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ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA Arthritis Alliance of Canada 2018 Research Awards Program

Stay tuned for the “Call for Applications” to arrive in your inbox during the week of May 1-4, 2018!

Please be reminded that this round will announce 7 awards: **Master Student, PhD Student, Post-doctoral Fellow, Early Career Researcher, Knowledge Translation in Practice, Knowledge Translation in Science/Research and Patient for Active Engagement in Arthritis Research.**

The news is that the **Early Career Researcher Award** will now include two sub-categories: **1) Basic science** and **2) Clinical/applied science.**

2018 Research Awards Program application deadlines:

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| Call for Applications: | Week of May 1-4, 2018 |
| Applications Due: | Tuesday, June 26, 2018 |
| Applications Review Process: | July-September 2018 |
| Announcement of Award Recipients: | AAC 2018 Annual Meeting, November 22 nd (Toronto, ON) |



Summarizing Great Work!

We are counting days before the release of the *Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC)*'s *special edition* in the *Spring 2018 publication of the Canadian Rheumatology Association Journal (CRAJ)*.

The published work will summarise tremendous efforts that have taken place in the development and implementation of Inflammatory Arthritis (IA) and Osteoarthritis (OA) models of care over the years; and present examples of successful models of care adopted across Canada. It will also highlight collaboration with AAC's community and partners on initiatives and quality improvement projects in models of care, research and advocacy. The 17-page summary of these significant accomplishments will also include recognition from the Minister of Health, The Honorable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, in Minister's Message to all AAC stakeholders and community.

The release of the special edition (in English & French) is expected during the first two weeks of April 2-16; AAC articles will be available in PDF format and as online version.

We would like you, our members and community, to join us in promoting the AAC published work in the CRAJ publication through your communication and social media channels. Stay tuned for our announcement and promotional materials to come out during the first two weeks of April and help us to share this special edition!



ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA 2018 Annual Meeting-SAVE THE DATE

We are happy to announce that this year, the Arthritis Alliance of Canada is hosting its 6th Annual Meeting in partnership with Arthritis Society and CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis. The meeting will be taking place on **Thursday-Friday, November 22-23, 2018 at the Sheraton Center Downtown Toronto Hotel.**

Save the date!

Annual Meeting

ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA



November 22–23, 2018
SHERATON CENTRE TORONTO HOTEL
TORONTO, ONTARIO

In partnership with
The Arthritis Society
and
CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal
Health and Arthritis



We look forward to your participation and engagement in Toronto!

MEMBER'S CORNER

ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

ACE is searching for the next Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis

We did it! Canadian employers, working with their private health insurers and advisors, are increasingly looking for ways to promote patient-focused prevention, treatment and management of arthritis as part of a health and wellness program for employees.



To recognize these best arthritis practices, Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) is again searching for **Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis**. Over the past four years, ACE's Best Workplaces program has received more than 190 submissions, representing a total employee population of approximately 400,000.

ACE analyzes company practices and programs compared to other candidate companies based on criteria such as arthritis literacy, physical workplace adaptability, drug plan policy, flexible hours and extended health benefit plans. Employers and employees are encouraged to submit applications. The deadline for applications is May 31, 2018 and winners will be announced in September 2018 during Arthritis Awareness Month in Canada.

To find out more information, please [click here](#). To determine if your company is eligible for **Canada's Best Workplaces for Employees Living with Arthritis program**, please visit: jointhealth.org.

ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION

Congratulations to Our Awardees!

The Arthritis Health Professions Association (AHPA) was pleased to join the CRA for the 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia. This year marked the occasion of our 10th annual Pre-Course for arthritis health professionals with over 100 attendees. The 2018 AHPA Board of Directors includes AHPA President Sue MacQueen, Leslie Soever, Lynne Broderick, Sameer Chunara, Jackie Williams-Connolly, Jill Hall, Denise Jupp, Rashmi Mandhane, Angelo Papachristos, Leanna Souza-Barros, Raquel Sweezie, and Jennifer Boyle, volunteer webmaster.

At the Annual General Meeting, several awards were presented including Lifetime Achievement Award to Terri Lupton for her significant contributions to AHPA and her efforts to enhance the lives of people living with arthritis. Jennifer Boyle, longstanding volunteer webmaster was presented with the Extraordinary Service Award at the CRA Gala for her invaluable support in furthering the vision and mission of AHPA.

Congratulations to Terri and Jennifer on their well-deserved awards!



Leslie Soever and Terri Lupton



Leslie Soever and Jennifer Boyle



New Research Findings on Pregnancy and Biologic Use

New research done by Arthritis Research Canada's research scientist Dr. Mary De Vera and trainee Nicole Tsao found that using biologic therapy to manage autoimmune diseases before and during pregnancy is not associated with an increased risk of pre-term delivery or small-for-gestational-age births.

The study is reassuring for women with inflammatory arthritis who are pregnant or trying to become pregnant, as staying on biologic treatment will allow them to maintain control of their disease throughout pregnancy. The full study was published in the Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases, the number one journal in rheumatology.

Arthritis Research Canada Scientist Named Woman Leader in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)

Dr. Mary De Vera, Research Scientist of Pharmacoepidemiology and Canada Research Chair in medication adherence, was honoured in the 2018 Budget as a Woman Leader in STEM. Dr. De Vera's research is focused on medication adherence, and seeks to identify ways to support patients in taking their medication as well as generate evidence on the risks and benefits. Congratulations to Dr. De Vera for receiving this honour!

Arthritis Research Canada Participates at the Canadian Rheumatology Association Scientific Meeting

Arthritis Research Canada scientists and trainees were well represented at the Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting in Vancouver in February. Highlights include Dr. Linda Li, Senior Scientist, who was one of two keynote speakers at the conference, presenting about technology and e-health methods. Further presentations included scientists Drs. Kam Shojania, Aslam Anis, and Nick Bansback, along with affiliate scientist Dr. Mark Harrison. Arthritis Research Canada trainees also participated with poster presentations highlighting the patient-researcher relationships and patient engagement.

ARTHRITIS SOCIETY: NATIONAL OFFICE

Arthritis Forum

The Arthritis Forum is returning to Montreal! The 5th edition of this one-of-a-kind event will be held on Saturday, November 10, 2018 at the Palais des congrès de Montréal. Our team at the Arthritis Society is planning an exciting event with 30 seminars and workshops, including webcasts, satellite events and of course a trade show. Follow us on [Facebook](#) or keep an eye on our e-newsletter for registration information!



Arthritis Connects Symposium Series

The Arthritis Society was welcomed into four cities around British Columbia as part of our Arthritis Connects Symposium Series. Starting in Penticton last Fall, and followed by Victoria, Prince George and Vancouver, a panel of medical and allied healthcare professionals engaged with audiences through presentations, discussion, and question and answer sessions. Available both as an in-person event and as a live-stream webinar, participants had the opportunity to interact and have dialogue around chosen topics. Each unique symposium was directly shaped by the needs and requests expressed by people in the community. Speakers included rheumatologists, social workers, pharmacists, registered nurses and more. The range of topics discussed included arthritis care and mental health, to pregnancy and arthritis, and navigating and accessing arthritis related services.

Arthritis Society webcast forum to focus on pain

A leading pain expert from Australia will discuss the science behind chronic pain at an upcoming Webcast Forum offered by the Arthritis Society. Lorimer Moseley, PhD, of the University of South Australia will speak at the Amazing Pain Facts that will Change Your Life Forum Monday, May 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. MDT in Calgary and streamed online. This free event is offered in partnership with the Calgary Pain Education Foundation and the University of Calgary's Continuing Medical Education Office. Other speakers include Terry Kane, Physiotherapist, and Dr. Al-Noor Mawani, Clinical Psychologist. This event is made possible through the generous support of Alberta Blue Cross.

DATE: Monday, May 7, 2018

TIME: 6:30-8:30 pm MDT/CST • 7:30-9:30 pm CDT

LIVE LOCATION: MacEwan Conference and Event Centre, University of Calgary

ONLINE VIEWING: Webcast link will be emailed to pre-registered attendees

REGISTRATION: <https://arthritisocietypainforum.eventbrite.ca>

Canadian Spondylitis Association takes on co-morbidities – invitation to share information to your members!



Highlighted by conversations with individuals living with or affected by Spondyloarthritis (SpA), awareness of co-morbidities is low and something not regularly addressed. Those diagnosed with SpA are at an increased risk of developing certain co-morbidities. These co-morbidities along with the SpA diagnosis add complexities to treatment and negatively impact patient outcomes. Together we can do better. The CSA has launched a survey to learn more about the co-morbidities the spondyloarthritic community experiences.

We invite our community partners to share this invitation to complete this short survey to their memberships who live with Ankylosing Spondylitis, Psoriatic Arthritis, Axial SpA, Entropathic Arthritis, Reactive Arthritis or Juvenile idiopathic arthritis to participate. We will be partnering with patient groups to bring co-morbidity education to our membership. The survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/co-morbidities>.

WESTERN'S BONE AND JOINT HEALTH INSTITUTE

3rd Biennial Canadian Bone & Joint Conference - May 11-12, 2018

The Biennial Canadian Bone and Joint Conference will be hosted by Western University's Bone and Joint Institute in partnership with the Canadian MSK Rehab Research Network on the picturesque Western University Campus in London Ontario. With plenary sessions by **Dr. Frank Barry, Dr. Farshid Guilak, Dr. Karim Kahn**, and many more, conference themes include:

- Basic Biological & Biomedical Advances in MSK Health
- Innovations in Physical Sciences & Engineering Research
- Improving MSK Health through Clinical, Community & Health Services Research
- MSK Research to Enhance Lifelong Mobility
- Novel Wearable Technology Solutions for MSK Rehabilitation

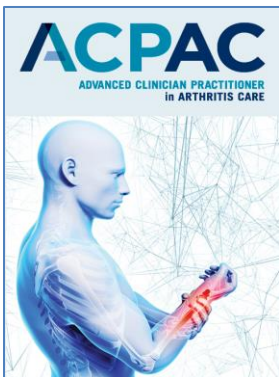


Preceded by the *Canadian Bone & Joint Young Investigator Forum* on May 10, 2018.

CBJC Gala Banquet - May 11, 2018 at 6:30 pm with Special Guest: **Robert Buren**. Registration is [OPEN](#).

Community Updates

THE ADVANCED CLINICIAN PRACTITIONER IN ARTHRITIS CARE PROGRAM



Apply Now for the 2018–2019 ACPAC Program!

ACPAC is a hybrid academic and clinical post-licensure level training program designed to prepare experienced physical therapists, occupational therapists, and nurses for extended practice roles in the diagnosis and management of patients with arthritis.

The program promotes the development of innovative models of care and will help you to improve patient outcomes. 100% of our graduates have been satisfied with the program and found the content extremely relevant to their practice.

The application deadline is **Wednesday, May 30, 2018**. Apply online at: www.acpacprogram.ca!

Stand Up and Be Counted Too (2) Survey!

ATTENTION: All Allied Health Professionals (including Educators, Researchers, Administrators and Clinicians) Involved in the Delivery of Advanced/Specialist Arthritis Care Across Canada: [Stand Up and Be Counted Too! Survey](#).

We are approaching you to consider participating in an important study which aims to characterize the practising allied health professional workforce involved in the delivery of specialized arthritis/musculoskeletal care in Canada. This effort complements the recently published work of Dr. Claire Barber MD (Rheumatologist) and her colleagues in a study which characterized the practising Rheumatologist workforce entitled "[Stand Up and Be Counted: Measuring and Mapping the Rheumatology Workforce in Canada](#)".

It is an objective of the present study to capture the broader base of non-physician health professional specialists important to the circle of arthritis care service delivery across Canada. The ultimate goal will be to identify certain characteristics of *all* practitioners invested in advanced, extended or specialist roles in the arthritis care field so that the full spectrum of arthritis care services is better appreciated, and ultimately better networked, in Canada. This information is critical for stakeholders including patients, ministries of health, health professional regulatory bodies, and advocacy groups. We encourage you to participate in this [survey](#) which should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. *Please feel free to forward this survey to anyone for whom this may be of relevance.* The deadline for participation in this survey is **Wednesday, April 11, 2018**.

We thank you in advance for helping us measure and explore the characteristics of the allied health professional workforce involved in arthritis care across Canada. In case you have questions or need clarification, please contact [Katie Landon](#), Lead, Stand Up and Be Counted Too (2).

CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA 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 CANRAD Network Meeting during the 2018 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting in Vancouver, BC and we will be organizing a CANRAD Network Webinar this winter! For more information pertaining to our webinars or all other information concerning the CANRAD Network, please contact at 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. We are currently working with several enhanced cohorts, including PiMS, CATCH, CanHepC and GENESIS-PRAXY, as well as responding to a number of queries from Health Canada. Our team has collaborated with DSECT's webinar series; we encourage you to participate in the very informative sessions. For information on our queries, on our upcoming webinars or for more information on our team, please contact at autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.



Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre

Interesting research projects are underway at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre, led by rheumatologist Dr. Evelyne Vinet. To improve strategies for health professionals counselling pregnant women with rheumatic disease, her team is conducting a focus group study assessing the clinical and psychosocial needs, barriers, and facilitators to pregnancy counselling in women with RA and SLE. She is also building the Lupus prEGnAnCY (LEGACY) cohort, a large, multi-centre, international prospective cohort of SLE pregnancies, to evaluate adverse pregnancy outcomes, their predictors, and potential preventive therapies. More recently, Dr. Vinet was awarded a 2-year operating grant by the Canadian Initiative for Outcomes Research in Arthritis (CIORA) to conduct a randomized controlled trial assessing an educational tool for improving preeclampsia knowledge in pregnant women with SLE.



Calendar of Events

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| World Congress on Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases 2018 | April 19-22, 2018 | Krakow, Poland |
| Canadian Chiropractic Association National Convention and Tradeshow | April 27-29, 2018 | Calgary, Alberta |
| British Society for Rheumatology Annual Conference 2018 | May 1-3, 2018 | Liverpool, United Kingdom |
| 3rd Biennial Canadian Bone & Joint Conference | May 11-12, 2018 | London, Ontario |
| International Congress on Autoimmunity | May 16-20, 2018 | Lisbon, Portugal |
| ARthritis Soirée 2018 | May 17, 2018 | Vancouver, British Columbia |
| 25th Annual European Congress on Obesity (ECO2018) | May 23 - 26, 2018 | Vienna, Austria |
| Canadian Academy of Sport and Exercise Medicine (CASEM) Annual Symposium | June 5-9, 2018 | Halifax, Nova Scotia |
| EULAR 2018 | June 13-16, 2018 | Amsterdam, Netherlands |
| Course on Sonoguided Interventions and Procedures in Musculoskeletal Diseases CAOT Conference 2018 | September 12-14, 2018 | Barcelona, Spain |
| 2018 Cochrane Colloquium | September 16-18, 2018 | Edinburgh, UK |
| 2018 Canadian Orthopedic Association Annual Meeting | June 20-23, 2018 | Victoria, British Columbia |
| Canadian Academy of Occupational Therapists (CAOT) Conference 2018 | June 20-23, 2018 | Vancouver, British Columbia |
| CRA Canada Night in Chicago | October 22, 2018 | Chicago, Illinois |
| Canadian Obesity Network 7th Conference on Recent Advances in the Prevention and Treatment of Childhood and Adolescent Obesity | October 24-26, 2018 | Calgary, Alberta |
| Canadian Physiotherapy Association Congress, Palais des congrès de Montréal | November 1-3, 2018 | Montreal, Quebec |
| World Congress on Controversies, Debates and Consensus in Bone, Muscle and Joint Diseases (BMJD) | November 8-10, 2018 | Bangkok, Thailand |
| Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) 2018 Annual Meeting | November 22-23, 2018 | Toronto, Ontario |

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: Lina Gazizova at lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca or visit our website: www.arthritisalliance.ca.