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## ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

### INFLAMMATORY ARTHRITIS (IA) MODELS OF CARE DEVELOPMENTS “Development of a patient-centered balanced scorecard approach to RA Care ”

The AAC team will be attending the upcoming Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting on February 21-24, 2018 in Vancouver.



Within the framework of this meeting, AAC will be hosting an IA Models of Care Workshop on “*Development of a patient-centered balanced scorecard approach to improve quality of care in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients in Canada*” on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 11:00 am-12:00 pm EST, and led by Dr. Claire Barber and Vandana Ahluwalia. [This workshop is open to all participants.](#)

In the meantime, the Research Team would like to encourage all AAC members and stakeholders to **share their views on the quality of Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) Care**. Please refer to the ‘**Call for Volunteers**’ below.



We are looking for volunteers interested in improving the quality of RA care in Canada! If you are an RA patient or are involved in RA care (healthcare professionals, clinic managers, and healthcare planners) your input is needed for a CIHR-funded study **“Development of a patient-centered balanced scorecard approach to improve quality of care in rheumatoid arthritis patients in Canada”** led by principal investigators, Dr. Claire Barber and Dr. Diane Lacaille. The study aims to develop a Balanced Scorecard (a type of “report card”) to measure quality of RA care. In this first phase of the project, we are listening to stakeholder perspectives to shape the vision and structure of the scorecard so it represents all voices.

We are looking for volunteers who may be willing to participate in a 30-minute interview or a 1.5-2 hour in-person focus group. Interviews and focus groups may be carried out in-person, by phone, or via computer. They will take place from January to March, 2018 including at the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) Annual Scientific Meeting in Vancouver, February 21-25. If you are interested in participating in an interview or focus group, please contact the Research Coordinator, Victoria Bohm, at [victoria.bohm@ucalgary.ca](mailto:victoria.bohm@ucalgary.ca). On behalf of the Research Team, thank you very much for your consideration! If you would like to learn more about the Balanced Scorecard project, please join our workshop at the CRA Meeting on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm PST. Please view [registration details](#).

*The University of Calgary Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board has approved this research study. (Ethics ID: REB16-0556).*

### Arthritis Alliance of Canada Research Awards Program

On Thursday, October 26th, the Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) recognized [recipients](#) of the AAC 2017 Research Awards program at the AAC Annual Meeting Networking Reception, at the Marriott Pinnacle Downtown Vancouver Hotel, British Columbia in its seven award categories, including 1) **Master Student Award**; 2) **PhD Student Award**, sponsored by Arthritis Consumer Experts; 3) **Post-doctoral Fellow Award**; 4) **Early Career Researcher/Early Career Faculty Member Award**; 5) **Knowledge Translation (KT) Practice Award**; 6) **Knowledge Translation (KT) Science/Research Award**; and 7) **Patient for Active Engagement in Arthritis Research Award**.



We are happy to announce this year’s **2018 Research Awards Program application** deadlines:

Call for Applications:	Tuesday, May 15, 2018
Applications Due:	Tuesday, June 26, 2018
Applications Review Process:	July-September 2018
Announcement of Award Recipients:	AAC 2018 Annual Meeting in November

Stay tuned for an official “Call for Applications” launch in May!



### ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

#### We Want to Share Perspectives on Arthritis!



Powered by ACE and supported by representatives from the Arthritis Patient Advisory Board of Arthritis Research Canada, Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance, and Canadian Spondylitis Association, Arthritis Broadcast Network (ABN) will

host a Facebook and Twitter Live #CRArthritis Speaker’s Corner event at the upcoming Canadian Rheumatology Association and Allied Health Professions annual meeting. Last year’s event reached almost 30,000 people over two interview days and thousands more following the meeting on YouTube. If you have research or arthritis news to share with our patient and public audience, please contact Anita Chan at [chan@jointhealth.org](mailto:chan@jointhealth.org) to schedule your ABN interview. We look forward to your participation! Find us on Facebook and Twitter, using the hashtag #CRArthritis.

### This Month in Grants at Arthritis Research Canada



The Canadian Institutes of Health Research has recently announced the results for a competition for grants to catalyze personalized health care. Arthritis Research Canada was awarded two. *Dr. Linda Li* and *Dr. Diane Lacaille* received a Personalized Catalyst Grant titled “An app-based intervention to empower self-management for people with rheumatoid arthritis.” The second Personalized Catalyst Grant was awarded to *Dr. Jacek Kopec* for his project entitled “Development of a new life-expectancy and quality of life prediction model.”

Additionally, *Dr. Kam Shojania* received a planning grant from the Vancouver Foundation to hold meetings to develop an Early Arthritis Triage Strategy, and Arthritis Research Canada trainee *Flora To-Miles* (Supervisor: *Dr. Catherine Backman*) received a 2018 Arthritis Health Professions Association-Arthritis Society Grant for her project “The health promoting potential of social and creative activities: an exploratory study of adults with and without inflammatory arthritis.” Congratulations to all!

## THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY: NATIONAL OFFICE

### More funding pledged towards Stop Childhood Arthritis

The Arthritis Society announced earlier this month our position as contributing partner in [Genome Canada’s announcement](#) of \$10 million in new funding to accelerate research into personalized medicine for childhood arthritis.



Genome Canada is providing \$5 million of the total commitment. The Arthritis Society – the only charity contributing to this initiative – will provide \$1 million, while the remainder will come from Ontario Genomics, Genome Alberta, SickKids and Alberta Children’s Hospital. The funding is part of a blockbuster \$255 million commitment announced by the federal government to support genomic research.

The Arthritis Society’s involvement represents the next important phase of Stop Childhood Arthritis, the five-year, \$5-million investment we announced last year that is funding research into personalized medicine aimed at stopping childhood arthritis in its tracks. Read our full announcement here: <http://www.arthritis.ca/about-us/news-releases/media-releases/arthritis-society-joins-genome-canada-to-support-c>.

## BONE AND JOINT CANADA

### Canadian Musculoskeletal Conference 2018

BJC has partnered with Osteoporosis Canada to host the Canadian Musculoskeletal Conference. This 3 day forum has been designed for clinicians, researchers and trainees with an interest in musculoskeletal health and has a focus on osteoporosis and osteoarthritis. Participants will hear from internationally and nationally recognized speakers. The venue is set up to promote mentorship, education and networking. A Young Investigators half day will be held on May 3rd. Call for abstract deadlines- March 1, 2018. For more info and registration: [www.osteoporosis.ca/cmcc](http://www.osteoporosis.ca/cmcc).

Canadian Musculoskeletal Conference 2018  
A National Conference on Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis  
May 4 - 5, 2018 (Day 1 & 2)  
Double Tree by Hilton Toronto Downtown  
108 Chestnut Street, Toronto, On M5G 1R3

## CANADIAN ALLIANCE OF PEDIATRIC RHEUMATOLOGY INVESTIGATORS

### CAPRI Scientific Meeting

CAPRI (Canadian Alliance of Pediatric Rheumatology Investigators) will be holding their Scientific Meeting in Vancouver, February 19-20th, coincident with the Annual Scientific meeting of the Canadian Rheumatology Association. Pediatric rheumatology researchers from across Canada will come together to discuss the status of current and upcoming research projects, work on manuscripts and knowledge translation activities, and set goals for our next few years of work and activities. CAPRI is the only pediatric rheumatology research network in Canada, with its members coming from every major pediatric hospital and pediatric rheumatology centers from across the country, and is involved in research in all childhood rheumatic diseases.

CAPA News

The CAPA [Winter Newsletter](#) was released in December and includes a report of what we've been up to over the last few months. Key highlights of the newsletter include:

- The launch of a new CAPA-led survey on arthritis in the workplace (available in [English](#) and [French](#));
- A [report](#) by Board member, Annette McKinnon, on her participation in an Arthritis Hackathon, and
- A [report](#) on our membership survey results.

Don't forget to share the survey and newsletter with colleagues and others in your network. You can also stay informed about CAPA initiatives by [becoming a member](#) on the CAPA website!

McCAIG INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH

Precision decisions for childhood arthritis

A network of International researchers, including several McCaig Institute investigators, has received a \$10 million total funding envelope from Genome Canada, in partnership with the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) and numerous other co-funders. The new funding will allow researchers to identify which children need biologics, which biologic will work best for an individual child, and when the biologic can be safely stopped. Researchers will also assess the socioeconomic benefits of these strategies, looking at costs of treatment, quality of life; time lost from school, lost employment opportunities and lost work time for the parents of these children.

McCaig Institute researchers on this project include project co-lead Dr. Susa Benseler, Dr. Deborah Marshall (the health economics leader of the project) and Dr. Marvin Fritzler, among others.

WESTERN'S BONE AND JOINT HEALTH INSTITUTE

3rd Biennial Canadian Bone & Joint Conference



Preceded by the Canadian Bone & Joint Young Investigator Forum (May 10, 2018), the 3rd Biennial Canadian Bone and Joint Conference will be held on May 11-12, 2018 in London, Ontario and hosted in partnership between Western University's Bone and Joint and the Canadian MSK Rehab Research Network. The Conference will present spanning basic biomedical, physical sciences, engineering, clinical, and community health research.

**Call for Abstracts been announced with abstracts due for submission by March 17, 2018.** Registration and conference details at can be found at: <http://boneandjoint.uwo.ca/events/cbjc/>. Travel award competition is available for Trainees.

Community Updates

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA NETWORK



website <http://www.canradnetwork.ca/>.

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 are holding 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

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/>.

## Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre

Interesting research projects are underway at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre, 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. More recently, Dr. Vinet was awarded a 2-year operating grant by the Canadian Initiative for Outcomes Research in Arthritis (CIORA) to conduct a randomized controlled trial assessing an educational tool for improving preeclampsia knowledge in pregnant women with SLE.



## Calendar of Events

2018 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting	February 21-24, 2018	Vancouver, British Columbia
European Lupus Meeting 2018	March 21-24, 2018	Düsseldorf, Germany
World Congress on Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases 2018	April 19-22, 2018	Krakow, Poland
Canadian Chiropractic Association National Convention and Tradeshow	April 27-29, 2018	Calgary, Alberta
British Society for Rheumatology Annual Conference 2018	May 1-3, 2018	Liverpool, United Kingdom
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
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
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
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
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 22-23, 2018	Greater Toronto Area, Ontario

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