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## ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

### Arthritis Alliance of Canada Research Awards Program

The AAC Research Awards program received incredible support from its Members. The **seven** award categories and sponsors are:



Name of the Research Award	Sponsor of the Award
1. <b>Master Student</b>	McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health
2. <b>PhD Student</b>	Arthritis Consumer Experts
3. <b>Post-doctoral Fellow</b>	CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis
4. <b>Early Career Researcher/Early Career Faculty Member (graduate within the first five years of faculty appointment)</b>	CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis
5. <b>Knowledge Translation (KT) research</b>	Bone and Joint Institute of the University of Western Ontario
6. <b>Knowledge Translation (KT) practice</b>	Janssen Inc.
7. <b>Patient for active engagement in arthritis research</b>	The Arthritis Society

The "Call for Applications" closed January 4th, 2017. We are in the process of reviewing applications and the winners will be announced March 2017. **Thank you again to all of you for your great support in making this AAC program a success!**

## INFLAMMATORY ARTHRITIS (IA) MODELS OF CARE DEVELOPMENTS

The AAC is making a presence at the upcoming Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting on February 8-11, 2017 in Ottawa. Within the framework of this meeting, AAC will be hosting:

### Two IA Models of Care workshops:

1. **Rheumatology Care Re-designed: You can do it to!** This is an interactive session designed to showcase how working in a collaborative care team can create efficiencies and improve your practice. The AAC will showcase 3 models of care examples and tools that can create efficiencies and improve your practice. **More than 70 attendees registered to participate in this workshop! [This workshop is open to all participants.](#)**



2. **A Pan-Canadian Core Clinical Dataset for Rheumatoid Arthritis** workshop to strategize on how to work with EMRs to incorporate the dataset and discuss methods for extracting the data. This workshop is by invitation.

- Dr. Vandana Ahluwalia, AAC IA Modes of Care Executive, will present an update at the **CRA/National Updates Session, February 9th**, highlighting the Core Clinical Dataset project, Osteoarthritis Toolkit development project and the Research Awards program.
- The AAC will also host an exhibit booth display Thursday, February 9th and Friday, February 10th. We would love to see you there, please drop by and see us!

## QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS IN MODELS OF CARE

### Developing an Osteoarthritis Toolkit for Primary Care!



The [College of Family Physicians of Canada](#) (CFPC) and the [Arthritis Alliance of Canada](#) (AAC) have partnered with the [Centre for Effective Practice](#) (CEP) and progressed nicely with its collaboration project to develop an **Osteoarthritis Toolkit for Primary Care**.

The Clinical Working Group (CWG) has been formed and we are pleased to announce the Clinical Lead, Dr. Julia Alleyne, a comprehensive sport and exercise medicine physician, therapist and administrator. The CWG are hard at work on key message development and preparations for the upcoming care provider and patient focus groups. If you would like more information about this project, please contact Jaime Coish [jcoish@arthritisalliance.ca](mailto:jcoish@arthritisalliance.ca).

### Open Call to Join A Quality Standards Advisory Committee for Osteoarthritis in Ontario

The Health Quality Ontario (HQO) is seeking volunteers interested in joining a Quality Standard Advisory Committee that will advise on the development of quality standard for **Osteoarthritis**. Quality standards are concise sets of evidence-based recommendations designed to drive positive change. HQO is looking for patients, family members, informal caregivers, health care professionals, administrators and researchers from across **Ontario**.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining, please click here to learn more and apply: <http://bit.ly/2bLUE7d>

**Health Quality Ontario will be accepting applications until February 3, 2017.**

If you have any questions, please contact [QualityStandards@HQOntario.ca](mailto:QualityStandards@HQOntario.ca). Please feel free to forward this email to any individual within your organization you think may be interested.

### Private Members Motion in Support of Arthritis

With the help of MP Yves Robillard (Quebec), a **Private Members Motion** was submitted to address the burden of arthritis and disability. The Private Members Motion submitted states the following:

*That, in light of the fact that more than 4.6 million Canadians living with arthritis, a number which will grow to one in four Canadians by 2040, that arthritis is the most common cause of work disability in Canada, that the impact of arthritis on the Canadian economy in health-care costs and lost productivity is estimated to be \$33 billion each year, and the fact workers with arthritis who have more flexible work arrangements are more productive at work and less likely to become work disabled, the House calls upon Government to make flexible work arrangements available to all federal employees living with arthritis and to encourage private sector employers to do the same.*



## THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

### NATIONAL

#### Take NEW ONLINE PROGRAM: Mental Health and Well-being Course

The Arthritis Society is excited to announce the release of a new online learning module geared toward helping people living with arthritis to better understand and cope with the mental and emotional impacts of life with arthritis. The self-directed learning program offers great tips and insights to keep your spirits up when the disease is dragging you down.



Earlier this year, The Society reached out with an online survey to people living with arthritis who indicated how they were affected by anxiety and depression. Their insights helped develop this online module. If you are living with arthritis, or caring for someone who is, there are some great ideas in the new module to help strengthen mental and emotional resilience. [Check it out today!](#)

### ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS (ACE)

If you are attending the 2017 Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) Annual Scientific Meeting & Arthritis Health Professions Association Annual Meeting in Ottawa, we encourage you to share your perspectives on arthritis.



Powered by ACE and supported by representatives from the Arthritis Patient Advisory Board of Arthritis Research Canada, Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance, Canadian Spondylitis Association, and Patient Partners, [Arthritis Broadcast Network](#) (ABN) will host a **Facebook and Twitter “Live” #CRArthritis Speaker’s Corner** at the ABN booth in the Prince Edward Island Room.

You can post questions and comments during the daily live interviews between Wednesday, February 8 and Friday, February 10. To request for an interview, please email Anita Chan, JointHealth™ Program Coordinator, Arthritis Consumer Experts, at [chan@jointhealth.org](mailto:chan@jointhealth.org). We look forward to your participation! Find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), using the hashtag #CRArthritis.

### ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION (AHPA)

The **AHPA Board of Directors** is a dynamic group of individuals, with national representation, all with a common interest in care provision, education, and research related to arthritis.

We are seeking individuals with an interest in the following AHPA Board responsibilities: **President-Elect, Member at Large Western, Membership Committee Chair, and Communications Committee Chair**. Elections will be held at the **AHPA Annual General Meeting** in Ottawa, Ontario on February 10, 2017 during the 2017 Annual CRA Scientific Meeting and AHPA Annual Meeting.



If you are interested, please refer to the AHPA Website ([www.ahpa.ca](http://www.ahpa.ca)) for further details or email Lynne Broderick ([easternmember@ahpa.ca](mailto:easternmember@ahpa.ca)).

### ARTHRITIS PATIENT ADVISORY BOARD ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA

The beginning of the new year at APAB means that it’s time to begin planning for **ROAR 2017 – Reaching Out With Arthritis Research**. ROAR is a public forum which is organized by APAB and is presented as an in-person event as well as broadcast live as a webinar and live twitter trend with international attendance and interest [www.arthritisresearch.ca/a-roaring-success](http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/a-roaring-success). For the topics of 2016, please follow [www.arthritisresearch.ca/roar2016](http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/roar2016), and for archived videos of previous presentations - [www.arthritisresearch.ca/videos](http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/videos). We shall keep you posted with the save the date and presentation topics for 2017.

## McCAIG INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH

McCaig Institute staff, trainees and faculty gathered in November to launch the institute's new five year strategic plan. The plan introduces our revitalized vision of "leading the improvement of musculoskeletal health for patients across their lifespan through research and education." To read about the strategic plan and other exciting research and events at the McCaig Institute, check out our online newsletter at: [bit.ly/2gHPexX](http://bit.ly/2gHPexX).

### PATIENT PARTNERS

In Dec 2016 one of the Patient Partners, **Jennifer Boyle**, was awarded the very prestigious Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship. Jennifer is the TO Patient Partner site coordinator and also volunteers extensively with TAS, the AHPA and the OBRI. As well as being a role model for good citizenship, Jennifer exemplifies how will-power and determination can overcome serious health challenges.

Those of you who know Jenn know how talented she is in many areas of life although she does say she isn't a good baker. Her pleasant, willing attitude and cheerful disposition reminds all of us that despite challenges, we can contribute much to our community and to society as a whole. **Jenn, we are so proud of you – well done!**



## Community Updates

### ADVANCED CLINICIAN PRACTITIONER IN ARTHRITIS CARE

Office of Continuing Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

The Advanced Clinician Practitioner in Arthritis Care (ACPAC) program is pleased to announce that applications for its 2017-2018 program are NOW OPEN. ACPAC is a hybrid academic and clinical training program that prepares experienced physical therapists, occupational therapists, and nurses for extended practice roles in the diagnosis and management of patients with arthritis.

Fellowships are available for this year's program. The deadline to apply is Friday May 19, 2017. For more information contact Julia Ferrari ([j.ferrari@utoronto.ca](mailto:j.ferrari@utoronto.ca)) or to apply visit our new website at [www.acpacprogram.ca](http://www.acpacprogram.ca).



#### 2017-2018 Program Weeks



**Week 1** - October 23-28, 2017 (includes the conference "13th Annual Arthritis Day" Saturday October 28, 2017)

**Week 2** - December 11-15, 2017

**Week 3** - February 5-9, 2018

**Week 4** - April 9-13, 2018

**Week 5** - June 4-8, 2018

### 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 a successful CANRAD Network Winter Webinar, featuring presentations by Drs. Juan Antonio Avina-Zubieta and Diane Lacaille of the University of British Columbia, in December 2016. We are now planning a CANRAD Network Meeting to coincide with the 2017 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting in Ottawa, ON. For more information pertaining to our webinar or all other information concerning

the CANRAD Network, please contact Autumn Neville at [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca) or visit our website <http://www.canradnetwork.ca/>.

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. In 2016 we received additional funding from CIHR to work with important cohorts to help answer queries, including CATCH, PiMS, CanHepC and GENESIS-PRAXY. We also partnered with DSECT's webinar series to host webinars our team members. We are currently planning a 2017 CAN-AIM DSEN meeting with team members to review on-going projects and discuss new, emerging queries that may be of interest. For information on our queries, on our upcoming webinars or for more information on our team, please contact Autumn Neville at [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca) or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.



## Calendar of Events

Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting and AHPA Annual Meeting	February 8-11, 2017	Ottawa, Ontario
Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, 12 <sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation	February 15-18, 2017	Barcelona/, Spain
Global Summit on the Physical Activity of Children: Active Living Research Conference	February 26-March 1, 2017	Clearwater Beach, Florida.
Ultrasound Guided Interventions for Rheumatologists	February 1-12, 2017	Ottawa, Ontario
10th Annual RWCS Meeting, The Premier International Academic Rheumatology Meeting	February 15-18, 2017	Maui, Hawaii, USA
4 <sup>th</sup> RA International Course	February 23-25, 2017	Florence, Italy
European Workshop for Rheumatology Research	March 2-4, 2017	Athens, Greece
2017 Sports Medicine Winter Summit	March 8-12, 2017	Park City, Utah, USA
Endocrinology and Rheumatology: The Most Useful Topics from Two Specialities	March 13-17, 2017	Sarasota, Florida, USA
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting	March 14-18, 2017	San Diego, California
Orthopaedic Research Society Annual Meeting	March 19- 22, 2017	San Diego, California
Ontario Physiotherapy Association - InterACTION	March 31-April 1, 2017	Toronto, ON
The Joint Affair gala in Honour of Dr. Anthony S. Russell by The Arthritis Society	March 27, 2017	Edmonton, Alberta
OARSI World Congress	April 27- 30, 2017	Las Vegas, United States
Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America AGM	May 3-6, 2017	Barcelona, Spain
The Arthritis Society Walk to Fight Arthritis	June 4, 2017	Toronto, Ontario
Canadian Orthopaedic Association Annual Meeting	June 15-18, 2017	Ottawa, Ontario

### ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA

With more than 30 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](mailto:jcoish@arthritisalliance.ca) or visit our website: [www.arthritisalliance.ca](http://www.arthritisalliance.ca)