

Table of Contents

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA	1
AAC 2018 Research Awards Program: Update.....	1
2018 Annual Meeting in Toronto, November 21-22: Annual Meeting Program	2
AAC Osteoarthritis (OA) Information Tool for Patients	2
Message from AAC Chair of the Board: Staff Changes Update	2
MEMBER'S CORNER	3
ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS	3
#WhereIsArthritis Social Media Campaign	3
ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA	3
Arthritis Research Canada continues to lead way to life-changing research	3
Arthritis Awareness Month.....	3
Reaching Out with Arthritis Research 2018: Prevent. Thrive. Find Answers.	3
ARTHRITIS SOCIETY: NATIONAL OFFICE	4
Arthritis Awareness Month.....	4
CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE	4
Save the Date!	4
COMMUNITY UPDATES	4
ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES	4
Report	4
CANADIAN ALLIANCE OF PSORIATIC PATIENTS (CAPP)	5
National Psoriatic Arthritis Day.....	5
CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION	5
CRA & AHPA 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting	5
CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA NETWORK	5
McGill University Health Centre	5
MUHC - Lupus & Vasculitis clinic	5
SCLERODERMA CANADA	6
National Scleroderma Conference	6
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY	6
UNIVERSITY OF LAVAL	6
Call For Participants to Complete Survey	6
Calendar of Events	6
ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA	7

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA AAC 2018 Research Awards Program: Update

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) is in the process of reviewing the applications for the 3rd round of Research Awards with **fifty-two (52) applications** received by July 31st, for the **eight award categories**, including: 1) Master Student, 2) PhD Student, 3) Post-doctoral fellow, 4) Early Career Researcher in Basic/Clinical Science, 5) Early Career Researcher in Health Science/Population Health, 6) Patient for Active Engagement in Arthritis Research, 7) Knowledge Translation in Research and 8) Knowledge Translation in Practice.

We thank **23 reviewers** from the arthritis community, researchers and consumer representatives, who will be providing their breadth of knowledge and expertise in arthritis research to evaluate the applications. Reviewers' expertise will help us select a winner from each of the award categories and acknowledge their great work in arthritis research. The awards will be presented to the winning applicants at the Gala dinner, at the AAC 2018 Annual Meeting, on Wednesday, November 21st in Toronto. **Thank you all for your great support in making this AAC program a successful effort once again!**



2018 Annual Meeting in Toronto, November 21-22: Annual Meeting Program “Arthritis Alliance of Canada: Celebrating Our Successes and Planning for the Future”



The AAC 2018 Annual Meeting, entitled “**Arthritis Alliance of Canada: Celebrating Our Successes and Planning for the Future**”, will be hosted in partnership with Arthritis Society and CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and the Arthritis (CIHR-IMHA). Our partnering colleagues will be presenting a **Trainee Workshop** on Wednesday, November 21st and for half of the day on Thursday, November 22nd.

Our guest speaker this year, **Professor Anthony Woolf**, a Musculoskeletal Health and Wellbeing Specialist; Chair, Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance from the Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, UK will kick-start the program with a keynote speech at the Gala Dinner, on **Wednesday, November 21st**. The Gala event will also feature a special **Awards Ceremony** to recognize recipients of:

- ❖ AAC 2018 Research Awards
- ❖ Qualman-Davies Consumer Community Leadership Award
- ❖ Arthritis Society Trainee Awards



Professor Anthony D. Woolf, BSc, MBBS, FRCP, International Coordinating Council, Global Alliance for Musculoskeletal Health, Chair, Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance, UK; Bone and Joint Research Group, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, UK.

Wednesday evening will set up the stage for the following, **Thursday, November 22nd**, day of facilitated breakout group discussions with AAC members and arthritis community, as we review all the many achievements that the AAC had accomplished over the years and determine direction of the Alliance going forward. Stay tuned for an official invitation to this event from us, with the registration process for the Arthritis Society and CIHR-IMHA Trainee Workshop and AAC Annual Meeting, expected to be open after the long weekend.

We look forward to your engagement in the programme in Toronto in three months!

AAC Osteoarthritis (OA) Information Tool for Patients

Last year, the Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) in partnership with the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Centre for Effective Practice, developed and launched the [Osteoarthritis \(OA\) Tool](#) to help family doctors assist patients who have suspected, new or established OA of the hands, knees or hips. Earlier this year, a working group of the AAC, composed of representatives from patient-led or patient-focussed organizations and clinical and scientific experts in OA, was formed to develop a patient version of the Tool to assist those with or at risk of OA, in having better conversations with their doctor or other health care professional by informing them about the care they can expect to receive.

The working committee recently conducted a survey among the arthritis consumer community and stakeholders to help inform what key pieces of information from the original OA Tool for family doctors should also be included in the **OA Information Tool for Patients**. The working team received an overwhelming response to the survey questions, with 328 English responses and 94 French. The survey results are currently being analyzed and will assist in the development of this valuable resource. The final product is expected to be launched before the AAC Annual Meeting in November 2018.

Message from AAC Chair of the Board: Staff Changes Update

On behalf of the Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) Board of Directors, I would like to provide an update on recent staffing changes with the AAC’s Administrative Office. Jaime Coish has notified us of her decision not to return to her role as an Executive Director of AAC after the end of her maternity in September. I would like to thank Jaime again for her invaluable contribution to the Alliance over the past 10 years and wish her and her family the very best for their future!

On behalf of the Board of Directors of AAC, I am pleased to confirm that, effective September 4th, Lina Gazizova will assume Jaime’s responsibilities as Interim Executive Director as well as her former responsibilities as Project Manager. To support Lina, we are in the process of hiring an Administrative Assistant on a contractual basis until the end of 2018 to help with the facilitation and coordination of the AAC Annual Meeting in Toronto. We will assess our long-term staffing needs after the November Annual Meeting. Please join me in wishing Jaime well and congratulating Lina on her new role with the Alliance!

Janet Yale,
Chair of Board, Arthritis Alliance of Canada

MEMBER'S CORNER

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

#WhereIsArthritis Social Media Campaign



Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) is celebrating Arthritis Awareness Month in Canada with the #WhereIsArthritis social media campaign. #WhereIsArthritis will help familiarize members in the arthritis community with ACE's online resources, which are designed to help people live a better life with arthritis. We invite partner organizations to participate in #WhereIsArthritis to create awareness about arthritis.

Every day in September, you will:

- Find a #WhereIsArthritis question and hint on ACE's [Twitter \(@ACEJointHealth\)](#) and [Facebook \(@ACEJointHealth\)](#) account
- Find and tweet, Facebook post or email the answer to us – Be sure to include the #WhereIsArthritis hashtag!

Sample #WhereIsArthritis question and answer:

Question: Q1: What are four non-medication treatments listed on the ACE website? Hint: See "About Arthritis" <http://bit.ly/2xs5Ik5> #WhereIsArthritis

Answer: Hey @ACEJointHealth, the answer is: vitamins and minerals, diet and nutrition, physiotherapy, occupational therapy! #WhereIsArthritis

To participate, please follow #WhereIsArthritis on our Twitter account [@ACEJointHealth](#) and Facebook account [Arthritis Consumer Experts](#). Help us drive arthritis awareness in September:

- like, retweet, and reply on Twitter using #WhereIsArthritis; or,
- like, comment, and share on Facebook using #WhereIsArthritis; or,
- email your answers to feedback@jointhealth.org with subject heading #WhereIsArthritis.

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA

Arthritis Research Canada continues to lead way to life-changing research

Want to find out about the latest in arthritis prevention and treatment? Join us on September 29th for the 13th annual Reaching Out with Arthritis Research (ROAR) public forum at the Ismaili Centre in Burnaby!



Arthritis Research Canada scientists will present on arthritis prevention, medication safety during pregnancy, joint replacement surgery advice, basic and cutting-edge assistive devices and activity modifications, the importance of arthritis research and more. You'll even have the opportunity to ask questions!

Can't attend the in-person event? Participate via live webcast: <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/roar2018webcast>
Register today: <https://conta.cc/2MLI7U2>.

Arthritis Awareness Month

Arthritis Research Canada will be kicking off a month-long campaign for Arthritis Awareness Month. This will include a Reddit AMA "Ask Me Anything" with Dr. John Esdaile (ARC's scientific director). For those of you who aren't familiar with AMAs, they are online interviews hosted on Reddit, a social media platform with almost 1.69 billion users. We will also be sharing patient stories, holding a Facebook contest with an awesome prize, running a social media campaign that's all about making arthritis visible and much more. Make sure to visit our [website](#) and follow the #MakeArthritisVisible hashtag on Twitter.

Reaching Out with Arthritis Research 2018: Prevent. Thrive. Find Answers.



Want to learn about the latest advancements in arthritis prevention and treatments? Join us for Reaching Out with Arthritis Research 2018 on **Saturday, September 29th**. This annual public forum, hosted by Arthritis Research Canada's Patient Advisory Board, is a chance to hear from leading arthritis experts. They'll cover everything from how to prevent arthritis to medication safety during pregnancy to joint replacement surgery to basic and cutting-edge assistive devices and activity modifications to why arthritis research matters and more. You'll even have the opportunity to ask questions! **Register online at: <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/roar>.**

Arthritis Awareness Month

September is Arthritis Awareness Month and the Arthritis Society is excited to announce it will be unveiling several new patient resources, including quizzes, brochures, and a revamped online symptom checker, to help Canadians learn about arthritis and the effects of the disease. A self-advocacy guide will also be released later in the month to help people with arthritis learn how to be their own arthritis champion when speaking with their doctor.



“Self-advocacy is an important part of the patient journey,” says Janet Yale, president and CEO of the Arthritis Society. “We want people to be aware that they may have arthritis and they don’t even know it yet. Our innovative tools have been designed to help Canadians understand this disease and what they can do to help themselves before and after a visit with their doctor.” Follow along all month long with the hashtag #ArthritisMatters and by liking the Arthritis Society on [Facebook](#) (and following us on [Twitter](#)).

Let’s unite our voices to improve access to arthritis care

Provincial elections will be held this fall in Quebec and New Brunswick. The Arthritis Society intends to take advantage of this opportunity to encourage the arthritis community to participate in the discussion on treatment needs that must be met. A web page has been created for each province. Each one contains all the necessary tools to motivate and inspire people living with arthritis, their loved ones and stakeholder groups to get in contact with their candidates. Sample letters, candidates’ contact information and other tools are made available to electors to help champion the cause.

We hope that the people of Quebec and New Brunswick will unite and participate in this initiative in great numbers to let their voices be heard to improve arthritis care, whether it be regarding access to complementary care services or wait times for joint replacement surgery. Head to our pages to explore our tools and take action! arthritis.ca/votearthritisQC or arthritis.ca/votearthritisNB.

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE

Save the Date!



Save the Date for a CAPA-hosted Twitter chat on arthritis and pregnancy/parenting! The event will be held on **September 26th at 7 p.m. EST** in support of Arthritis Awareness month in order to show that arthritis affects people in the prime of their lives. Please consider participating and sharing the event details with anyone interested in this important topic.

We also recently published our [Summer Newsletter](#) where you can learn about our participation at the EULAR Congress, the Methotrexate resource and other related initiatives. You can also stay informed about CAPA initiatives by becoming a member on the [CAPA website](#).

COMMUNITY UPDATES

ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES

Report

The Bone and Joint Health Strategic Clinical Network had recently hosted a symposium in Alberta on obesity and OA, and were authoring on a white paper to synthesize the discussion, issues and findings. The report, titled “*Obesity: Implications for Patients with Osteoarthritis*”, is now published and available online. Please find published [report](#) for more details.

National Psoriatic Arthritis Day

Join us on October 19th as we mark the first National Psoriatic Arthritis Awareness Day. Patients living with psoriasis have a 30% chance of developing psoriatic arthritis yet this link is not always made for them. The goal of this day is to increase awareness of this painful disease and the connection between the skin and joints so that patients know what symptoms to raise with their health care professional. For more information, contact Kathryn kathryncclay@canadianpsoriasis.ca.



A collaboration between the Canadian Association of Psoriasis Patients (CAPP), the Canadian Psoriasis Network (CPN), the Canadian Spondylitis Association (CSA) and the Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance (CAPA).

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION

CRA & AHPA 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting



The 2019 ASM theme is *Building Bridges*, featuring keynote presentations from:

Dr. Gilles Boire (The Quest for Biomarkers)

Dr. Mark Roberts (Mimics of Myositis)

Mr. André Picard (The future of the Canadian Health System)

Attendees are invited to submit an abstract for podium or poster presentation during the meeting. *Deadline: October 12, 2018*

[Submit abstract here](#)

[More conference information and important dates](#)

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 fall! For more information pertaining to our webinars or all other information concerning the CANRAD Network, please contact at 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 or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.



McGill University Health Centre



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. For more information pertaining to our RI MUHC activities, fundraising efforts and our Lupus Clinic, please contact autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca.

National Scleroderma Conference

Scleroderma Canada is hosting a National Scleroderma Conference in Calgary on September 21st and 22nd. The Conference offers participants the chance to absorb the newest information, learn from the experience of others and gain insight from researchers, physicians and professional caregivers.

On Friday, September 21st, we will be offering a [Continuing Medical Education session](#). The Faculty assembled for this educational session is stellar and I know that those attending will find the CME most informative and helpful in their work with scleroderma patients.



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

The Cy Frank Legacy Lectureship, featuring Dame Sally Davies is fast approaching. Dame Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England and Chief Medical Advisor to the UK Government, will be giving a presentation titled: "*Compression of Morbidity: The Role of Big Data. Are there lessons for Canada?*"

She will give three presentations across Canada:

- ✚ **Toronto:** Tuesday, September 11, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m., Auditorium, Women's College Hospital. **PLEASE NOTE: This presentation will also be webcast live.** For more information, visit www.deptmedicine.utoronto.ca/event/cy-frank-legacy-lectureship-professor-dame-sally-davies
- ✚ **Calgary:** Wednesday, September 12, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Libin Theatre, Health Sciences Centre, University of Calgary. Tickets and information at cyfranklecture.eventbrite.ca
- ✚ **Vancouver:** Friday, September 14, CAHS Annual Forum and General Meeting, 8:40. – 9:15 a.m., Marriott Pinnacle Downtown Hotel. For more information, visit www.cahs-acss.ca

***If you are unable to attend any of the events in person, the Toronto presentation on September 11th will be webcast live. You can get more information at the [UToronto website](#) listed above.

UNIVERSITY OF LAVAL

Call For Participants to Complete Survey



UNIVERSITÉ
LAVAL

Project: Expectations and educational needs of Canadian rheumatologists, rheumatology fellows and patients in the field of precision medicine. You are invited to participate in an anonymous survey for a research project on precision medicine, a personalized medicine based on biomarkers, among patients with rheumatic diseases, with the intent to develop educational tools that meet their needs. By completing this survey for an average duration of 10 minutes, there will be no direct benefit to you from participating to this research study. Participation to this project does not involve any particular risk. We have taken all reasonable measures to protect your identity and answers. You will find the web survey link attached: <https://www.limesurvey.cifss.ulaval.ca/index.php/513128/lang-en>. If you have any questions, you can contact me by email sophie.ruel-gagne.1@ulaval.ca. Thank you!



Calendar of Events

10 th Orthopedics, Orthopedic Nursing, Rheumatology Annual Meeting and Expo	August 31-September 1, 2018	Toronto, Ontario
25 th European Paediatric Rheumatology Congress (EPRC)	September 5-8, 2018	Lisbon, Portugal
Course on Sonoguided Interventions and Procedures in Musculoskeletal Diseases CAOT Conference 2018	September 12-14, 2018	Barcelona, Spain
Cardio-Rheumatology Scientific Day	September 14, 2018	Toronto, Ontario
2018 Cochrane Colloquium	September 16-18, 2018	Edinburgh, UK
Scleroderma Conference 2018	September 21-21, 2018	Calgary, Alberta

BRIESE: British Columbia Rheumatology Invitational Education Series	September 28-29, 2018	Vancouver, British Columbia
Reaching Out with Arthritis Research (ROAR)	September 29, 2018	Burnaby, British Columbia
9 th European Congress on Rheumatology, Autoimmunity and Orthopedics	October 16-17, 2018	Warsaw Poland
ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting 2018	October 19-24, 2018	Chicago, Illinois
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
Arthritis Day for Primary Care Clinicians	October 27, 2018	Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, University of Toronto, Ontario
Canadian Physiotherapy Association Congress, Palais des congrès 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 Forum	November 10, 2018	Palais des congrès de Montréal, Montréal, Quebec
World Congress on Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis, and Musculoskeletal Diseases	November 14-15, 2018	Tokyo, Japan
Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) 2018 Annual Meeting	November 21-22, 2018	Toronto, Ontario
CRA Annual Scientific Meeting and AHPA Annual Meeting	February 27- March 2, 2019	Montreal, Quebec
World Congress on Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases (WCO IOF-ESCEO)	April 4-7, 2019	Paris, France
CARRA Annual Meeting	April 10-14, 2019	Louisville, Kentucky
2019 EULAR – The European Congress of Rheumatology	June 12-15, 2019	Madrid, Spain

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 or visit our website: www.arthritisalliance.ca.