

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

December 2015

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Seasonal Greetings!

Dear Readers,

We wish you and your families a warm and joyous Holiday Season, full of bright moments and beautiful events!

We would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support, dedication and engagement in the passing year.

Many happy returns in the New Year 2016!

We look forward to another year of partnership and collaboration with you!



AbbVie CORPORATION

AbbVie launches two educational microsites for Canadians living with inflammatory arthritis



AbbVie has recently launched two new disease awareness microsites to help educate and empower Canadians living with different kinds of inflammatory arthritis.

BreakTheDoubleWhammy.ca encourages Canadians to connect the dots between psoriasis and joint pain, often a “double whammy” for people to live with two chronic diseases. Approximately 30% of people with psoriasis also develop psoriatic arthritis, a progressive disease that can cause long-term damage to the joints.



StandUpToBackPain.ca empowers Canadians to learn the differences between the two types of back pain—inflammatory and mechanical—in order to help people identify inflammatory arthritis, which can cause damage to the spine.

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

ACE's groundbreaking publication, the annual [JointHealth™ Arthritis Medications Report Card](#), is now online and hitting mailboxes in early January. In many ways, progress has been made in several provinces, arthritis patients' right to choose with their healthcare team the therapy best suited to their unique health needs is threatened. The Report Card summarizes and ranks medication treatment advances for each province in Canada. It helps Canadians with arthritis and their rheumatology healthcare team identify how their province measures up to other provinces in terms of providing reimbursement access to medications approved for common autoimmune forms of arthritis.

ACE encourages you to share the findings in the Report Card with your healthcare team and community. You may also email feedback@jointhealth.org to request additional copies.

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA PATIENT ADVISORY BOARD

The Arthritis Research Canada Patient Advisory Board hosted their annual public forum “Reaching Out with Arthritis Research: Osteoarthritis and You - What you can do NOW!” in October. Check out presentations at: <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/roar2015-presentations>.

Hope you can join us again next year in person in Vancouver or via the webcast! The Arthritis Newsletter for Winter 2015 is now available: <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/the-arthritis-newsletter-winter-2015-web-version>.

We are pleased to feature an interview with Dr. Claire Barber about cardiovascular disease risk for people living with inflammatory arthritis and a discussion of cardiovascular best practices with a call to action.

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

NATIONAL

Medical Cannabis Research Roundtable

The Arthritis Society hosted more than 25 organizations in Vancouver on December 3-4 in a medical cannabis roundtable. The goal was to identify the top priorities for research into the use of medical cannabis to treat arthritis and other conditions that are characterized by chronic pain. Participants included patient groups, health charities, clinicians and researchers, the medical cannabis industry and government. A report of the outcome of discussions will be made available early in 2016.



2016-17 Research Funding Competition Announcement

The Arthritis Society has launched new research funding opportunities for the 2016-17 competition. Letters of Intent (LOIs) for the [Strategic Operating](#) and [Young Investigator Operating Grant](#) Competitions are due at **3:00 pm (EST) on January 15th, 2016**. For more information on our current funding opportunities, please visit our website at: <http://arthritis.ca/research/the-arthritis-society-s-research-program/how-to-apply>. To apply, please visit our research portal at: https://arthritisresearch.smartsimple.ca/s_Login.jsp.

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION National Rheumatology Residents Weekend (NRRW)

January 22-24, 2016 in Toronto, ON

To register, [click here](#)



CRA 2016 Annual Scientific Meeting Registration Now Open! Optimizing Quality in Rheumatology Care

Join your colleagues and internationally renowned invited guests to review the latest in translational research, case management and therapeutics.

February 17-20, 2016 in Lake Louise, Alberta

To register, [click here](#)



Drug Update: Triamcinolone Hexacetonide (TH)

In response to the compromised availability of TH/Aristospan, the CRA Therapeutics Committee has actively solicited a collaborative relationship with a Canadian provider and is pleased to announce that SAP has resumed for TH under the brand, Lederlon. This product is now available for distribution in Canada. For more information, [click here](#).

MCCAIG INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH (MIBJH) UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY



McCaig Institute
for Bone and Joint Health

The final numbers are in and the Encore event in October featuring performances by Holly Cole and the Alberta Ballet, raised over \$900,000 for the McCaig Institute and the Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute. Within the McCaig Institute, these funds will be used to support the Centre for Mobility and Joint Health, an innovative new clinical research facility focusing on early stage diagnosis and treatment tailored to the individual. The McCaig Winter 2015/16 Newsletter has been published. To view online, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/jch39ct>.

On behalf of the faculty, staff and trainees of the McCaig Institute, we wish everyone a joyous holiday season!

WESTERN'S BONE AND JOINT INSTITUTE

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada is pleased to welcome new Members, Western Bone and Joint Institute. Western's Bone and Joint Institute was established by Western University, the Bone & Joint Institute (BJI) supports the newly created Cluster of Research Excellence in Musculoskeletal Health. Initially funded through the Interdisciplinary Development Initiative in Bone & Joint Health, the BJI is London's hub for research and education initiatives related to bone, joint and musculoskeletal health.

The BJI's research scope aligns with the Canadian Institutes of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis focus of its three strategic research priorities: 1) Physical Activity, Mobility and Health; 2) Tissue Injury, Repair and Replacement; 3) Pain, Disability and Chronic Disease. The vibrant group of the BJI's researchers works collaboratively toward a vision of *Lifelong Mobility* for all.

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 held our Winter Webinar on December 14th, 2015 where we listened to a presentation entitled "Methodological approach to evaluate the long-term impact of early intensive treatment of rheumatoid arthritis on time to joint replacement surgery" by Dr. Cristiano Moura (McGill University) and Dr. Jessica Widdifield (McGill University). For more information pertaining to the CANRAD Network or information about our past webinar(s), please contact Autumn Neville at autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca or visit our website <http://www.canradnetwork.ca/>.

The Canadian Network for Advanced Interdisciplinary Methods for comparative effectiveness research' (CAN-AIM) team was funded by CIHR to develop novel methods using prospective longitudinal cohorts and to respond to key knowledge gaps regarding drug safety and effectiveness by answering queries which arise from Health Canada and other regulatory parties. Our demonstration project looked at the comparative effectiveness of anti-tumour necrosis factor (TNF) agents versus traditional disease-modifying agents (DMARDs) in reducing orthopaedic surgery in rheumatoid arthritis (RA). For information on our preliminary results or for more information on our team, please contact Autumn Neville at autumn.neville@clinepi.mcgill.ca or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.



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Calendar of Events



Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting and AHPA Annual Meeting	February 17-20, 2016	Lake Louise, AB
Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, 11 th Congress of the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation	March 16-19, 2016	Amsterdam/Netherlands
Global Summit on the Physical Activity of Children: Active Living Research Conference	January 31-February 3, 2016	Hilton Clearwater Beach, Florida
Power of Movement	March 6, 2016	Nation wide
Registered Nurses Association - Annual Nurse Executive Leadership Academy	May 31-June 3, 2016	Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting	March 1-5, 2016	Orlando, Florida
Orthopaedic Research Society Annual Meeting	March 5-8, 2016	Orlando, Florida
Ontario Physiotherapy Association - InterACTION	April 8-9, 2016, 2015	Toronto, ON
Ontario Gerontological Association 35 th Annual Conference on Aging	May 4-5, 2016	Toronto, ON
Canadian Conference on Medical Education 2014	April 16-19, 2016	Montreal, QC
10 th Annual Summer Obesity Boot Camp	April 2016	Kananaskis, AB

Annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology	April 17-20, 2016	San Diego, CA
Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America AGM	April 27-30, 2016	Indianapolis, IN
OARSI World Congress	March 31-April 3, 2016	Amsterdam, Netherlands
Primary Care Today Conference	May 4-7, 2016	Toronto, ON
Canadian Pain Society's Annual Scientific Meeting	May 24-28, 2016	Vancouver, BC
Ontario Rheumatology Association 15 th Annual General Meeting	May 27-29, 2016	Muskoka, ON
Canadian Orthopaedic Nurse Association Conference	May 29-June 1, 2016	Edmonton, AB
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Annual Conference	April 19-22, 2016	Banff, AB
22 nd Canadian Connective Tissue Conference	June 1-3, 2016	Hamilton, ON
Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference	June 24-27, 2016	Calgary, AB
EULAR - European League Against Rheumatism International Conference	June 8-11, 2016	London, UK
Canadian College of Health Leaders: National Health Leadership Conference	June 6-7, 2016	Ottawa, ON
Biotechnology Industry Organization International Convention	June 6-9, 2016	San Francisco, CA
Canadian Physiotherapy Association National Congress	May 26-28, 2016	Victoria, BC
Canadian Paediatric Society Annual Conference	June 22-25, 2016	Charlottetown, PEI
Council of the Federations (COF) - 2016 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting	July 20-22, 2016	Whitehorse, Yukon
Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses - Dynamics of Critical Care Conference	September 25-27, 2016	Charlottetown, PEI
Cochrane Collaboration Colloquium	October 23-27, 2015	Seoul, South Korea
Vasculitis Symposium	TBC	TBC
Canadian Vasculitis (CandVasc) Annual Scientific Meeting	October 2016	TBC

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 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 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
 Western's Bone & Joint Institute

Member Companies

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

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