Annual Scientific Meeting	May 20-23, 2014	Charlottetown, PEI
12 th Annual Cochrane Canada Symposium "Reaching New Heights, Measuring Success"	May 21-22, 2015	Calgary, AB
Ontario Rheumatology Association AGM	May 22-24, 2015	Muskoka, ON
Canadian Orthopaedic Nurse Association Conference	May 24-27, 2015	Fredericton, NB
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Annual Conference	May 27-30, 2015	Winnipeg, MB
Canadian Connective Tissue Conference	May 28-30, 2015	Québec, QC
Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference	May 28-31, 2015	Ottawa, ON
EULAR - European League Against Rheumatism International Conference with FIMS (International Sport Medicine Federation)	June 10-13, 2015	Rome, Italy
Canadian College of Health Leaders and Canadian Biotechnology Industry Organization International Convention	June 15-16, 2015	Charlottetown, PEI
Canadian Physiotherapy Association National Congress	June 15-18, 2015	Philadelphia, PA
Canadian Paediatric Society Annual Conference	June 18-21, 2015	Halifax, NS
Council of the Federations (COF) - 2014 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting	June 24-27, 2015	Toronto, ON
12 th Annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology	July 14-18, 2015	Newfoundland
Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses - Dynamics of Critical Care Conference	July 19-22, 2015	Montréal, QC
Cochrane Collaboration Colloquium	September 27-29, 2015	Winnipeg, MB
Vasculitis Symposium	October 3-7, 2015	Vienna, Austria
Canadian Vasculitis (CandVasc) Annual Scientific Meeting	October 8, 2015	Calgary, AB
	October 9, 2015	Calgary, AB

ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

With more than 36 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 jcoish@arthritisalliance.ca or visit our website www.arthritisalliance.ca