

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

September 2014

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ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

2nd Annual Conference and Research Symposium

“Arthritis Unmasked: Genetics, Treatments and Partnerships”



The deadline to register for the AAC's 2nd Annual Conference and Research Symposium is quickly approaching! Space is limited; please register by **Friday, October 10th**.

Program information:

- Thursday, October 30th program begins with workshops dedicated to Advocacy and Awareness, Patients, Allied Health Professionals and Research.
- Friday, October 31st features a full day Research Symposium with special guests and 2014 Canada Gairdner International Laureates, Dr. Marc Feldmann and Dr. Ravinder Nath Maini, for their ground breaking discovery of anti-TNF therapy, followed by our “Arthritis Unmasked” Gala and Awards dinner on Friday evening, featuring a replay of the award ceremony for Drs. Maini and Feldmann, special performances by people living with arthritis and presentation of the Qualman-Davies Arthritis Consumer Community Leadership Award.
- Saturday, November 1st, the day begins with the Arthritis Alliance Annual General Meeting, followed by workshops dedicated to Osteoarthritis Models of Care, Inflammatory Arthritis Performance Measurements and ending the program with a Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research Workshop.

Registration link: <http://arthritisalliance.ca/conference/>

For more information visit: <http://arthritisalliance.ca> or contact Lina Gazizova for program information and registration for the conference at: lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca.

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS (ACE)



For the past four months, ACE has been receiving submissions and interviewing entrants to the inaugural of Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis. More than 70 companies were nominated and ACE hope the application process delivered insights to further strengthen Canadian companies' approaches to creating a more productive and arthritis friendly workplace. During our exchanges with employees and employers, we also created opportunities for companies to assess their awareness of arthritis and support systems for employees living with the disease. ACE is pleased to recognize the three companies awarded in the 2014 Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis Award for their efforts to make their work environments great for everyone, including employees living with arthritis. Based on the workplace insights shared by employees and company managers, the following companies stand out for best practices that take into account the unique concerns of employees living with the most common chronic disease in the workplace—arthritis: TELUS Communications Company, Agricultural Financial Services Corporation and cfactor Works Inc.

ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION (AHPA)

In collaboration with the Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) a survey entitled "A National Perspective of Interprofessional Roles within Rheumatology" will be distributed, in September, to all AHPA members, CRA members and other arthritis health professionals. The survey will help define the current landscape (including gaps) of arthritis-related health care delivery across Canada. Results of this survey will be important as the AAC continues to address models of arthritis care. We look forward to your participation in this important initiative!

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CENTRE OF CANADA

WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE - Province of British Columbia and Arthritis Research Centre of Canada (ARC)

On September 9th, the Province of British Columbia announced a \$3 million grant to advance the work of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada (ARC). This funding will be directed towards helping ARC reduce work disability, improve pain management, minimize health care costs, and meet the special needs of more than 600,000 British Columbians living with arthritis. With over 100 different forms of arthritis, and a leading cause of disability, it is estimated this condition costs the B.C. health care system roughly \$1.6 billion annually. For more information please visit: <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/bc4arthritis>.

Arthritis Research Centre of Canada presents ARC Champion Award to Maureen Ilich



It was with great honour that ARC, in partnership with the Minister of Health Terry Lake, presented Maureen Ilich with the ARC Champion Award. The ARC Champion award is presented to an individual or company that has made a unique and significant contribution to ARC's growth and development. For ARC, that describes the very essence of the support and generosity bestowed upon us by the Milan & Maureen Ilich Foundation. In 2012, their donation of \$4 million set ARC on a new and solid course of delivering groundbreaking research. For more news please visit: <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/the-news>.

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

NATIONAL

It is Arthritis Awareness Month in Canada, and The Arthritis Society has been shining a spotlight on the disease this September both nationally and through a vast network of local events. For the former, our Voices of Arthritis video series, including Lloyd Robertson and Olympic medallist Kelsey Serwa, succeeded in having higher-profile individuals speak on their experiences with arthritis. Also earlier this month, The Society announced \$3.4 million in funding this year for 18 innovative research studies. Last week, we focused on complex new treatments for inflammatory arthritis and publishing multiple resources about subsequent-entry biologics to bring clarity to Canadians with arthritis. To stay up to date on all of our announcements, please visit: [Arthritis Awareness Month landing page](#).



BONE & JOINT CANADA

Bone and Joint Canada is pleased to announce the release of a report “Reducing the Impact of Osteoarthritis (OA) in Canada, opportunities for prevention and management.” During the past year, BJC has undertaken an initiative to identify the evidence-based strategies that will support prevention, early diagnosis and effective management of OA and has worked with the partners in OA from across the country to start to develop an action plan that will support the implementation of the effective strategies across the spectrum of the disease. This report has been released on the BJC web site at: www.boneandjointcanada.com. The recommendations include working together to improve coordination of services, including the partnerships between the healthcare and the health and wellness sectors, and to develop a repository of information on effective programs for managing OA across the country. If you would like further information about this initiative or have any information you would like to share on an OA program please contact Rhona McGlasson at Rhona.McGlasson@bell.net.

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE (CAPA)

Newsletter



The Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance is pleased to announce the publication of our Fall newsletter. Read about the launch of the Arthritis Patient Charter, our patient input submissions to Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) and the development of an educational resource for patient involvement in research.

SEB Position Paper

In our continued support of Arthritis Awareness Month, we also published our position paper on Subsequent Entry Biologics (SEB's). CAPA believes SEB's are another important option for patients; however some concerns are highlighted in the position paper where we have explained the differences between small molecule, biologic, and SEB drugs.

TEAM Project (CAPA)



We are asking all stakeholders to share photos that represent living with arthritis starting in September and beyond, using social media and one or all of the hashtags: #TEAMphoto #livinglifetothe fullest #arthritis. This virtual campaign is meant to show what living with arthritis means to you and we will aim to post some of these on our [website](#), too. You can receive CAPA updates and our newsletter by [registering](#) as a CAPA member on our website. Stay tuned for the next newsletter coming out in early 2015!

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS (CAOT) NEW Resources! Occupational Therapy and Arthritis



Arthritis is one of Canada's most common chronic conditions. With over 100 different forms, arthritis can strike anyone at any time, regardless of age, physical condition, culture, gender; often with devastating and debilitating effects. Occupational therapy recognizes that everyday occupational engagement influences mental and physical health. Occupational therapists believe that occupational performance, organization, choice and satisfaction are determined by the relationship between persons and their environments. Occupational therapists approach mental health with this unique perspective that considers a person's needs within the context of family and community. [Click here](#) to find out more.

McCAIG INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH

According to Stats Canada, Alberta is leading the country in population growth. With rapid expansion comes the need to support the current health system. The McCaig Institute and the Section of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Calgary welcome four new highly trained orthopaedic surgeons this month. Congratulations to Carolyn Emery, PhD who was elected to the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists; an organization launched by the Royal Society of Canada for emerging Canadian intellectual leaders. Carolyn's research focuses on injury prevention in youth sport and recreation and pediatric rehabilitation. Congratulations also to Deborah Marshall, PhD who in addition to her extensive work at the McCaig Institute is assuming the role of Senior Scientist at the Arthritis Research Centre! We are anticipating a great turn out to the Wood Forum for Juvenile Arthritis. This event will take place on October 4th, 2014 in Calgary, and November 1st, 2014 in Edmonton. Details for both public educational forums can be found on our website: www.mccaiginstitute.com.

Community Updates

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (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 begin our next series of exciting webinars on Thursday, October 9th, 2014 at 3pm EST. Presentations will be on the Population Risk Adjusted Grouper (PRAG) by Heather Richards, Clinical Classification Lead PRAG who handles Case Mix within the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). For more information pertaining to the CANRAD Network or to join our webinar please contact Autumn Neville: autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca.



Calendar of Events

Cochrane Collaboration Colloquium	September 21-26, 2014	Hyderabad, India
9th Annual Bluebird Gala	September 26, 2014	Vancouver, BC
Wood Forum for Juvenile Arthritis	October 4, 2014	Calgary, AB
Canadian Rheumatology Administrative Data Network	October 9, 2014	Webinars
States American Society for Bone & Mineral Research	October 12-15, 2014	Houston, TX
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
Wood Forum for Juvenile Arthritis	November 1, 2014	Edmonton, AB
American College of Rheumatology Annual Meeting	November 14-19, 2014	Boston, MA
CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting	February 4-5, 2015	Québec, QC
Ontario Physiotherapy Association Inter-Action	March 27-28, 2015	Ottawa, ON
2015 CADTH Symposium	April 12-14, 2015	Saskatoon, SK
Canadian Conference on Medical Education	April 25-28, 2015	Vancouver, BC
Canadian Orthopaedic Nurse Association Conference	May 24-27, 2015	Fredericton, NB

ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

With more than 36 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 jcoish@arthritisalliance.ca or visit our website www.arthritisalliance.ca