

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

February 2013

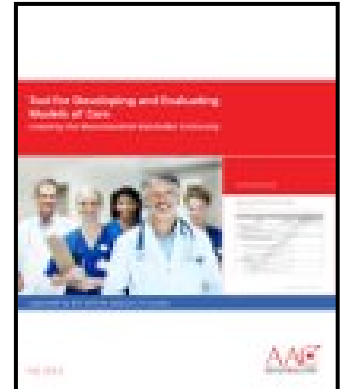
National Inflammatory Models of Care

The Arthritis Alliance hosted a very successful model of care meeting February 13th, in Ottawa with representatives involved in inflammatory models of care across the country. The meeting included excellent presentations of existing models from British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario, followed by significant discussion on the components of the models.

Over the next few months, considerable amounts of work will be undertaken to further develop a framework for a national model of care for inflammatory patients. This work includes ongoing stakeholder engagement, teleconferences and a second in person meeting, April 9th in Toronto.

If you are interested in finding out more about the project or participating in the development of the model of care, please contact Rhona McGlasson at Rhona.McGlasson@Bell.net.

To view the **Models of Care tool for developing and evaluating models of care**, please visit our website: <http://www.arthritisalliance.ca/home/index.php>



Want to help?

You can help and get involved by:

- Visiting www.ArthritisAlliance.ca
- Sending promotional material (Joint Action Executive Summary, website information) to your friends, family and colleagues
- Providing feedback. Give us your ideas
- Giving us an update to share with the group
- Telling us about your upcoming events, initiatives, and announcements that are aligned with the Framework
- Helping us to promote Joint Action on Arthritis
- Telling our story and telling yours
- Telling your friends and family
- Writing and calling your local MP/MPP, your Premier, Minister of Health, etc
- Sharing on Twitter, Facebook, and other social media channels

Save The Date!

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada will hold its first Annual Research Symposium at the Westin Ottawa, November 21st-23rd 2013

The conference will:

- Report on the progress of the National Framework
- Showcase discoveries and new knowledge ready for implementation
- Increase the level of interest among government and health system representatives about the National Framework for arthritis!

More details to come shortly.

Member Updates

Patient Partners

Similar to prior years, the sites experienced an increase in demand for sessions this year. This is a result of increased enrolment at the med schools as well as more requests for sessions with Allied Health Professional (AHP) students and residency programs. The requests could not have been met without the dedication of the Patient Partners, as several of the sites were struggling with members on "sabbatical" due to surgery or other health issues. Ongoing funding remains a concern and is being addressed by the Regional Directors.

The Patient Partners in Arthritis program is a unique opportunity for people with arthritis to provide medical students, allied health care providers and community-based physicians with valuable, hands-on experience to increase their skills and effectiveness in examining, diagnosing and treating people with arthritis.

CIHR Team Grant in Models of Care in Arthritis (MOCA)

Principle Investigators Aileen Davis and Elizabeth Badley with co-investigators in British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario

A major focus of this research to generate an evidence-based framework for development of comprehensive arthritis models of care (MOC) is on the contextual factors (population, providers, policy, facilitators and barriers etc.) that influence model development and implementation. Most of the identified MOC focus on early access to care for people with inflammatory arthritis or access to joint replacement, with few MOC focusing on chronic disease self-management, including exercise and education. Population-based modeling showed access to rheumatology is associated with higher socio-economic status and having a primary care physician. Access to orthopaedic surgeons is also dependent on primary care access. People with early to moderate osteoarthritis rarely are targeted for care in current multi- and inter-disciplinary MOC. Using an embedded case methodology, detailed in-depth studies of selected MOC in urban and rural settings in three provinces are in progress.

The Consumer Advisory Board of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada

The Consumer Advisory Board of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada is hosting it's 8th Reaching Out with Arthritis Research (ROAR) event-"Don't Let Your Arthritis Kill You- Take Action"- how arthritis can cause heart attacks, strokes and blood clots and- what you can do about it.

Webcast and Live Public Presentation Saturday, May 4th, 2013. Save the date- registration coming soon at www.arthritisresearch.ca/ROAR

The Arthritis Society

The Arthritis Society's Models of Care Catalyst Grant Letter of Intent is due **March 4th at 5:00pm EST**. To view the RFA and the Research and Training Program Guidelines, please visit The Arthritis Society website at <http://www.arthritis.ca/page.aspx?pid=1020>. To apply on the online application site please visit <http://www.arthritisocietyresearch.ca/>.

The Arthritis Society/CAN Training Program RFA's are also available! The Graduate PhD and Post Doctoral Fellowship application due date is **April 22 at 5:00pm EST** and the online application site will be ready to accept applications in the beginning of March. Please go to <http://www.arthritis.ca/page.aspx?pid=1020> to view the RFA's.

For further information, contact Stefanie Cara, Manager of Research and Training Programs at scara@arthritis.ca.

Canadian Obesity Network

Arthritis is a major risk factor to patients with obesity. The Canadian Obesity Network is pleased to invite you to attend the 3rd Canadian Obesity Summit, Canada's only interdisciplinary obesity conference. The Canadian Obesity Network is dedicated to the prevention and management of obesity and the 3rd Canadian Obesity Summit will focus on improving health systems and services, developing evidence-based policies to prevent obesity and clinical approaches for the management of obesity and its multiple co-morbidities. Sessions include a clinic in focus stream on Osteoarthritis (Gillian Hawker), Neuropathic and Nociceptive Pain: Solutions to Pain and Pain Related Disabilities (Brenda Lau), and Fibromyalgia (Rhonda Shuckett). 3rd Canadian Obesity Summit | [The Westin Bayshore](http://www.con-obesitysummit.ca/), Vancouver, BC, Wednesday May 1 - Saturday May 4, 2013. For more information please visit: <http://www.con-obesitysummit.ca/>

The Canadian Arthritis Network (CAN)

As part of its legacy activities, CAN staff have been working behind the scenes to develop a new website reflective of its new and final chapter. The legacy website will continue to provide information on CAN's ongoing activities and information relevant to the arthritis community. It will also house information on CAN's legacies that will live beyond CAN's years. Please keep an eye out for its launch, which is scheduled to occur by Friday March 1st. CAN's legacy website will retain its current address of <http://www.arthritisnetwork.ca/>.

Canadian Medical Association Referral and Consultation Toolbox

The final tool in the [Referral and Consultation Process Toolbox](#), called [Physician Directories](#), is now available. Physician Directories help family physicians contact the appropriate specialist by informing them who performs which procedures. This [new](#) page features a "how-to" guide for creating a directory in your jurisdiction and showcases examples of directories already in use around the country.

The Referral and Consultation Process Toolbox is a living resource that will grow and evolve as new approaches to improvements are discovered. Plans are already underway to provide information about additional initiatives

In the fall of 2012 we surveyed both family physicians and specialists about their experiences with the referral process. Very few of the survey respondents knew about it (less than 3%); however, of those who were aware of the Toolbox, 76% of them found it useful and 20% said the information motivated them to take further action regarding implementing new ways to approach the referral process.

Calendar of Events

- Power of Movement (www.powerofmovement.ca) March 3, 2013
- Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month March 2013
- Walk You're A.S. Off (<http://walkyourasoff.com>) March 1st-May4th 2013
- American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons Meeting March 19-23, 2013 Chicago, IL
- Osteoarthritis Research Society International (OARSI) Apr 18-21, 2013 Philadelphia PA, USA
- Canadian Conference for Medical Education April 20-23, 2013 Quebec City, QC
- CASEM Annual Scientific Meeting April 25-26, 2013 Whistler, BC
- Canadian Obesity Summit May 1-4 2013 Vancouver, BC
- World Ankylosing Spondylitis Awareness Day May 4th 2013
- Primary Care Today May 9-11, 2013 Toronto, ON
- World Autoimmune Arthritis Day May 20th 2013
- Canadian Physiotherapy Association May 23-26, 2013 Montreal, QC
- Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists May 29-June 1, 2013 Victoria, BC
- Canadian Connective Tissue Society May 29-June 1, 2013 Montreal, QC
- Canadian Pharmacists Association June 1-4, 2013 Charlottetown, PEI
- Walk to Fight Arthritis (<http://www.walktofightarthritis.ca/>) June 9, 2013
- Canadian Association of Continuing Health Education June 11, 2013 Vancouver, BC
- European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) June 12-15, 2013 Madrid, Spain
- Canadian Paediatric Society June 19-22, 2013 Edmonton, AB
- Canadian Orthopaedic Association June 20-22, 2013 Winnipeg, MB
- Arthritis Awareness Month September 2013
- International Association of Inflammation Societies (IAIS) September 21-15, 2013 Natal RN, Brazil
- American College of Rheumatology (ACR) October 27-30, 2013 San Diego, USA
- Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario November 7-9, 2013 Toronto, ON
- Arthritis Alliance of Canada Annual Research Symposium November 21-23, 2013 Ottawa, ON

THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE NEEDS TO HEAR YOUR SUCCESSES, STORIES AND PROJECTS THAT WILL SUPPORT THE FRAMEWORK EFFORT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO BE FEATURED HERE, PLEASE FORWARD YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO jcoish@mtsinal.on.ca.

ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada, formerly the Alliance for the Canadian Arthritis Program (ACAP), was formed in 2002. Its goal is to improve the lives of Canadians with arthritis.

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:
Jaime Coish at 416-586-4685 or jcoish@mtsinai.on.ca, www.arthritisalliance.ca