



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

December 07, 2020

#### TANSLATIONAL RESEARCH



#### Reduced stay in hospital for babies

A pan-Alberta research team developed Alberta Family Integrated Care™ (FICare) to support families to be part of their infants' care team in neonatal intensive care units (NICUs). A new study of 654 mothers and 765 infants in level II NICUs published in [BMC Pediatrics](#) finds infants' hospital stays were reduced by 2.55 days with FICare. The study highlights that the FICare group saw no increases in re-admissions or emergency department visits. The study is led by Dr. Karen Benzies, PhD, RN, Dr. Abhay Lodha, MD, and the Alberta FICare research team.



### **Study examines stress and resiliency of families**

Dr. Suzanne Tough, PhD, and colleagues from the Owerko Centre surveyed 1,300 families from May to June to investigate how they are coping during the pandemic. The team learned that the families, members of the [All Our Families Cohort](#), are experiencing reduced incomes, isolation and relationship stress. “We wanted to understand the magnitude of the disruption and how families are coping, so we can determine what resources are most needed,” says Tough. The COVID-19 Impact Study is supported by the community through the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation. [Read more](#)



### **Putting evidence into action**

Dr. Katrina Milaney, PhD, has been named one of the five research leads of a national network CanCOVID that has been working since the onset of the pandemic to support the Canadian government in its COVID-19 response. In her role, Milaney plans to address the disparities brought to light by the virus, which she says can sometimes be overlooked. “It’s important to recognize not everyone is able to mask at work, or take paid sick days, or even follow the guidelines for isolating while sick at home,” she says. [Read more](#)

## NEW MEMBER



Dr. Lawrence de Koning, PhD, is joining the Child Health Data Science Program. An associate professor in Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, Cardiac Sciences and a clinical biochemist at Alberta Precision Laboratories, Dr. de Koning investigates the use of clinical biochemistry and data science to solve problems in maternal health and all areas of pediatric medicine. He is particularly interested in laboratory quality improvement and test utilization. Welcome Dr. de Koning!

## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES



### Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Test your Concept

The VP Research team is beginning internal preparations for the next CFI round with an opportunity to Test Your Concept to offer early, constructive feedback and recommendations to teams considering this opportunity. The first set of sessions will be held before the holiday break and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. [Learn more](#)

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**BOOSTING  
COMMERCIAL SUCCESS**  
for female inventors, researchers  
and scientists



The Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) is offering to support female CSM faculty and post-docs to attend the **Flow to Fulfillment (FL2F)** workshop developed for women to take their ideas and innovations to market. The feedback from the 2020

workshop was overwhelmingly positive. If you are interested in participating, email [Dr. Pam Chu](#), Associate Dean, Professionalism, Equity and Diversity at the CSM.

### **Partnership Seed Grants**

The University Research Grants Committee (URGC) is offering seed grants to researchers to develop their applications for external funding at the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

Deadline January 15

[Learn more](#)

### **Scientific Programming Series**

Dr. Signe Bray, PhD, is offering a course on computing tools via REALISE for trainees. Everyone welcome.

January 15 – April 16 | Weekly on Fridays from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

[Learn more](#)

Visit the [ACHRI Research Training](#) for information on workshops, seminars and grants.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Child Health and Wellness Seminars**

These seminars will resume in the new year.

For all events, visit the ACHRI [calendar](#)

Pediatric Grand Rounds

Dec. 9, 8:30 - 9:30 am

Dr. Jessica Dunn, MD & Dr. Jim Kellner, MD

COVID-19 Update: What you need to know now

[Register](#)

## **CANADIAN CHILD HEALTH CLINICIAN SCIENTIST PROGRAM (CCHCSP)**

### **Certificate Eligible Sessions**

Noon - 1:30 pm

Tuesday, December 15

#### **Paper writing -**

#### **Qualitative research**

Dr. Gina Dimitropoulos, PhD

Register by emailing

[Tanya.graves-smith@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Tanya.graves-smith@albertahealthservices.ca)

## **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

*Key resources:* [Dashboard of cases on campus](#)

The Government of Alberta has declared a state of public health emergency. There are new restrictions for areas where COVID-19 is prevalent within the community

including Calgary.

[Learn more.](#)

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