

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

August 2016

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

Update on Government Relations Efforts

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC), working with its regional advocacy teams, is targeting Members of Parliament (MPs) in their local jurisdictions during the summer period. Advocacy team members have successfully secured several meetings to meet with local MPs across the country. Additional meetings are being scheduled through the month of September, Arthritis Awareness Month. Team members are working collectively, utilizing the customized set of materials (a toolkit), prepared in both English and French to assist with outreach efforts with common messaging. Please contact lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca for a copy of the toolkit. **Please join us in our summer outreach program to target MPs** in their local jurisdictions and help us raise the profile of arthritis.

To help ensure a coordinated approach, please advise of any outreach you do and/or meetings with your local MP's so that we can track and avoid sending multiple letters to the same person. Thank you!

Inside this issue:

Arthritis Alliance of Canada

Update on Government Relations Efforts	1
Arthritis Alliance of Canada 2016 Annual Meeting Program Flyer... ..	1
Quality Improvement Projects in Osteoarthritis..2	
<i>Alberta Bone & Joint Health Institute Study That Finds Efficient Method To Improve Reporting</i>	
<i>What is happening with GLA:D™ Canada in Ontario?</i>	

Member's Corner

The Arthritis Society	2
<i>National: September Arthritis Awareness Month</i>	
<i>Quebec: 3rd Quebec Forum on Arthritis</i>	
Arthritis Consumer Experts.....	3
<i>3rd Annual Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees living with Arthritis Program</i>	
Arthritis Health Professionals Association	3
<i>AHPA Funding Opportunity!</i>	
Arthritis Research Canada	4
<i>ROAR 2016</i>	
Canadian Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis	4
<i>Seeking Research Ambassadors!</i>	
Canadian Rheumatology Association.....	4
<i>17 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting</i>	
Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance.....	5
<i>Summer Newsletter Publication</i>	

Community Updates

Alberta Children's Hospital.....	5
<i>Annual Calgary Vasculitis Symposium</i>	
Canadian Rheumatology Administrative Data (CANRAD)	5
<i>Webinar on admin data for rheumatic disease research</i>	
McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health.....	5
<i>2016 Wood forum on "Arthritis and You"</i>	
University of British Columbia	5
<i>Online toolkit of resources</i>	

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

About the Arthritis Alliance	6
------------------------------------	---

Arthritis Alliance of Canada 2016 Annual Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

October 27-28, 2016, Intercontinental Hotel Montreal, QC

For full program details and registration please visit:

www.arthritisalliance.ca/conference2016

Translating Arthritis: Knowledge to Action for Canadians
October 27-28, 2016
InterContinental Hotel, Montréal, Québec

Come and meet Canada's leading experts in arthritis care and research; specialists, health care providers, researchers, consumers, trainees, industry and government affiliates.

The two-day programme features a fun and engaging panel discussion, the opportunity to network with the best and brightest Canada has to offer, a variety of workshops, led by experts to advance our collaborative initiatives in advocacy and awareness, models of care and research.

Please visit www.arthritisalliance.ca for more details.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2016
The Arthritis Society Training Day Workshop - by invitation only
AAC Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care Workshop: A Pan-Canadian Core Clinical Dataset for Rheumatoid Arthritis
AAC Osteoarthritis Models of Care Workshop: AAC and College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) collaborate to develop osteoarthritis (OA) toolkit for family practice. A clinical tool to effectively identify, assess, monitor and care for the more than 4.3 Million Canadians living with OA
Panel Discussion: "Sunny Ways: Building A National Strategy to Overcome Arthritis"
CIHR-IMHA's Research Ambassadors Workshop: Patient Engagement in Research
Reception/Poster Viewing Session: The Arthritis Society Trainers and AAC Arthritis Consumer Organizations
Networking/Awards Dinner

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2016
The Arthritis Society Training Day Workshop - by invitation only
AAC Advocacy and Awareness Workshop: Making Noise to Elevate Arthritis as Priority for Action or Making Noise to Amplify our Voice
Arthritis Consumer-Patient Organizations and Group Coalition Workshop: Patients in Patient-Oriented Research: What Should it Look Like?
AAC Annual General Meeting/Business Meeting
AAC Research Workshop: Knowledge Translation Research and Practice in Disseminating and Implementing Arthritis Models of Care into Practice

Panel Discussion (Thursday, 1pm - 2pm)
"Sunny Ways: Building a National Strategy to Overcome Arthritis"
Panel discussion moderated by:

Scott Reid, CTV Political Analyst
Join us for an engaging discussion of politics, media and public policy issues confronting Ottawa as we reach the first year anniversary of the new government's election!

AAC Research Workshop (Friday, 1:30pm - 3:30pm)
"Knowledge Translation Research and Practice in Disseminating and Implementing Arthritis Models of Care into Practice"

Dr. Sharon Strass, MD, FRCPC, MSc, HBSc, Director, Knowledge Translation Program, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, Ontario

Dr. Kelli Allen, Ph.D, Research Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, USA

Register today: <http://arthritisalliance.ca/conference2016/>

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN OSTEOARTHRITIS

ALBERTA BONE AND JOINT HEALTH INSTITUTE

Study Finds Efficient Method to Improve Reporting of Surgical Site Infections in Hip and Knee Replacements



Traditional methods of tracking surgical site infections (SSI) and inconsistent surveillance resources in Alberta hospitals are likely leading to hip and knee replacement infections being under-reported – a problem that can be mitigated quickly and efficiently, a study has found. Alberta Health Services monitors SSIs by tracking patients who return to the hospital to have their infection treated, and through investigations by Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) staff. But many patients with infection don't go to the hospital where they had surgery. These cases may inadvertently go unreported. The study demonstrated that surveillance could be improved by scanning administrative data from all acute care facilities for codes that suggest infection.

These files would be reviewed by IPC staff to determine whether an SSI had occurred. The new methodology has been adopted as standard practice in Alberta. The study, a collaboration between Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute, AHS Analytics and IPC, and the Department of Community Health Sciences, University of Calgary, is published in [Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology](#).

BONE AND JOINT CANADA

What is Happening with WITH GLA:D™ CANADA in Ontario?

Through funding provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation BJC is able to provide training for physiotherapists, kinesiologists and chiropractors at a reduced rate. Sessions are being hosted in the fall 2016. An invitation on the September session is attached and a second session is being scheduled for November. Please distribute the information to any individuals who works with people who have OA and would be interested in upgrading their knowledge and clinical skills. Information about the GLA:D program can be found at <http://gladcanada.ca> including a 'Getting Started' document that will help individuals decide if the GLA:D program is right for their practice setting. You can also register for our newsletter to find out about future courses. The next GLA:D™ Canada Certification Course is on:



Friday, September 16th (8am – 4pm) and
Saturday September 17th 2016 (8 am – 12pm)

Instructors: Dr. Aileen Davis BScPT, MSc, PhD Senior Scientist, Krembil Research Institute, UHN Professor, University of Toronto Mark Annunciation BScPT Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Holland Orthopedic & Arthritis Centre.

The course includes: A training manual; Ongoing access to up to date educational and exercise materials; Promotion of your clinic as a certified site; Follow-up support to launch the program at your location. For further information about the courses, please contact our Program Coordinator Mariel Ang at Marriel.ang@uhnresearch.ca

MEMBER'S CORNER

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

NATIONAL

September is Arthritis Awareness Month

The Arthritis Society is engaging Canadians in the discussion of arthritis with a series of events and initiatives throughout the month of September. Some highlights include:

- the announcement of The Arthritis Society's research commitment for 2016-17;
- feature profiles of six Canadians, each living with a different form of arthritis, and pointing to the many resources available to help inform and support people with those conditions
- launching "[MediKidz explain JIA](#)", a new comic book for children living with arthritis that helps them learn about and relate to the disease in language they can understand, supported by helpful and engaging visuals;



- live events
- a variety of exciting awareness and partnership initiatives

These and many more activities will be taking place nationally and locally throughout the month, so to stay up to date on all our Arthritis Awareness events during the month of September, be sure to follow us on [Twitter](#), like us on [Facebook](#), and visit our [website](#).

QUEBEC

ARTHRITIS CONFERENCE AS PART OF THE 3RD QUEBEC FORUM ON ARTHRITIS OCTOBER 29, 2016

Palais des congrès de Montréal
quebecforumarthritis.ca

You are a Crucial Link!

The Québec Medical Association (AMQ) and The Arthritis Society invite you to an exceptional day of learning and sharing about interdisciplinary care and the trajectory of care that allows for better management of patients with arthritis.

Offered as part of the 3rd Quebec Forum on Arthritis, the Arthritis Conference training day, held on October 29, will give health care professionals the chance to build an innovative program focused on governance. You are a crucial link in the chain of interdisciplinary health care for your patients, and you can take part in the development of personalized solutions.



The greatest arthritis gathering in Canada

The Quebec Forum on Arthritis is a unique event in Canada, bringing together patients, caregivers and health care specialists under one roof. In addition to the Arthritis Conference dedicated to health care professionals, 50 seminars and a number of workshops will be offered to the general public, including an opening seminar and a lunch and learn session moderated by Dr. Christiane Laberge, and an exhibitor fair where one can learn everything about arthritis. Also new this year, we will offer seven webinars in English and one in French, and a free app will connect participants! (QFA 2016). Visit our quebecforumarthritis.ca website for more details or to register. Spread the word among your colleagues and patients! Arthritis is a serious disease. Let's have a serious discussion.

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS (ACE)

ACE launches third annual Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis program



Canadian employers, working with their private health insurers, are increasingly looking for ways to promote patient-focused prevention, treatment and management of arthritis as part of a health and wellness program for employees. To recognize these best arthritis practices, Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) has launched the third annual search for **Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis**.

Categorizing companies by size (small, medium and large), ACE analyzes company practices and programs compared to other nominated companies. The judging criteria this year will particularly value those organizations providing flexible work arrangements that meet the needs of employees living with arthritis to manage their disease and work with symptoms such as pain, fatigue, joint dysfunction or immobility. To nominate your company for **Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis program**, please visit: [click here](#).

ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION

Attention all Allied Health Professionals Funding Opportunity!

Are you currently working in arthritis research or partnering on arthritis research with an investigator at an academic institution? If so, then you may be interested in applying for funding through the Arthritis Health Professions Association's (AHPA)/The Arthritis Society (TAS) Annual Research Grant Competition. The application deadline is **midnight on Sept 16, 2016**. For more details and to view the application package, please visit the AHPA website at: <https://www.ahpa.ca/research/research-grants/>. If you have any questions, please contact Raquel Sweezie, Chair of the AHPA Research Committee at research@ahpa.ca



ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA



ROAR 2016 - Action on Arthritis: Steps to a better you. Public Forum.

The Arthritis Patient Advisory Board of Arthritis Research Canada (ARC) is bringing arthritis research to the public on October 1, 2016. The Reaching Out with Arthritis Research (ROAR) public forum will be held in Burnaby, BC at the Ismaili Centre from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm PST, with a simultaneous webcast. The public will hear about research that supports best outcomes for patients and facilitates self-empowerment. Please mark your calendars and bring this event to the attention of anyone interested in the latest research.

Registration for the in-person event or live webcast can be found at www.arthritisresearch.ca/roar or by calling 1-844-207-0400.

Arthritis Research Canada Scientists Awarded Grants to Continue Critical Research

Dr. Glen Hazlewood was awarded a *New Investigator Salary Award* to continue his work on patient preferences and treatment recommendations. Dr. Hazlewood will bridge the gap between the research evidence generated about the best drug treatments for rheumatoid arthritis and what matters to patients. Dr. Linda Li received a grant for her proposal 'Empowering active self-management of arthritis: Raising the bar with an on-demand program to empower active self-management'. This research will determine whether integrating symptom and disease activity monitoring with physical activity counselling by a physiotherapist improves patients' ability to self-manage aspects of their disease. This e-health intervention will allow patients everywhere to benefit. www.arthritisresearch.ca

CIHR INSTITUTE OF MUSCULOSKELETAL HEALTH AND ARTHRITIS Expressions of Interest: CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis Research Ambassadors

Get involved in health research! Apply to be a research ambassador. For more information, please contact IMHA@umanitoba.ca or read the full Expression of Interest [online](#).



CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION

CRA & AHPA 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting February 8-11, 2017

Ottawa, Ontario...Canada's 150th birthday, a great time to be in Ottawa!

Theme: Sustainability!

Our educational program features several innovative and enlightening sessions including keynote presentations from Dr. Allen Steere (Lyme Disease), Dr. Matthew Warman (Bone Metabolism & Therapeutics) and Dr. Jonathon Fowles (Exercise is Medicine). Attendees are invited to submit an abstract for oral or poster presentation during the meeting. Abstract submission deadline is October 17, 2016, [click here](#) to submit. For more conference information and important dates, please [click here](#).

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE

The Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance (CAPA) is pleased to announce the publication of our [Summer Newsletter](#). Key highlights of the newsletter include:

- the [presentation](#) of the [Arthritis Patient Charter](#) at EULAR,
- CAPA's advocacy efforts to increase arthritis awareness with [MP's](#) and the [media](#), and
- an [article](#) in The Mighty about the stress of pregnancy while living with arthritis.

Stay informed about these and other CAPA initiatives by subscribing to our mailing list on the CAPA [website](#).



Community Updates

ALBERTA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Alberta Health Services will be having our **Annual Calgary Vasculitis Symposium on October 20, 2016** with a spectacular program of local, national and international speakers put together by Marinka Twilt, Rheumatology and Dr. Julian Midgley, Nephrology at the Alberta Children's Hospital.



The two areas of focus are: 1) **targeting complement in vasculitis** and 2) **genes and environment in vasculitis**. The morning will be started by Dr. Christoph Licht, Nephrology Sickkids, focussing on the role of complement in vasculitis and the keynote speaker in the afternoon will be Ivona Aksentijevich, NIH, who discovered the ADA2 gene for polyarteritis nodosa PAN. There will be a patient and parent forum with dinner in the evening focussing on the parental perspective of living with vasculitis. The registration link is cvs2016.eventbrite.ca.

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. Our CANRAD team will be organizing a webinar in the fall. For more information pertaining to our webinars or all other information concerning the CANRAD Network, 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) objective is to respond to key knowledge gaps regarding drug safety and effectiveness by answering queries which arise from Health Canada and other regulatory parties. Recently we received additional funding from CIHR to work with important cohorts to help answer queries, including CATCH, PiMS, CanHepC and GENESIS-PRAXY. Also, we will be joining DSECT's webinar series to host a webinar from one of our colleagues. For information on our queries, on our upcoming webinars or for more information on our team, please contact Autumn Neville at autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.

McCaig INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH University of Calgary



The McCaig Institute is hosting two public events this fall. The 2016 Wood forum on "Arthritis and You" is a free public forum on the latest research advances in personalized medicine. The event takes place in Edmonton on October 22nd and Calgary on November 5th. For more information, please visit the McCaig Institute website at: mccaiginstitute.com. If you missed the summer McCaig Institute newsletter, you can read it here: <https://t.co/DqdCm3T2k2>.

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Physiotherapy

Online toolkit of resources to support care of patients with hip or knee replacements

Have you ever wondered ...?

1. How you can demonstrate that your treatment of a patient with a Total Knee Arthroplasty or Total Hip Arthroplasty was effective?
2. Which are the best outcome measures to track a patient's progress?
3. Whether it is OK to change any part of a standardized test (e.g. can the patient use a gait aid during the Timed Up and Go (TUG) Test)?
4. How to effectively write discharge letters reporting the results of your treatment?

The Total Joint Arthroplasty and Outcome Measures (TJAOM Toolkit) can help you address these questions. This Physical Therapy Knowledge Broker (<http://physicaltherapy.med.ubc.ca/physical-therapy-knowledge-broker/>) facilitated project involved a 6 year collaboration of over 30 BC physical therapists and multiple health authorities. The free resources (a diagram illustrating which outcome measures to use at each phase of care, one page summaries, templates of discharge letters reporting the results, and online learning modules) are available at <http://tinyurl.com/TJAOMToolkitresources>.

To register for access to the online learning modules providing the key points (with videos) about the 12 recommended patient-reported and performance-based outcome measures visit <http://goo.gl/forms/paj0MBZbZx>



Calendar of Events

Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses - Dynamics of Critical Care Conference	September 25-27, 2016	Charlottetown, PEI
Canadian Vasculitis (CandVasc) Annual Scientific Meeting	October 20, 2016	Calgary, AB
4th World Congress on Controversies, Debates and Consensus in Bone, Muscle and Joint Diseases (BMJD)	October 20-22, 2016	Barcelona, Spain
Cochrane Collaboration Colloquium	October 23-27, 2016	Seoul, South Korea
Arthritis Alliance of Canada – 2016 Annual Meeting	October 27-28, 2016	Montreal, QC
The Arthritis Society Congress 2016	October 29, 2016	Montreal, QC
Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting and AHPA Annual Meeting	February 8-11, 2017	Ottawa, Ontario
Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, 12 th Congress of the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation	February 15-18, 2017	Barcelona/, Spain
Global Summit on the Physical Activity of Children: Active Living Research Conference	February 26 - March 1, 2017	Clearwater Beach, Florida.
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting	March 14-18, 2017	San Diego, California
Orthopaedic Research Society Annual Meeting	March 19 – 22, 2017	San Diego, California
Ontario Physiotherapy Association - InterACTION	March 31-April 1, 2017	Toronto, ON
OARSI World Congress	April 27- 30, 2017	Las Vegas, United States
Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America AGM	May 3-6, 2017	Barcelona, Spain
Primary Care Today Conference	May 10-13, 2017	Toronto, ON
Canadian Pain Society's Annual Scientific Meeting	May 23-26, 2017	Halifax, NS
Ontario Rheumatology Association 16 th Annual General Meeting	May 26-28, 2017	Muskoka, ON
Canadian Orthopaedic Nurse Association Conference	May 28-31, 2017	Toronto, ON
Canadian Paediatric Society Annual Conference	May 31- June 3, 2017	Vancouver, BC
Biotechnology Industry Organization International Convention	June 19-22, 2017	San Diego, CA
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Annual Conference	June 21-24, 2017	Charlottetown, PEI
Council of the Federations (COF) - 2017 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting	July 17-19, 2017	Edmonton, AB
Annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology	July 23-26, 2017	Rosseau, ON

THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEEDS TO HEAR YOUR SUCCESSES, STORIES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL SUPPORT THE FRAMEOWRK EFFORT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO BE FEATURED HERE, PLEASE FORWARD YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO LGAZIZOVA@ARTHRITISALLIANCE.CA.

ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

With more than 30 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