

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

May 2014

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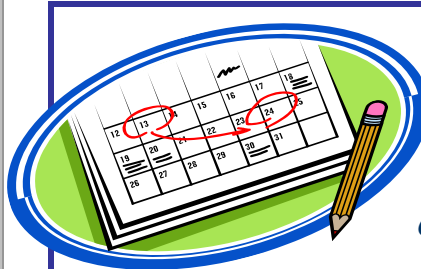
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ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA



SAVE THE DATE REMINDER!
THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA
2nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

In Partnership with
Gairdner Foundation and CIHR Institute
of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis

OCTOBER 30th - NOVEMBER 1st, 2014
TORONTO, ONTARIO



Measurement Framework for Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care

Call for Participation!

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada Models of Care (MOC) Measurement Framework project is well underway. The Models of Care working group is currently developing measures to facilitate performance of models of care at a system level. These measures are critical to assist health care decision makers, identify and prioritize areas for improvement; benchmarking, strategy planning, system changes and measuring the results to determine if goals and objectives have been achieved. In this related work, we are looking for help to develop a starter-set of these measures and inviting all from rheumatology, allied health, general practice, people living with arthritis and other stakeholders to participate in a consensus online voting. The online voting method will include a state-of-the-art 3-Round panel using an online survey platform, developed by the RAND Corporation, called ExpertLens. The tentative start of the panel will be September 1st, 2014. All participants who complete the three rounds will be offered authorship as part of the working group.



If you are interested in participating in this exciting project, please forward your contact information to Lina Gazizova at lgazizova@mtsinai.on.ca. If you know of a colleague who may be interested in participating, please forward this information and have your colleague contact me directly. Thank you for accepting the invitation!

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

Arthritis Consumer Experts is Looking for Canada's Best Workplace for Employees Living with Arthritis

Arthritis is the most common cause of work disability in Canada and typically occurs during prime working years, between ages 35-50. The impact of arthritis costs the Canadian economy more than \$6.4 billion annually. Lost workdays due to long-term disability account for approximately two-thirds of this total. One in six Canadians has osteoarthritis (OA). That number is expected to rise to 1 in 3 Canadians by 2020. One out of every 136 Canadian workers lives with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), but that will increase to 1 in 68 workers by 2020. Within ten years of the onset of RA, up to 50% of employees living with RA are work disabled if left under- or un-treated. To view the full article, please follow the link <http://www.jointhealth.org/media-pressrelease.cfm?id=50&locale=en-CA>.

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

GLOBAL

This month, The Arthritis Society teamed with the International Federation of Psoriasis Associations, European Federation of Psoriasis Associations and National Psoriasis Foundation to raise awareness of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis – and provide real solutions to its management. The four groups released a unique consensus statement to address areas of unmet needs and issue a unified call-to-action. It outlines how, for psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis, stakeholders can work together toward more timely diagnoses, improved treatments, better access to specialists and medications, and more help in managing the disease burdens. Read the full statement [here](#).

QUEBEC

Arthritis is a Serious Disease. Let's Have a Serious Discussion



October 18, 2014 will be the first Provincial Forum on arthritis offered by The Arthritis Society at the Montreal Palais des Congrès. More than 40 presentations will be made by experts on topics such as arthritis types, nutrition, alternative treatments, orthopaedic surgery, personal finances, arthritis at work, psychological impact of arthritis, and much more. An exhibition hall will give the opportunity to learn about and compare products tailored to your needs.

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE (CAPA)



YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED!

The Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance (CAPA) seeks input to update the [Arthritis Bill of Rights and Responsibilities](#). The Bill of Rights and Responsibilities represented the first time the arthritis community worked together towards creating a document used to lobby (government and insurers) for access to new medications and encouraged patients to continue advocating for their rights. With support from the Ontario Rheumatology Association and input from partner organizations, CAPA will update the Bill and call it the **Arthritis Patient Charter**. With input and cooperation of all arthritis stakeholders, the most valuable and relevant document will result. The final document will reside on the [CAPA website](#) and be pointed to by CAPA's partner organizations through their websites. It will be also printed on rack cards and posters that will be found in your healthcare providers' offices.

Please follow this link to the survey (which will take you ~5-10 minutes to answer): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ArthritisPatientCharter> and provide your responses by **end of day, Monday, June 2nd**. All responses will be anonymous and confidential and personal information will not be collected.

Newsletter Announcement

CAPA is excited to announce that we have re-started our quarterly newsletter. The newsletter provides members with an update on our activities, important news and resources we think our members will use. In our recent newsletter, read about the launch of our new website, important meetings where CAPA members are present and our involvement in various projects, such as the [Choosing Wisely](#) campaign. The newsletter tops it off with two articles written by people living with arthritis.

Read our spring newsletter on our website at <http://www.arthritispatient.ca/lets-talk/>. You can subscribe to our newsletter by [registering](#) as a CAPA member. Stay tuned for the next edition coming out this summer!

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS (CAOT)

CAOT held a public CARFIT event in Fredericton, New Brunswick. CarFit is an educational program that offers older adults the opportunity to check how well their personal vehicles "fit" them. The program was created by the American Society on Aging in collaboration with AAA (American Automobile Association) and AOTA (American Occupational Therapy Association). In partnership with these organizations and the Canadian Automobile Association, CAOT will be supporting CarFit in Canada and these introductory workshops trained our first Canadian CarFit Event Coordinators and CarFit Technicians. The event was featured on [CBC NB News](#).

We are looking to host Carfit event across Canada. For more detail, please contact nmccarthy@caot.ca

CANADIAN PHYSIOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION

May is National Physiotherapy Month!

National Physiotherapy Month is an opportunity to celebrate the expertise and care physiotherapists provide to promote good health, prevent injury, and improve the physical function and well-being of Canadians with a wide range of conditions. As part of the National Physiotherapy Month celebrations, the Canadian Physiotherapy Association launched a new website to inform Canadians about different health care conditions, tips to avoid injury and how a physiotherapist can help you improve or restore function. The new website Physiocanhelp.ca features:

- Articles from around the internet and CPA-developed resources
- Content sorted by condition and part of the body
- Videos and blogs by CPA members

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION (CRA)

Identifies Five Practices Physicians and Patients Should Question

The Canadian Rheumatology Association has joined Choosing Wisely Canada, a campaign to help physicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary medical tests and treatments. They have identified 5 practices, therapies and procedures that they see are overused and not adding value, and where there is literature to support its disuse. These are not prescriptive lists, but are meant to empower providers and patients to make wise choices in an effort to curb unnecessary testing and waste. Check out the [Top 5 list here](#) or learn more about the campaign at <http://www.choosingwiselycanada.org/>.



PFIZER CANADA Inc.

XELJANZ (tofacitinib citrate) - the first new oral rheumatoid arthritis (RA) medicine in more than 10 years is now available in Canada

XELJANZ, in combination with methotrexate (MTX), is indicated for reducing the signs and symptoms of RA, in adult patients with moderately to severely active RA who have had an inadequate response to MTX. In cases of intolerance to MTX, physicians may consider the use of XELJANZ as monotherapy. The eXel™ program will be available free of charge for individuals prescribed XELJANZ to help them explore their financial options, facilitate access and manage their RA on a daily basis.

Community Updates

ALBERTA INNOVATES-HEALTH SOLUTIONS TEAM in OSTEOARTHRITIS



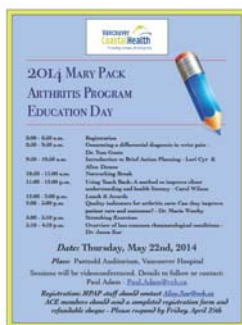
Alberta Team OA is an interdisciplinary team with a novel approach to OA care, integrated knowledge translation, and policy implementation with a proven and highly functional team of national and international experts, overseen by an eight member International Advisory Board (IAB). The OA Team has grown into a group of 55 investigators and 60 trainees with unique engagement of patients as drivers and end-users. Over the past year, key team outputs included:



- 238 published peer-reviewed journal articles (52 with trainees as first authors, 92 with 2 or more OA Team members as co-authors)
- 288 published abstracts
- 129 invited and 159 peer-reviewed presentations
- 83 outreach activities
- \$5,479,087 of annual leveraged funds, and
- 7 technology transfer activities (e.g. patents).

Mary Pack Arthritis Program – Education Day

This year, the annual Mary Pack Education Day falls on May 22nd, and is taking place in Vancouver at Vancouver General Hospital. Always with a great line-up of speakers and topics, these informative sessions have much to offer the arthritis community. This year, information and ideas will be shared by rheumatologists, occupational therapists and other care professionals. Discussion topics will include; using teach back – a method to improve client understanding and health literacy, quality indicators for arthritis care, and an overview of less common rheumatological conditions.



The Institute of Health Economics, Alberta Canada invites you to join them for a symposium on “The Future of Biologic and Biosimilar Therapies for the management of Rheumatoid Arthritis in Alberta health care”. The symposium will be held on **Thursday, May 29, 2014, from 09:00 – 17:00** at The Westin Hotel in Edmonton, Alberta. To register, please follow the link: <http://bit.ly/1fPv21O>.

News to Share

The Globe and Mail, April 20, 2014

Arthritis drug stops selling in Canada; leaves young patients desperate

The pain makes the simplest tasks, such as buttoning her clothes or writing her name, a challenge. Walking any great distance is out of the question. Abigail Stewart can barely move in the morning and spends up to two hours doing exercises and stretches in bed before she feels well enough to get up. Please click [here](#) to read a full story.

JOINT HEALTH EXPRESS, April 2014

Private insurance and arthritis: Making it work, at work

People with arthritis are taking a growing interest in how private health insurance works, particularly given the benefits reform underway. Inside the April issue of [JointHealth™ monthly](#), Arthritis Consumer Experts take a closer look at private insurance and arthritis in the workplace.



Calendar of Events

Canadian Pain Society's 35th Annual Scientific Meeting	May 20-23, 2014	Quebec City, QC
Ontario Rheumatology Association AGM	May 23-25, 2014	Muskoka, ON
Western Health Summit 2014	May 21-22, 2014	Edmonton, AB
Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference	May 21-June 3, 2014	Saskatoon, SK
Canadian College of Health Leaders and Canadian Healthcare Association - Raising the bar: A critical time for bold leadership	June 2-3, 2014	Banff, AB
The Arthritis Society-Walk to Fight Arthritis	June 8 th 2014	Nationwide
Canadian Connective Tissue Conference	June 8-10, 2014	London, ON
EULAR - European League Against Rheumatism	June 11-14, 2014	Paris, France
Canadian Nurses Association Biennial Convention	June 16-18, 2014	Winnipeg, MB
International Conference with FIMS (International Sport Medicine Federation)	June 17-21, 2014	Québec, QC
Canadian Orthopaedic Association AGM	June 18-21, 2014	Montréal, QC
Canadian Physiotherapy Association National Congress	June 19-22, 2014	Edmonton, AB
Canadian Paediatric Society Annual Conference	June 25-28, 2014	Montréal, QC
9th Annual Summer Obesity Boot Camp	July 19-27, 2014	Edmonton, AB
Council of the Federations (COF) - 2014 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting	August 26-30, 2014	Charlottetown, PEI
American Society for Bone & Mineral Research	October 12-15, 2014	Houston, TX
Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses - Dynamics of Critical Care Conference	September 21-23, 2014	Québec, QC
Cochrane Collaboration Colloquium	September 21-26, 2014	Hyderabad, India
Quebec Rheumatology Association	October 23-25, 2014	Québec, QC
Arthritis Alliance of Canada 2nd Annual Conference and Research Symposium	Oct 30-Nov 1, 2014	Toronto, ON
American College of Rheumatology Annual Meeting	14-19 November 2014	Boston, MA

Arthritis Alliance of Canada Members

Member Organizations

Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute
Arthritis & Autoimmunity Research Centre
Arthritis Community Research & Evaluation Unit
Arthritis Consumer Experts
Arthritis Health Professions Association
Arthritis Research Centre of Canada
Arthritis Research Foundation
The Arthritis Society
Bone and Joint Canada
Canadian Alliance of Pediatric Rheumatology Investigators
Canadian Arthritis Network
Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance
Canadian Academy of Sports and Exercise Medicine
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Canadian Chiropractic Association
Canadian Obesity Network
Canadian Orthopaedic Association
Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation

Canadian Physiotherapy Association
Canadian Rheumatology Association
Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
Canadian Spondylitis Association
Cochrane Collaboration
Consumer Advisory Board of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada
Institute for Work and Health
McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health
Patient Partners

Member Companies

AbbVie Corporation
Amgen Canada Inc.
Celgene Inc.
Hoffmann -La Roche Limited
Janssen Inc.
Pfizer Canada Inc.
UCB Canada Inc

Want to help?

You can help and get involved by:

- Visiting www.ArthritisAlliance.ca
- Providing feedback. Give us your ideas
- Giving us an update to share with the group
- Telling us about upcoming events, initiatives, and announcements that are aligned with the Framework
- 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

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@MTSINALON.CA](mailto:jcoish@mtsinaion.ca).

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:
Jaime Coish at 416-586-4770 or jcoish@mtsinaion.ca, www.arthritisalliance.ca