

# Research & Performance Support News

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## Research & Performance Support

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## What's New in Research?

RPS is hosting its 3rd Annual Fall **Research Lecture Series**. The lectures are available free of charge, but pre-registration is required. A brief description of each session is included on page 2. To register call 766-5451 or email us at:  
[research&performance@rqhealth.ca](mailto:research&performance@rqhealth.ca)

### Research Lecture Series WRC Auditorium (1:00—2:30 pm)

- Nov. 19 **Critically Appraising Research Articles**
- Nov. 26 **Data, Data Everywhere — and Not a Byte to Crunch!**
- Dec. 4 **The ABC's of Conducting a Chart Review**

## New Addition to Research and Performance Support



Ashlee Mulligan has joined RPS as a research assistant. Ashlee has a background in both Psychology and Women's Studies and her Honours thesis in Psychology examined the relationship be-

tween sleep disturbance, posttraumatic stress disorder, and memory recall.

We are pleased to have her join our team! Ashlee can be reached at 766-5432.

## Colleen Dell as Research Chair in Substance Abuse for the University of Saskatchewan

Colleen Dell has been awarded the new Research Chair in Substance Abuse at the University of Saskatchewan. Her research interests focus on the relationship between identity and healing from drug addiction, substance abuse programming, self-harm, and the connection between youth resiliency and inhalant abuse. Her research areas are specific to Aboriginal peoples, criminalized women and drug using populations. Dr. Dell is currently the lead on a collaborative three-year research project, in partnership with the National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation and the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, that examines the

impact of stigma in Aboriginal women's treatment for problematic drug use.

Anyone currently engaged in, or potentially interested in collaborative research in these areas is invited to contact Dr. Dell at [colleen.dell@usask.ca](mailto:colleen.dell@usask.ca) or by telephone at 306-966-5912.



### Inside this issue:

- What's New in Research 1
- Research Spotlight
- Abstracts for Fall Research Lecture Series 2

### Check-out the RPS Website!

Find all of the latest news on research, grants, knowledge exchange, and Research Ethics Board guidelines and policies on the RPS website!

<http://www.medi-fax.com/rhdlcrdp/>

## Research Spotlight

A summary of RQHR research projects approved by the Research Ethics Board between July 1, 2007 and September 30, 2007.

**A phase III, open-label study of tenecteplase for restoration of function in dysfunctional hemodialysis catheters.** Investigators: Drs. S. Karunakaran, and B. Prasad (Nephrology).

**A Prospective Randomized Trial Comparing Insulin Lispro Protamine Suspension to Insulin Glargine in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes on Anti-hyperglycemic Medication.** Investigators: Drs. P. Duffy, and H. Rehman (Internal Medicine).

**Management of ectopic pregnancy: Can improved processes improve outcome?** Investigators: Drs. C. Jabbs, C. Overli-Domes, and S. Olfert (Obstetrics and Gynecology).

**Enhanced Surveillance of Risk Behaviours among People who Inject Drugs in Canada.** Investigators: Drs. M. Hennick, C. Archibald, Choudhri, and Z. Abbas (Population and Public Health).

**What are the leadership practices in nurse managers that will retain nursing staff and promote high quality care in two provincial hospitals in Saskatchewan?** Investigator: K. Eisler (Nursing).

**A Study into the Association Between Obesity and Asthma.** Investigators: A. West, D. Burton, and A. Bell (Respiratory Services).

**Inter-professional Training Program for Child Mental Health.** Investigators: G. Curry, M. Pitzell, L. Loutzenhiser, M. Dietrich-Leurer, and K. Wright. (U of S, Community Health and Epidemiology).

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

*"Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence."*

~ John Adams (1735-1826)

## Abstracts for Fall Research Lecture Series

### Critically Appraising Research Articles

November 19

Presenter: *Elan C. Paluck*

Clinicians and policy makers are required to make evidence-informed (EI) decisions on a daily basis. Despite the frequency with which we attempt to apply the principles of EI decision making, there exist few supports for those lacking formal research training. What constitutes evidence? If it is published, is it evidence? Is all 'evidence' good?

session is to train consumers of research to critically read a quantitative research article from start to finish. Using an example from the literature, participants will be guided through the article and learn the key considerations involved in critiquing a study's *introduction, methods, results, discussion, and conclusion* sections.

One's ability to critically appraise what they are reading is essential in determining the applicability of a study's findings and the strength of the evidence provided. The purpose of this educational

Pre-reading of a research article critiqued in this session is required. Participants may obtain a copy of this article upon registration.

### Data, Data Everywhere...and Not a Byte to Crunch

November 26

A Beginners Guide on Overcoming the Trials and Tribulations to Accessing Health Care Data

Presenters: *Winanne Downey, Mary-Rose Stang, Patty Beck (Saskatchewan Health), Leeann Carr and Ali Bell (Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region)*



Whether you are trying to design a health research project, evaluate the success of a pre-existing program, or simply trying to find some interesting statistic to throw into an otherwise dull meeting, we all from time to time have a need for *data*. Knowledge of

what data are available and where to get them is an important step in the health research process. Whether you are trying to design a health research project, evaluate the success of a pre-existing program, or simply trying to find some interesting statistic to throw into an otherwise dull meeting, we all from time to time have a need for *data*. Knowledge of

#### Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this educational session, participants should be able to answer:

what data are available and where to get them is an important step in the health research process.

- What types of data are locally available to me?
- Where can I access data that are of most interest/use for my specific needs?
- How do I obtain access to data I am interested in?
- Can I combine different data sources to answer my questions?

This workshop is for anyone interested in the collection, analysis, and dissemination of health data. Some of the databases currently maintained by key health data stewards such as The Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI), Saskatchewan Health, and RQHR Health Records Depart-

### The ABC's of Conducting a Chart Review

December 4

Presenter: *Marilee Allerdings*

The purpose of this educational session is to provide a basic understanding of the purpose and process of performing chart reviews.

#### Learning Objectives

After this educational session you will know:

The key goals of this workshop are to improve your ability to determine when a chart review may be useful, and what steps you need to perform to carry out an effective review.

- The definition of a chart review
- Reasons to use a chart review
- Advantages of using a chart review
- Disadvantages of using a chart review
- Basic steps for performing a chart review (for example, how to determine sample size)