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### ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

#### AAC Special Issue on Models of Care in March CRAJ: Call to Action!

The Canadian Rheumatology Association Journal (CRAJ) featured the Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC)'s special issue in their recent Spring 2018 publication. We are pleased that the CRAJ chose to focus on the efforts of the [Arthritis Alliance of Canada \(AAC\)](#) to build a framework for innovative and implementable Models of Care (MOC), recognizing endless hours of work by researchers, health care professionals, consumer groups and other AAC partners, in their March edition. With six million Canadians living with arthritis and related musculoskeletal conditions projected to double in less than 20 years, the need for new approaches that offer practical and results-oriented tools has never been greater.

The AAC was ahead of the wave in recognizing this need, beginning work more than ten years ago to develop a strategic, scalable and sustainable MOC framework that can be customized and used across healthcare systems in Canada. On April 20th, a special communique went out to our members and community asking to join us in an effort to share this great story and take advantage of the opportunity to raise the profile of arthritis, within your organizations and outside of your membership/community.

#### Joint Communiqué

- Models of Care: The International Perspective
- Message from the Minister of Health
- About the Arthritis Alliance of Canada
- The AAC and CRA: Working Better Together
- A Call to Action: New Models of Care in Inflammatory Arthritis and Osteoarthritis
- Models of Care in Action: Implementation into Practice
  - Identification
  - Specialized Care Access: Coordinated Intake and Triage
  - Medical Management
  - Shared Care
  - Performance Measurement
- Knowledge Translation and Implementation
- Rheumatology Workforce in Canada
- Economic Perspectives
- Advocating for Change
- Looking Ahead: The Future of Models of Care

PDF copies of the AAC Models of Care articles in English and French can be found online at [www.craj.ca](http://www.craj.ca) (password: craj):

- Post to your website
- Post to Facebook
- Include in your community newsletter, briefs and other related communication channels.

We sincerely hope you will help us promote this great endorsement of AAC work in Models of Care and look forward to the opportunity in keeping you informed of our ongoing efforts to build on this success.

### Arthritis Alliance of Canada 2018 Research Awards Program

*“Call for Applications”* is just about to appear in your inbox during the week of May 1-4, 2018!

Please be reminded that this round will announce 7 awards: **Master Student, PhD Student, Post-doctoral Fellow, Early Career Researcher, Knowledge Translation in Practice, Knowledge Translation in Science/Research and Patient for Active Engagement in Arthritis Research.**

The news is that the **Early Career Researcher Award** will now include two sub-categories: **1) Basic science** and **2) Clinical/applied science.**

#### 2018 Research Awards Program application deadlines:

Call for Applications:	Week of May 1-4, 2018
Applications Due:	Tuesday, June 26, 2018
Applications Review Process:	July-September 2018
Announcement of Award Recipients:	AAC 2018 Annual Meeting, November 21 <sup>st</sup> (Toronto, ON)

### ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA 2018 Annual Meeting-SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday-Thursday, November 21-22, 2018 at the Sheraton Center Downtown Toronto Hotel**

The AAC 2018 Annual Meeting will be hosted in partnership with Arthritis Society and CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis and kick off with a Gala Dinner on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm EST, followed by a full-day program on Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> until 5:00 pm EST. The theme of this year's meeting is ***“Arthritis Alliance of Canada: Celebrating Our Successes and Planning for the Future”***.



***We look forward to meeting you in Toronto!***

# MEMBER'S CORNER

## ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

### Arthritis Broadcast Network



ACE's [Arthritis Broadcast Network](#) has been ranked #5 on the top 20 arthritis YouTube channels to follow by Feedspot. According to Feedspot, ABN has the most videos and views on a Canadian channel – a total of 200 videos and 242,489 views. Arthritis Broadcast Network provides information about the different types of arthritis, pain management, self-care, exercise, nutrition, models of care, patient engagement, research, and many other topics valuable to the arthritis community.

Please show your support and help others living with arthritis by doing the following:

- [Subscribe to the ABN YouTube channel](#)
- Share ABN news and videos
- Tell us what you would like to see on ABN by emailing [feedback@jointhealth.org](mailto:feedback@jointhealth.org).

Join the conversation at the Arthritis Broadcast Network. Share your experience with arthritis by sending us your stories, videos and images, and we will share them with the world.

Please email us at [feedback@Jointhealth.org](mailto:feedback@Jointhealth.org).

## ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION

### Congratulations to Our Awardees!

At the 2018 AHPA Annual General Meeting in Vancouver during the CRA/AHPA Annual Scientific Meeting, several awards were presented. Award winners included:

- **Laura Passalent:** Clinical Innovation Award, for her project *Advancing Early Identification of Axial Spondyloarthritis: An Inter-professional Model of Care*
- **Gail Paterson:** The Carolyn Thomas Award for Best Scientific Abstract, *A Pragmatic Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial of the OA Go Away, a Symptom and Exercise Tracking Self-Management Behavioural Intervention for Promoting Adherence to Physical Activity Among Individuals with OA of the Hip or Knee*
- **Karine Toupin-April:** The Barbara Hanes Memorial Award for Best Abstract Submitted by an OT, *First Steps in Developing a Novel Decision Support Intervention for Pain Management Options in Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis*
- **Clayton Hamilton:** Best Trainee Abstract Award, *Development of the Patient Engagement in Research Scale*; and
- **Flora To-Miles:** Arthritis Society Grant for her abstract, *The health promoting potential of social and creative activities: An exploratory study of adults with and without inflammatory arthritis*.



**Our congratulations to all award winners!**

## ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA



### Arthritis Research Canada and University of California at San Francisco Hold Scientific Meeting

Every two years, the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) & Arthritis Research Canada research teams get together to collaborate. These meetings allow trainees to present to an external group of prominent scientists on projects they are about to start, working on currently, or completing. Senior faculty also take part by giving their own presentations.

This year, the UCSF and Arthritis Research Canada teams were joined by people from Stanford University and the University of Oregon. More than forty faculty members and trainees attended the meeting, and the quality of the presentations and discussions were at a very high level. The next meeting will be held at Arthritis Research Canada – stay tuned!

### New Senior Scientist Appointed at Arthritis Research Canada

Arthritis Research Canada is pleased to appoint Dr. Paul Fortin as a Senior Scientist. A professor at Laval University, Dr. Fortin works to find a better understanding of the bio-psycho-social impact of chronic rheumatic diseases, and actively supports the equal involvement of patients in research. He is currently involved in research around MyLupusGuide, which

features a web-based approach to patient-centred care. Dr. Fortin has assisted in helping establish PIRA—Quebec’s patient advisory board. Congratulations to Dr. Fortin for demonstrating exceptional merit and originality in research and for his new appointment as Senior Scientist at Arthritis Research Canada!

## ARTHRITIS SOCIETY: NATIONAL OFFICE

### Arthritis Society welcomes news Executive Director of Ontario

The Arthritis Society is delighted to announce the appointment of [Laura Syron](#) to the role of Executive Director to the Ontario Division as of April 16th. Laura brings over 25 years of leadership experience in strategic fundraising, mission delivery, and marketing roles, having spent the last six years as Vice-President, Community Programs with the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation. Laura’s impressive track record and evident leadership capabilities have prepared her to lead the Ontario Division’s initiatives. Welcome Laura!



### Biologics and Biosimilars for the Treatment of Inflammatory Arthritis

For many people living with inflammatory forms of arthritis, biologic drugs can offer the hope for significantly improved disease management, reduced symptoms, and better quality of life. But these biologic treatments are complex, and can be confusing to understand. What are they? How do they work? What do you need to know?

Whether you’re new to biologics, or exploring a switch in medication, you probably have questions. Find answers with our new online resource! [Learn More at arthritis.ca/biologic](http://arthritis.ca/biologic)

### Inflammatory Arthritis Medications Simplified

[Watch our new “whiteboard” video](#), which provides a high-level explanation of what inflammatory arthritis is, and how the different medications that are used to manage inflammatory arthritis work.

### Teaming up for Summer Camp!

Kids in BC with a confirmed arthritis diagnosis will now be able to attend Camp All-in-this-Together in Alberta! For children in BC, aged 9-17, who may want to try a new camp experience, we are pleased to be able to offer spots at Camp All-In-This-Together in collaboration with our colleagues in Alberta. Travel bursaries will be available for kids in BC to get to Camp. As a result, more kids than ever before will be able to have a meaningful camp experience, where they will have fun, make friends and learn new skills! Camp in Alberta will be hosted by Camp Kindle, located in the picturesque Rocky Mountain Foothills. Dates are from July 9-13 and registration is open until May 31. For more information, please email [campbc@arthritis.ca](mailto:campbc@arthritis.ca).

## CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION

### CRA FLIRT Program Now Accepting Applications!

Future Leaders in Rheumatology Training (FLIRT) is a mentorship program designed for Rheumatologists at an early career stage who are likely to become leaders in research, education and/or advocacy in Canada.

The CRA invites future leaders in academic and community practice to apply for this multi-faceted two-year program. For more information [read here](#). Application deadline: **May 15, 2018**.

## WESTERN’S BONE AND JOINT HEALTH INSTITUTE

### 3rd Biennial Canadian Bone & Joint Conference - May 11-12, 2018

**LATE-BREAKING ABSTRACTS** for poster presentations now open until Friday April 27<sup>th</sup> at noon (EST) – [submission details](#). **REGISTER NOW** and join us on the picturesque Western University Campus in London Ontario for an innovative program featuring international speakers and exciting workshops that will bring together experts spanning multiple musculoskeletal research disciplines. The conference will be preceded by the **Canadian Bone and Joint Young Investigator Forum on May 10, 2018** ([Full conference and registration details](#)).

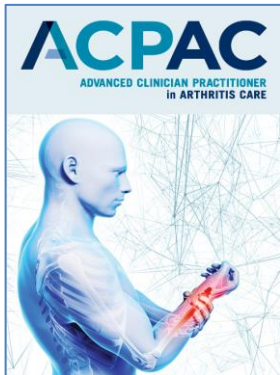
Plenary Speakers include **Dr. Frank Barry** - National University of Ireland, Galway, **Dr. Laurent Bouyer** - Université Laval, **Dr. Jean-Francois Esculier** - University of British Columbia, **Dr. Farshid Guilak** - Washington University, **Dr. Karim Kahn** - Canadian Institutes of Health Research, **Dr. Graham King** - Western University, **Dr. Linda Li** - University of British Columbia; and **Dr. Stephen Robinovitch** - Simon Fraser University. **Are you intrigued?** Please take a moment to examine the [Full Program and Speaker Topic here](#). There is still time to sponsor. Would you like a table at the **Gala** featuring Robert Buren [rockthechair.com](http://rockthechair.com) or a named poster award? Contact us today to learn about **sponsorship opportunities**.





# Community Updates

## THE ADVANCED CLINICIAN PRACTITIONER IN ARTHRITIS CARE PROGRAM



### Apply Now for the 2018–2019 ACPAC Program!

ACPAC is a hybrid academic and clinical post-licensure level training program designed to prepare experienced physical therapists, occupational therapists, and nurses for extended practice roles in the diagnosis and management of patients with arthritis.

The program promotes the development of innovative models of care and will help you to improve patient outcomes. 100% of our graduates have been satisfied with the program and found the content extremely relevant to their practice. The application deadline is **Wednesday, May 30, 2018**. Apply online at: [www.acpacprogram.ca!](http://www.acpacprogram.ca!)

## UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

### Call for Participation in Pilot Testing of a Tool!

A team of researchers at University of Calgary is seeking **adult patients** (age>40) with **knee osteoarthritis (KOA)** that have experienced knee pain on most days of the month at any time in the past, to participate in the **pilot testing** phase of our CIHR-funded research project based at the University of Calgary (Principal Investigators: Deborah Marshall (researcher), Jolanda Cibere (physician), Syliva Teare (patient)).

The tool - **Knee Osteoarthritis Self-management and Knowledge Application (KOASK App)** - was co-developed with KOA patients, family physicians and researchers. **The evaluation will involve** testing the App over a **6-week period** and providing feedback in an interview (in person or by video conference), and by completing a questionnaire at the start and the end of the evaluation period. During the evaluation period, patients will be provided with the App prototype that they will be encouraged to use daily.

The App includes features such **symptom tracking, goal setting, and activity planning**, and also provides links to **evidence-based information** about KOA management. In total, this is expected to take **2-3 hours** to complete all questionnaires and interviews **plus time using the App**. If you are interested in participating, please contact Brittany Shewchuk at [brittany.shewchuk1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:brittany.shewchuk1@ucalgary.ca).

## CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA 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 CANRAD Network Meeting during the 2018 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting in Vancouver, BC and we will be organizing a CANRAD Network Webinar this winter! For more information pertaining to our webinars or all other information

concerning the CANRAD Network, please contact at [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.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. We are currently working with several enhanced cohorts, including PiMS, CATCH, CanHepC and



GENESIS-PRAXY, as well as responding to a number of queries from Health Canada. Our team has collaborated with DSECT's webinar series; we encourage you to participate in the very informative sessions. For information on our queries, on our upcoming webinars or for more information on our team, please contact at [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca) or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.

Interesting research projects are underway at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI MUHC), led by rheumatologist Dr. Evelyne Vinet. To improve strategies for health professionals counselling pregnant women with rheumatic disease, her team is conducting a focus group study assessing the clinical and psychosocial needs, barriers, and facilitators to pregnancy counselling in women with RA and SLE. She is also building the Lupus prEGnAnCY (LEGACY)

cohort, a large, multi-centre, international prospective cohort of SLE pregnancies, to evaluate adverse pregnancy outcomes, their predictors, and potential preventive therapies. A Canadian Initiative for Outcomes Research in Arthritis (CIORA) funded randomized controlled trial is underway assessing an educational tool for improving preeclampsia knowledge in pregnant women with SLE. Of note, team members of the Montreal General Hospital Lupus Clinic took part in the Scotia Bank Charity Challenge 5K run on April 21. The event raised funds to support the Singer Family Fund for Lupus Research, funding that is instrumental to funding research activities at the clinic. For more information pertaining to our RI MUHC activities, fundraising efforts and our Lupus Clinic, please contact [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca).



Team members of the RI MUHC, including McGill University trainees, found success at the 2018 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting. Dr. Evelyne Vinet won the 2018 CRA Young Investigator award, an award distributed annually to a young Canadian Investigator who has contributed significant, original research in rheumatology as judged by peers and citations. Dr. Vinet was awarded this distinction due to the many studies she has completed on reproductive issues in rheumatic diseases. McGill trainees won four out of the ten possible abstract awards handed out by the CRA to honour their research: Dr. Arielle Mendel received the Best Abstract on Quality Care Initiatives in Rheumatology award; Dr. Sophie Wojcik was awarded the Best Abstract on Clinical or Epidemiology Research by a Trainee - Phil Rosen Award and also won Best Presenter during her presentation of a difficult case during the *Clinical Pearls and Mysterious Cases* session. Dr. Marie Hudson's trainee Dr. Jessica Salituri won the Best Abstract on Basic Science Research by a Trainee and Dr. Hudson's medical student Teddi Qendro was also the recipient of the Best Abstract by a Medical Student. For more information pertaining to the awarded abstracts, please contact [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca)



Hôpital général juif  
Jewish General Hospital

Dr. Marie Hudson held a workshop on myositis to address challenges the clinician faces in the diagnosis and prognosis of myositis and to teach participants how to use the 2017 EULAR/ACR classification criteria and recognize the different ways in which myositis presents. Dr. Hudson also held a presentation introducing the

Canadian Scleroderma Stem Cell Transplant Research Group (CanSSCeT-RG), a Canadian scleroderma stem cell transplant research network with the aim of ensuring that Canadians have access to this therapy. Dr. Mary-Ann Fitzcharles held a workshop presenting data from a 2017 CRA survey of rheumatologist's perceptions of medical marijuana and provided updated information to help guide discussions between physicians and patients about the use and associated risks of using medical marijuana. For more information pertaining to CRA workshops, please contact [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca).

## Calendar of Events

British Society for Rheumatology Annual Conference 2018	May 1-3, 2018	Liverpool, United Kingdom
3rd Biennial Canadian Bone & Joint Conference	May 11-12, 2018	London, Ontario
International Congress on Autoimmunity	May 16-20, 2018	Lisbon, Portugal
ARThritis Soirée 2018	May 17, 2018	Vancouver, British Columbia
25th Annual European Congress on Obesity (ECO2018)	May 23 - 26, 2018	Vienna, Austria
Canadian Academy of Sport and Exercise Medicine (CASEM) Annual Symposium	June 5-9, 2018	Halifax, Nova Scotia
EULAR 2018	June 13-16, 2018	Amsterdam, Netherlands
2018 Canadian Orthopedic Association Annual Meeting	June 20-23, 2018	Victoria, British Columbia
Canadian Academy of Occupational Therapists (CAOT) Conference 2018	June 20-23, 2018	Vancouver, British Columbia

Course on Sonoguided Interventions and Procedures in Musculoskeletal Diseases CAOT Conference 2018	September 12-14, 2018	Barcelona, Spain
2018 Cochrane Colloquium	September 16-18, 2018	Edinburgh, UK
Reaching Out with Arthritis Research (ROAR)	September 29, 2018	Burnaby, British Columbia
CRA Canada Night in Chicago	October 22, 2018	Chicago, Illinois
Canadian Obesity Network 7th Conference on Recent Advances in the Prevention and Treatment of Childhood and Adolescent Obesity	October 24-26, 2018	Calgary, Alberta
Canadian Physiotherapy Association Congress, Palais des congrés de Montréal	November 1-3, 2018	Montreal, Quebec
World Congress on Controversies, Debates and Consensus in Bone, Muscle and Joint Diseases (BMJD)	November 8-10, 2018	Bangkok, Thailand
Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) 2018 Annual Meeting	November 21-22, 2018	Toronto, Ontario

### **ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA**

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:** Lina Gazizova at [lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca](mailto:lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca) or visit our website: [www.arthritisalliance.ca](http://www.arthritisalliance.ca).