

Student Research News e-bulletin

March 12, 2021

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Events

Upcoming Events:

07-May-21 9:00-12:30am (Virtual)

Virtual Brain Health Symposium- “Traumatic Brain Injury”

Traumatic brain injury. Speakers: Dr. Shelina Babul, PhD, University of British Columbia, Dr. John Leddy, MD, University at Buffalo, Dr. Naznin Virji-Babul, PT, PhD, University of British Columbia. 30-minute panel Q&A with all speakers.

07-May-2021 10:00am-11:00pm (Virtual)

Five Days in May: Where to go next: How the current pandemic has informed future public health research priorities

Presented Dr. Réka Gustafson (Vice President, Public Health and Wellness, PHSA and Deputy Provincial Health Officer) moderated by Cindy Trytten (Director of Research and Capacity Building, Island Health)

This presentation will look at the current and emerging priorities in public health research in BC. COVID-19 has highlighted the importance of health research for informing health care and health policies. Research evidence specific to COVID has informed various aspects of the public health response and identified ongoing public health challenges. Learn what was known from past pandemic responses, what was unique with COVID-19, and how that has shaped current public health research priorities. See [website](#) for details.

07-May-2021 3:00pm-4:00pm (Virtual)

Five Days in May: Relational Roots of Indigenous COVID Research

Presented by Dr. Danièle Behn-Smith (Deputy Provincial Health Officer, Indigenous Health, Ministry of Health) and Dr. Charlotte Loppie (Professor in the School of Public Health and Social Policy and Associate Dean-Research for the Faculty of Human and Social Development, University of Victoria; Nominated Principal Investigator, British Columbia Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research); moderated by Dr. Diane Sawchuck (Lead, Evidence, Evaluation, and Knowledge Translation, Island Health)

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In this talk, we will engage in a form of visiting to share our thoughts and perspectives about the vital role relationship plays in research involving Indigenous Peoples. We will use the recent surge of Indigenous COVID research as an example of the critical role of established, meaningful relationships in facilitating rapid research opportunities. We will also describe how the absence of pre-existing relationships can lead to distrust and lack of motivation to engage in research partnerships. See [website](#) for details.

10-May-2021 5:30-6:30pm (Virtual)

UBC MD/PhD “Building Bridges” Seminar Series

Invited speaker: Dr. Michael Hayden, University Killam Professor, Department of Medical Genetics, UBC
Dr. Michael Hayden’s research focus is primarily on genetic diseases, including gene therapy, Huntington disease, predictive and personalized medicine and drug development. Along with his research team, Dr. Hayden has identified 10 disease-causing genes, which includes the identification of the major gene underlying high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in humans. This gene, known as ABCA1, has major implications for atherosclerosis and diabetes. Dr. Hayden also identified the first mutations underlying lipoprotein lipase deficiency (LPL) and developed gene therapy approaches to treat this condition, the first approved gene therapy in the western world. The ultimate goal of Dr. Hayden’s research in HD is to develop new therapies that slow down or reverse progression of HD and lead to preventative therapy for pre-symptomatic individuals. Dr. Hayden will talk about his career as a clinician scientist and what he would recommend for clinician scientists trainees.

12-May-2021 11:00am-12:00pm (Virtual)

Five Days in May: In a pandemic and beyond: Engaging patients as partners for hospital at home

Presented by Dr. Sean Spina (Principal Investigator of AT-HOME; Co-Lead of Hospital at Home Evaluation; Clinical Coordinator, Department of Pharmacy, Island Health); and Beth Bourke, Patient Partner for Hospital at Home; moderated by Tara McMillan (Manager of Patient and Public Research Engagement and Regional Centre Lead, BC SUPPORT Unit Vancouver Island Centre). In fall 2020, Island Health debuted a prototype of a Hospital at Home (HaH) program based at Victoria General Hospital. HaH allows for a subset of acutely ill, clinically stable patients to choose a safe and effective alternative to traditional facility based in-patient treatment. HaH patients have 24/7 access to treatment, diagnostics, and hospital-level expertise from the comfort of their own home. HaH puts patients first, and includes patient engagement as an integral part of program design, implementation, and evaluation. Launched during the pandemic, HaH can keep beds free in case of future surges in COVID-19 and help ease the additional strain placed on the hospital system. This presentation will discuss the use of Patient Oriented Research during a pandemic, the patient and public engagement methods to inform its design and evaluation, and outline the integral role of patients and families within this program.

14-May-21 9:00-12:30am (Virtual)

Virtual Brain Health Symposium- “Physical Environment”

Physical environment. Speakers: Dr. Payam Dadvand, MD, PhD, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Dr. Michael Brauer, ScD, University of British Columbia, Dr. Andrea Rosso, MPH, PhD, University of Pittsburgh. 30-minute panel Q&A with all speakers.

15-May-2021 8:00am-3:45pm (Virtual)

2021 Virtual Brain Tumour Research Symposium

Our virtual lab tours will put attendees directly into the laboratories of change-makers in the pediatric brain tumour research field. We have three virtual lab tours, including: Dr. Sheila Singh Lab – McMaster University (Hamilton, ON) “The Singh Lab Brain Tumour Research Program” Dr. Marshall Pitz Lab – CancerCare Manitoba (Winnipeg, MB) “A day in the life of a data scientist” Dr. Lisa Porter Lab – University of Windsor (Windsor, ON) “Discovering New Treatments for Glioma Lab Tour”. PRESENTERS: Dr. Derek Tsang – “Re-irradiation for childhood brain tumours”; Dr. Vijay Ramaswamy – “What is ependymoma in 2021?”

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17-May-2021 10:00am-11:00am (Virtual)

Five Days in May: Building a knowledge enterprise for long term care in British Columbia

Presented by Dr. Kelli Stajduhar (Professor, School of Nursing; Research Fellow, Institute and Aging and Lifelong Health, University of Victoria); moderated by Dr. Miranda Cary (Regional Practice Lead in Research and Knowledge Translation in Long Term Care, Island Health)

The BC COVID-19 Strategic Research Advisory Committee (SRAC) was established to serve as a bridge between the Provincial Health Officer, government decision-makers and the BC health research community with regard to COVID-19 research. This presentation will outline findings from the SCRAC's Long Term Care Working Group. It will highlight why now, more than ever, we need to build capacity for research in the sector if we are to avoid the unintended consequences that were brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and allow us to better prepare for pandemics of the future.

17-May-2021 3:00pm-4:00pm (Virtual)

Five Days in May: Can asking just one question inform better responses to the current drug-poisoning emergency?

Presented by Dr. Bernie Pauly (Scholar in Residence, Island Health; Professor, School of Nursing; Scientist, Canadian Institute for Substance Use; Community Engaged Scholar, University of Victoria) and Fred Cameron (Community Researcher, Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research; Operations Coordinator and Harm Reduction Manager, SOLID Outreach Society; Patient Council, BC Support Unit)

In light of the growing complexity of the drug-poisoning emergency in an evolving pandemic, we asked service users the following question: "Safer Supply would work well if..." We used the process of community-based concept mapping to answer this question through a series of focus groups with people who are potential service users. The outcome was a model of Effective Safer Supply from the perspective of people with lived and living expertise. The model includes six key components with more than 65 potential actions or strategies generated from a service user perspective. The Effective Safer Supply model provides valuable insight on harm reduction during dual public health crisis.

18-May-2021 8:00am-3:45pm (Virtual) Deadline to register is May 15, 2021

10th Annual Norman Bethune Symposium

We have a fabulous program this year, with speakers from across the world! Some of the highlights: Keynote presentations on advances in patient blood management, challenges in trauma-induced bleeding, blood type and COVID-19 risk, disorders of RBC metabolism, new approaches in blood products, and blood products in traumatic brain injury. Lots of opportunities for presentations by students and trainees... from anywhere in the world! A draft event program is available [here](#). Please revisit the page for program updates.

20-May-2021 10:00am-11:00am (Virtual)

Five Days in May: Clinical Trials and a Learning Health System During a Pandemic

Presented by Dr. Srinivas Murthy (Clinical Associate Professor, University of British Columbia; Chair, Pandemic Preparedness Research, Health Research Foundation of Innovative Medicines Canada; Co-chair, Clinical Research Committee on COVID-19, World Health Organization); moderated by Cindy Trytten (Director of Research and Capacity Building, Island Health)

Celebrate International Clinical Trials Day with us! Dr. Srinivas Murthy, who is currently leading CATCO, the Canadian arm of the World Health Organization's Solidarity clinical trial to help find an effective treatment for COVID-19, shares his insights on clinical trials with us. In this presentation, Dr. Murthy explains pragmatic clinical trial design, discusses the need for learning health systems during a pandemic, and shares how clinical trials and clinical care can overlap and intersect.

20-May-2021 11:00am-12:30pm (Virtual)

Five Days in May: Clinical Trials: Stops, Pivots & Strides during a Pandemic

Presented by Fiona Auld (Clinical Research Nurse, Island Health); Deborah Parfett (Clinical Research Coordinator, Island Health); Andrea Cameron (Clinical Research Nurse, Island Health); Gayle Carney (Clinical Research Nurse, Island Health); Jenna Winder (Clinical Research Nurse, Island Health); Sheilah Frost (Manager, Clinical Research, Island Health)

Celebrate International Clinical Trials Day with us! The current global pandemic created an urgent need for clinical trials to offer potential treatment options for Covid-19 patients. The Island Health Research Department responded quickly to divert

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priorities, initiate and expand access to COVID-19 trials while continuing participant-focus on those enrolled in non-COVID trials. In this presentation, we will discuss the strategies, challenges and successes throughout this experience.

20-May-2021 1:00pm-2:00pm (Virtual)

Five Days in May: The Latest Developments in COVID-19 Vaccine Research

Presented by Dr. Julie Bettinger (Investigator, BC Children's Hospital; Associate Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases, Vaccine Evaluation Center, Dept. of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia) and Dr. Manish Sadarangani (Investigator, BC Children's Hospital; Director, Vaccine Evaluation Center, BC Children's Hospital; Sauder Family Chair, Pediatric Infectious Diseases, University of British Columbia; Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia); moderated by Cindy Trytten (Director of Research and Capacity Building, Island Health). Celebrate International Clinical Trials Day with us! Hear from leading vaccine researchers about the latest developments in major COVID-19 vaccine studies.

20-May-2021 1:00pm-2:00pm (Virtual)

Five Days in May: Anticipate Eight: Updates for Good Clinical Practice in 2021

Presented by Jean Smart (Regulatory Affairs and Quality Officer, Clinical Trials BC and Privacy Officer, BC Academic Health Science Network) and Tracy Wong (Research Compliance Facilitator, Island Health)
Celebrate International Clinical Trials Day with us! Tracy Wong and Jean Smart have paired up to present the source of the next big Regulatory Compliance wave. A lively coffee table talk which will highlight the compliance changes and the impact E8R1 will bring to Clinical trials.

21-May-2021 10:00am-5:00pm EST (Virtual)

International Cardiovascular Student Research Symposium

Brown University Alpert Medical School and Yale Biological and Biomedical Science students are hosting the first established Cardiovascular Student Research Symposium (CSRS). The conference will take place **from 10am to 5pm EST on Friday, May 21st**. **Signup to Attend:** Throughout the day, there will be three Brown University and Yale University guest speakers who are global leaders in the field: **10am EST Dr. Frank W. Sellke, 1:30pm EST Dr. Alexandra Lansky, 4pm EST Dr. Athena Poppas**. Please sign up to receive the zoom information for these three guest speaker events.
To learn more about the 2021 conference signup, coordinators, and guest speakers, please visit: cardioresearchsymposium.squarespace.com

27-May-2021 10:00am-11:00am (Virtual)

Five Days in May: Pathways to Mental Health: Community and Connection during COVID and Beyond

Presented by Dr. Shannon Dames (Nursing Professor and Resilience Researcher, Vancouver Island University; Director, Roots to Thrive- Ketamine assisted Therapy Program); moderated by Dr. Uta Sbotto-Frankenstein (Research Navigator for Mid- to North-Island, BC SUPPORT Unit Vancouver Island Centre.)
Given high rates of occupational stress, health care workers can be prone to burnout. As COVID continues to place additional strain on care providers, it is critical to highlight the need for care providers to also care for themselves. Dr. Dames developed Roots to Thrive-Ketamine Assisted Therapy (RTT-KAT), an innovative program that combines community and connection with psychedelic-assisted therapy. RTT-KAT helps health care workers develop resilience by cultivating factors that mitigate stress and promote thriving.

27-May-2021 10:00am-11:00am (Virtual)

Five Days in May: REDCap™ to the Rescue: How a Tool for Research Supported Pandemic Response and Recovery

Presented by Cheryl Armstrong (Consultant for Medicine Quality, Island Health), Tammi Larkin (Process Improvement Consultant, Island Health), Jennifer Wade (Prevention Team Leader in Occupational Health & Safety, Island Health); moderated by Victor Espinosa (Manager of Research Informatics & Statistics, Island Health)
REDCap™ is the preferred data platform for researchers due to its advanced and flexible reporting capability. When the pandemic forced a quick shutdown of services, REDCap™ became a crucial tool in Island Health's pandemic response and

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recovery. REDCap™ allowed teams rapidly collect, manage, and learn from data to improve outcomes of healthcare services for patients and to ensure the health of the Island's population during a pandemic. REDCap™ has supported over sixty different COVID-19 management initiatives at Island Health. In this presentation, learn how Island Health leaders mobilized REDCap™ to manage the restart of services in ambulatory care, track and distribute PPE stock, evaluate virtual visits in acute settings, and facilitate daily wellness and safety checks for staff.

Ongoing Events:

Date	Time	Where	Affiliation
Mondays	12:00pm-1:00pm	Virtual	Comparative Physiology Invited Speaker Seminar Department of Zoology
Wednesdays	4:00pm-5:00pm	Virtual	Evening Comparative Physiology Seminar Department of Zoology
Wednesdays	12:00pm-1:00pm	Virtual	Biodiversity Research Seminar Series Department of Zoology
Wednesdays	11:00am-12:00pm	Virtual	Centre for Blood Research Virtual Seminar Series Centre for Blood Research
Wednesdays	8:00am-10:00am	Virtual	Neuroscience Grand Rounds Schedule Department of Neurology
Thursdays	12:45pm-1:45pm	Virtual	Cellular & Physiological Sciences Departmental Seminars Cellular & Physiological Sciences Departmental Seminars
Fridays	3:30pm-5:00pm	Virtual	Research Seminars and Colloquia Department of Language Sciences
Fridays	11:00am-12:00pm	Virtual	Neuroscience Research Colloquium Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health
Fridays	4:00pm-5:00pm	Virtual	BLISS: Biodiversity Legendary Internal Seminar Series Department of Zoology

Other Research Opportunities

New Announcements:

[Canadian Society of Palliative Care Physicians \(CSPCP\)- call for submissions](#)

Application deadline: May 14th, 2021

The Canadian Society of Palliative Care Physicians (CSPCP) is pleased to announce the Call for Submissions for the 2021 Undergraduate Narrative Award for Palliative Medicine. The CSPCP offers this award as a way to stimulate undergraduate medical students to think and reflect creatively about the multifaceted aspects of palliative medicine and caring at the end of life. The award is open to all undergraduate medical students in the penultimate year (Year 3) of their program. Submit your narratives by May 14, 2021. Please check the award purpose, criteria, and submission instructions carefully! Details are in the link above.