

Research & Performance Support News

Volume 2, Issue 2

July 2006

Research & Performance Support

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What's New in Research?

Drugs, Devices and Procedures – Getting What You Need

On June 8th 2006, Research & Performance Support (RPS), in partnership with the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Health (CADTH), sponsored a successful one-day workshop on Health Technology Assessment (HTA).



Brendalynn Ens, CADTH Liaison Officer for Saskatchewan, welcomes participants.

Workshop facilitators, Drs. Larry Lynd and Carlo Marro from the University of British Columbia, introduced key principles underlying health economics and economic evaluation. Economic evaluation in healthcare focuses on the increasing pressures administrators and third party payers face when making decisions about which new technologies should be adopted or funded. Although this decision-making process is multi-faceted, increasingly HTAs and economic analyses are being used to help inform those making policy-related decisions.

To receive a copy of the workshop materials, please contact RPS (766-5451).

New Addition to Research and Performance Support

RPS welcomes Research Associate, Jenifer Rodenbush, to the team. Jenifer has extensive experience with qualitative research methods, and a particular specialization in the areas of population health and role quality analysis. Her recent research initiatives have

focused on work-place wellness policies and home and work life balance. We are pleased to have her join our team. Jenifer can be reached at 766-5533.



Research Spotlight

Grenfell Researcher Completes Multi-Region Primary Health Care Study

Heather Dorgan, manager of Rural Community Health, in collaboration with researchers from the Chinook and Prairie North Health Regions, recently published the report *Community Participation in Primary Health Care - Understanding Activities and Processes that Support Positive Community Involvement*. The report highlights key findings from her study conducted as part of the two-year, SEARCH (Swift Efficient Application of Research in Community Health) Program.



Heather's research uncovered several prerequisites for encouraging community involvement in primary health care. Some of these included improving access to public resources such as physical space, work tools, and health facilities, and strengthening the ability for individuals to make social connections through the support and mentoring of others. These environments empower individuals to act as brokers between Primary Health Care centres and the community, while assisting in the overall goal of supporting communities in improving their own health.

Congratulations Heather!

We're on the Web!
www.medi-fax.com/rhd/crdp

"Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought"

~Albert Szent-Gyorgyi
(Nobel Prize for Medicine, 1937)

REMINDER

If you would like to receive this newsletter, or more copies of it for your organization, please let us know.

We welcome letters, contributions, and story ideas. Contact Linda Picot: Phone: (306) 766-5451, Fax: (306) 766-5530, E-mail: linda.picot@rqhealth.ca



Research in the Region

A summary of research projects approved by the RQHR Research Ethics Board between March 1, 2006 and June 26, 2006.

Prescribing and monitoring of warfarin during the transition of care from the hospital to the community. *Investigators:* A Reaume, L Sulz, A Marcil; Dr. W Semchuk; Pharmacy Services.

Wegener's granulomatosis and cardiac manifestations. *Investigator:* Dr. J FitzGerald, Internal Medicine.

A survey to assess quality of life after radiation therapy of prostate cancer patients treated at Saskatchewan Cancer Agency (SCA) and review of retrospective data. *Investigator:* Dr. K Jones Joseph; ABCC.

Electronic Schizophrenia Treatment Adherence Registry (e-STAR) Study. *Investigator:* Dr. D Nataraian; Psychiatry.

Extension of the OASIS 5 Timing of Intervention substudy for patients included after enrollment to the main OASIS 5 study ends: An international randomized trial of early versus delayed invasive strategies in patients with non-ST segment elevation acute coronary syndromes. *Investigator:* Dr. R Zimmermann; Cardiology.

A multicenter, double-blind, randomized study to establish the clinical benefit and safety of Vytorin (Ezetimibe/Simvastatin tablet) vs Simvastatin monotherapy in high-risk subjects presenting with acute coronary syndrome (IMPROVED Reduction of Outcomes: Vytorin Efficacy International Trial - IMPROVE IT). *Investigators:* Drs. R Zimmermann and R Mikhail; Cardiology.

Merkel cell carcinoma of the skin. *Investigator:* Dr. P Tai; ABCC.

Core stability and cognitive intervention: A pilot project for children with developmental coordination disorder. *Investigators:* K Kane, L McFetridge, and J Sluser; Physical therapy.

Qualitative evaluation of a Continuity of Care Checklist. *Investigators:* Dr. H Hadjistavropoulos, S Garratt, and K Spice; U of R Psychology and SWADD.

Aqueous humour penetration of the fourth generation fluoroquinolone antibiotics in eyes undergoing cataract surgery: A follow-up study to determine if increasing the concentration of the antibiotics in the wick improves its penetration. *Investigator:* Dr. L Ong-Tone; Ophthalmology.

Comparison of the effects noted in the ApoB/ApoA-I ratio using rosuvastatin and atorvastatin in patients with acute coronary syndrome. *Investigators:* Drs. R Zimmermann and G Garbe; Cardiology.

Carotid endarterectomy: Are two surgeons better than one? *Investigators:* Drs. D Kopriva, N Thakur and D McCarville; Surgery.

Validity of the nutrition screening tool implemented at the DAC. *Investigators:* R Nasser, M Koshinsky, G Garcia, and B Simpkins; Nutrition & Food Services.

Outcome research for prostate cancer surgery. *Investigators:* Drs. P Tai, E Tse, and D Mapiour; ABCC.

Canadian dietitian preceptors perceived knowledge, skills and training. *Investigators:* R Nasser, J Coleman, S Cook, Drs. C Morley, and S Berenbaum; Nutrition & Food Services and U of S College of Nutrition and Dietetics.

An exploratory randomized, double-masked, multi-center, multi-dose, comparative trial, in parallel groups, to explore the safety and efficacy of three different doses of intravitreal injections of pegaptanib sodium given every 6 weeks for 102 weeks, in subjects with subfoveal, neovascular age-related macular degeneration (AMD). *Investigators:* Drs. R Garcia and D Avram; Ophthalmology.

A review of ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysms: The Regina experience. *Investigators:* Dr. D Kopriva, N Peti, and Dr. D McCarville; Surgery.

Prognostic value of nodal ratios in node-positive breast cancer - chart review. *Investigator:* Dr. P Tai; ABCC.

Outcome research for prostate cancer. *Investigator:* Dr. K Jones Joseph; ABCC.

Birth under 29 weeks: Improving outcomes for mothers and babies. *Investigators:* Dr. G Carson and S Huber; Obstetrics/Gynecology.

Effect of a multifaceted intervention to improve venous thromboembolism prophylaxis in medical and surgical patients. *Investigator:* Dr. W Semchuk and S Poulin; Pharmacy Services.

A phase III, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, parallel group study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of 50 mg oral dosing with Neurokinin-1 receptor antagonist GW679769 for prevention of postoperative nausea and vomiting in female subjects at high risk for emesis. *Investigators:* Drs. J Dobson and S Suri; Anaesthesia.

Treatment outcome for cervical cancer. *Investigators:* Drs. ST Mahmood and R Jalil; ABCC.

Swimming Pool Operators' Course: A program evaluation. *Investigators:* L Morgan, S Hudson, and Y Graff; Environmental Health.

Clinical characteristics of children hospitalized with Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) infection in tertiary care pediatric centers in Regina and Saskatoon, 2002-2005. *Investigators:* Drs. J Bodani, K Sankaran, B Tan; Pediatrics.

The effect of a Transfer, Lifting, and Repositioning (TLR) Program on musculoskeletal injury rates among healthcare workers in selected facilities within the Saskatoon Health Region. *Investigators:* TR Black and Dr. S Shah; Occupational Health & Safety.

Cost effectiveness of outpatient total laparoscopic hysterectomy. *Investigator:* Dr. J Thiel; Obstetrics/Gynecology.