

Table of Contents

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA	2
2018 Annual Meeting in Toronto, November 21-22: Annual Meeting Program	2
AAC 2018 Research Awards Program: Update	2
Arthritis Alliance of Canada: Osteoarthritis (OA) Information Tool for Patients	2
MEMBER'S CORNER	3
ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA	3
2019 ARThritis Soirée	3
ARC Scientists Tackle New Roles	3
ARC in the News	3
ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS	3
Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living With Arthritis	3
ARTHRITIS SOCIETY: NATIONAL OFFICE	3
Cannabis Legalization	3
Upcoming Pain Symposium	3
Rapid Access Clinics (RACs)	4
The Arthritis Forum: The 5 th Edition with a Greater Offer!	4
CANADIAN SPONDYLITIS ASSOCIATION	4
The 13 th Annual Ankylosing Spondylitis International Federation (ASIF) Meeting	4
The Legalization of Cannabis	4
Celebrating the 1 st Annual National Psoriatic Arthritis Day	5
PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA	5
Canadian Chronic Disease Surveillance System (CCDSS) Data Tool	5
Canadian Chronic Disease Indicators (CCDI) 2018 Edition	5
COMMUNITY UPDATES	5
THE ADVANCED CLINICIAN PRACTITIONER IN ARTHRITIS CARE PROGRAM	5
ACPAC Welcomes New Trainees for the 2018-2019 Program	5
MCCAIG INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH	6
Appointing Dr. Cheryl Barnabe	6
SCLERODERMA CANADA	6
Scleroderma Canada	6
June 2019 Awareness Walk, Run or Ride for Scleroderma	6
ONTARIO ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION	6
Ontario Orthopaedic Association 41 st Annual General Meeting	6
CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA NETWORK	6
The CANRAD Network	6
McGill University Health Centre	7
CANadian Network for Advanced Interdisciplinary Methods for Comparative Effectiveness Research (CAN- AIM)	7
UNIVERSITY OF LAVAL	7
Reminder: Call for Participants to Complete Survey	7
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	7
ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA	8

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

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 and Arthritis Society & CIHR-IMHA Trainee Workshop are fast approaching, and we look forward to your engagement in the program on November 21-22, 2018! If you haven't registered yet, we kindly invite you to register [here](#).

The 2018 Annual Meeting will feature:

Wednesday, November 21st, Gala Dinner “AAC: Celebrating our Successes” from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm EST. The Gala will start with Welcome Remarks delivered by [AAC Chair of Board Janet Yale](#), followed by a keynote speech by [Professor Anthony Woolf](#), Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, UK. Following Professor Woolf's keynote speech, a **special 2018 Awards Ceremony** will be held to recognize recipients of the:

- ❖ AAC Research Awards
- ❖ The Qualman-Davies Arthritis Consumer (Patient) Community Leadership Award; and
- ❖ Arthritis Society Trainee Awards

Thursday, November 22nd, the day will kickstart with the AAC Members Annual General Meeting at 9:00 am EST, followed by a full day of group discussions on Alliance's future focus, facilitated by an external consultant [Robin Cory](#), Partner at Colbeck Strategic Advisors, Centre for Social Innovation.



AAC 2018 Research Awards Program: Update

We are in the process of finalizing the results of the AAC 2018 Research Awards round. The winners of the AAC 2018 Research Awards will be announced at the Annual Meeting Gala Dinner on Wednesday, November 21st, Toronto in recognition for their active engagement and outstanding contribution in arthritis research. Post-Annual Meeting, all Research Awards recipients will also be acknowledged in our December newsletter and on our website.

We would like to thank our reviewers again for contributing their time and efforts in identifying the recipients of the AAC 2018 Research Awards!

Arthritis Alliance of Canada: Osteoarthritis (OA) Information Tool for Patients

Last year, the Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) in partnership with the [College of Family Physicians of Canada \(CFPC\)](#) and the [Centre for Effective Practice \(CEP\)](#), 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 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 a strong response, that included 328 English and 94 French responses. The survey results were analyzed and assisted in the development of this valuable resource.

The initial draft of the Tool will be presented to AAC members and community at the AAC Annual Meeting on November 21-22, 2018 in Toronto. The final product will be launched soon after the meeting. Stay tuned!



MEMBER'S CORNER

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA

2019 ARThritis Soirée

We are excited to announce that Arthritis Research Canada's signature event, the ARThritis Soirée, will celebrate its seventh year of raising funds for arthritis research on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 7p.m. at The Roof, Hotel Vancouver. The evening will include a performance by Mike Reno – lead singer of the Juno award-winning rock band, Loverboy – and an all-star band. For more information about the event, please visit arthritisresearch.ca/savethedate.



ARC Scientists Tackle New Roles

Arthritis Research Canada's Drs. Diane Lacaille and Cheryl Barnabe have joined the CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis advisory board. Lacaille and Barnabe are both senior scientists at ARC. We look forward to watching them lead research – alongside other top scientists – that will improve the lives of Canadians living with arthritis and other musculoskeletal conditions.

ARC in the News



Dr. John Esdaile, ARC's scientific director, appeared on Global BC's "Ask An Expert" at the end of September. Watch him bust misconceptions about arthritis and discuss prevention and treatment with anchor Coleen Christie: <https://bit.ly/2R4uyQd>.

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living With Arthritis

Arthritis Consumer Experts announced the winners of its fourth annual search for Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis. Based on workplace insights shared by employees and company managers, ACE recognized the **Government of Yukon** and **the Université de Montréal** for their chronic disease awareness, prevention and benefits practices, and wellness programs in the workplace.

Announcing the award, Cheryl Koehn said: "Arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions are the leading cause of work disability in Canada. Managing challenges at work is an important element of disease management for employees living with arthritis. We're calling on all plan sponsors in Canada to look carefully at their health benefit plans from the perspective of employees living with arthritis." To learn more about this year's award, please [click here](#).

ARTHRITIS SOCIETY: NATIONAL OFFICE

Cannabis Legalization

With the legalization of recreational cannabis on October 17th, the Arthritis Society recognizes there are still many questions facing the medical-use community. In an effort to address these, we've updated our Guide to Medical Cannabis brochure, designed a new social media infographic about medical access, and added to resources to our website. Visit <http://www.arthritis.ca/medicalcannabis> to learn more.



Upcoming Pain Symposium

Registration is now open for the Arthritis Society Prairie Region's fall symposium entitled **Pain: Relief is Within Reach** on Sat. Nov. 3, 2018. This comprehensive tri-city event will be held in Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Edmonton with expert speakers presenting in-person and via live stream. Guests include noted rheumatologist and arthritis

researcher Dr. Hani El-Gabalawy and Dr. Sana-Ara Ahmed MD, FRCPC, Anesthesiologist, Chronic Pain & Cannabinoid Medicine Specialist. The two-hour webcast begins at 11:30 AM EDT. Register for all three events or the webcast today at arthritis.ca/prairiesymposium.

Rapid Access Clinics (RACs)

Improved accessibility to better health outcomes is on the horizon for those affected with arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions (MSK). The Arthritis Society is supporting the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care in the expansion of MSK RACs across the province to all Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs). These clinics will provide services for patients with hip/knee osteoarthritis and low back pain. Patients referred to their local RAC for assessment will have access to imaging studies when appropriate and surgery when necessary, or they will be given a self-management plan with non-surgical measures and may be connected with local community supports. Further information about RACs can be provided through your LHIN.

The Arthritis Forum: The 5th Edition with a Greater Offer!

The 5th Arthritis Forum will take place in Montreal. The Arthritis Society invites you to a full-day event complete with over 30 seminars and workshops, a ton of arthritis-related activities and resources, and an exhibitor fair. This year, a record number of 10 seminars will be webcasted across Canada (5 in English, and 5 in French). This will allow you to enjoy the event from the comfort of your own home!

Visit rencontreathrite.ca to sign up!

CANADIAN SPONDYLITIS ASSOCIATION

The 13th Annual Ankylosing Spondylitis International Federation (ASIF) Meeting



October 10th-13th the Canadian Spondylitis Association (CSA) attended the 13th annual Ankylosing Spondylitis International Federation (ASIF) meeting in Guangzhou China. Together with patient groups from around the world supporting those living with Ankylosing Spondylitis we shared, collaborated and celebrated our successes over the past 2 years.

Key themes discussed were the 8.5 average years to diagnosis and continued need to reduce this time, significance of comorbidity complications, importance of mental health and the role it has on outcomes and relevance and influence of social media campaigns. Countries from around the globe are closely aligned with many excellent ideas to support World Ankylosing Spondylitis day activities in

2019. ASIF is an excellent forum to learn and share. AS does not have borders.

The Legalization of Cannabis

October 17th marked the legalization of Cannabis for Canadians who want to use Cannabis for recreational purposes. Medical patients will be impacted by this legislation. It is strongly encouraged to use recreational Cannabis responsibly as medical cannabis patients will be impacted by the decisions of recreational users. Having said this the medical system continues to grow and new products will be available in new administration methods that are geared towards helping patients with their medical use. The CSA is committed to educating our community on the safe use of medical cannabis and reducing the stigma. Patients use Cannabis to medicate and not for the reasons of recreational users.

Celebrating the 1st Annual National Psoriatic Arthritis Day

[October 19th](#), we celebrated the first annual National Psoriatic Arthritis day. In celebration, the CSA has partnered on two separate programs. October 17th, the CSA and Canadian Association of Psoriasis Patients (CAPP) held a one-hour twitter campaign with Dr. Arthur Lau to kick-off bringing awareness to PsA. #NewdayforPsA was created to drive this campaign. It is worth noting that Psoriatic Arthritis coupled with Psoriasis leads to almost certain Mental Health challenges. [On October 19](#), the CSA, Arthritis Consumer Experts, Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance, the Arthritis Society, CAPP and Canadian Psoriasis Network held an awareness campaign on twitter and facebook #cdnPSAday. Both campaigns were a great success.

PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA

Canadian Chronic Disease Surveillance System (CCDSS) Data Tool

The 2018 edition of the [Canadian Chronic Disease Surveillance System \(CCDSS\) Data Tool](#) is now online! Using data from the CCDSS, this tool presents the latest statistics and trends over time on 20+ chronic diseases including **osteoarthritis, gout/crystal arthropathies, rheumatoid arthritis, and juvenile idiopathic arthritis** in Canada. The CCDSS is a collaborative network of provincial and territorial surveillance systems supported by the PHAC. It relies on linked health insurance registration files, physician billing claims, and hospital discharge abstracts.

The health insurance registries capture data on all residents who are eligible for provincial or territorial health insurance (about 97% of the Canadian population). Case definitions are applied to these linked databases and data are then aggregated at the provincial and territorial level before being submitted to the PHAC for reporting.

GET DATA: For the latest CCDSS data by sex, age group, province/territory and year, visit our [CCDSS online Data Tool](#). **MORE INFORMATION:** For more information on this data source, please visit our [CCDSS fact sheet](#).

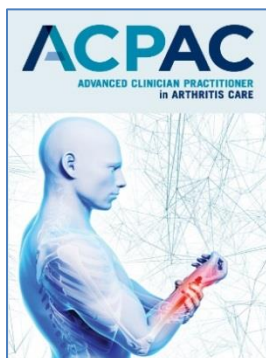


Canadian Chronic Disease Indicators (CCDI) 2018 Edition

In addition, the 2018 edition of the [Canadian Chronic Disease Indicators](#) (CCDI) is now online! Using a variety of different national data sources, this tool presents the latest statistics and trends on chronic disease including **osteoarthritis** and associated risk /protective factors and determinants in Canada. **GET DATA:** For the latest pan-Canadian data, visit our CCDI [Quick Stats](#) and for pan-Canadian data by province and territory, sex, age group, and other socio-economic variables, visit our CCDI online [Data Tool](#).

COMMUNITY UPDATES

THE ADVANCED CLINICIAN PRACTITIONER IN ARTHRITIS CARE PROGRAM



ACPAC Welcomes New Trainees for the 2018-2019 Program

The Advanced Clinician Practitioner in Arthritis Care (ACPAC) Program (www.acpacprogram.ca) welcomes the following 11 new trainees into the 2018-2019 program on October 22, 2018:

- Aksa Ahmed, Toronto, Ontario; Manasa Black, Vaughan, Ontario;
- Michelle Bridge, LaSalle, Ontario; Julie Chung, North York, Ontario;
- Andrew Courchene, Toronto, Ontario; Gargi Singh, Toronto, Ontario;
- Tamara Gotal, Toronto, Ontario; Julie Herrington, Hamilton, Ontario;
- Osk Jenkins, Peterborough, Ontario; Maria Luccisano, Richmond Hill, Ontario;
- Jennifer Martin, Vaughan, Ontario.

McCAIG INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH

Appointing Dr. Cheryl Barnabe



McCaig Institute member Cheryl Barnabe was recently appointed to the Royal Society of Canada. She is one of 89 new Fellows in the Academies of Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, and Science and was elected by her peers for her work in “leading the delivery of a national cultural competency initiative in rheumatology, and implementing innovative models of care in both on-reserve and urban settings.”

In other news, hundreds of people attended or tuned-in to the 2018 Cy Frank Legacy Lectures, featuring Dame Sally Davies. If you couldn't make it to the event, you can [read about it here](#), or watch the [YouTube video](#) here.

SCLERODERMA CANADA

Scleroderma Canada

Scleroderma Canada is a national charitable organization that serves patients, families and health care professionals. Our mission is to enrich the quality of life for scleroderma patients & families with a vision of a world free from scleroderma. We work collaboratively with regional scleroderma organizations and the international scleroderma community including Canadian Organization for Rare Disorders (CORD), Scleroderma Foundation and many other organizations on activities based on addressing:

- Education for patients, families and HCP's
- Advocacy for Scleroderma
- Research in the field of Scleroderma (and the associated comorbidities)
- Clinical and peer support for patient care, treatment and maintenance.

June 2019 Awareness Walk, Run or Ride for Scleroderma

Scleroderma Canada's next annual June Awareness Walk, Run or Ride for Scleroderma will be held across Canada in June 2019. Every year, thousands of people, friends, family, doctors and patients across Canada participate in the Walk, Run or Ride for Scleroderma to raise funds, friends and awareness for this rare disease. In 2017, more than 2,000 people took part in the awareness campaign across Canada.

ONTARIO ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION



Ontario Orthopaedic Association 41st Annual General Meeting

[Ontario Orthopaedic Association 41st Annual General Meeting](#) | November 2-3, 2018 | Toronto, Ontario
Online registration is now open for the upcoming Ontario Orthopaedic Association (OOA) Annual General Meeting on November 2-3, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency in Toronto! The theme of the meeting is “From Cradle to Grave” and promises to be an engaging and dynamic conference. Topics include Ontario surgeons abroad, hip/ paediatric fractures, medical cannabis primer, Ontario's health system reform, and #me too in the workplace. To view the draft program visit: ooa.ca/2018-AGM-Program.

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA NETWORK

The 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 CANRAD Network Meeting during the 2018 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting in Vancouver, BC and we look forward to hosting our 2019 CANRAD Meeting during the CRA meeting in Montreal! 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/>.



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. The first abstract for this study will be presented at the 2018 ACR. 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. Our Lupus Clinic is celebrating 40 years of research this fall! For more information pertaining to our RI MUHC activities, fundraising efforts and our Lupus Clinic, please contact autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca

Canadian Network for Advanced Interdisciplinary Methods (CAN-AIM)

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/>.



UNIVERSITY OF LAVAL

Reminder: Call for Participants to Complete Survey

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

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, Québec
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
Current Concepts in Joint Replacement	December 12-15, 2018	Orlando, Florida, USA
Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Medicine for Primary Care	December 29-31, 2018	Las Vegas, Nevada, USA
12 th Annual Rheumatology Winter Clinical (RWCS) Symposium, The Premier International Academic Rheumatology Meeting	February 13-16, 2019	Maui, Hawaii, USA
CRA Annual Scientific Meeting and AHPA Annual Meeting	February 27- March 2, 2019	Montreal, Quebec
Canadian Rheumatology Ultrasound Society Basic Course	March 23-24, 2019	Toronto, ON
World Congress on Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases (WCO IOF-ESCEO)	April 4-7, 2019	Paris, France
21 Pan American League of Associations of Rheumatology Congress (PANLAR) 2019 Congress	April 27-30, 2019	Quito, Ecuador
CARRA Annual Meeting	April 10-14, 2019	Louisville, Kentucky
Osteoarthritis Research Society International (OARSI) World Congress	May 2-5, 2019	Toronto, Ontario
5 th Annual Mayo Clinic Rheumatology Review for Primary Care	May 23-25, 2019	Amelia Island, Florida, USA
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.