COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR GRAND CHALLENGE 'BETTER BEGINNINGS'

**Baby Gianna with parents Molly & Patrick**

Gianna was born in January 2020 at 23 weeks and 6 days gestation, weighing 1 lb 6 oz. She spent 149 days in the neonatal intensive-care unit (NICU) at Foothills. Today Gianna is home with her parents who are thankful for the community’s generous support for research.
More than 40 scientists and clinical researchers at the University of Calgary have launched an unprecedented initiative to prevent, reduce and treat preterm birth—funded by $5 million in community donations through the Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation and Calgary Health Foundation. Together they will address one of the Grand Challenges of the University of Calgary Child Health and Wellness Strategy - Better Beginnings. Leads of the initiative are (from left) Dr. Amy Metcalfe, Dr. Donna Slater, and Dr. Lara Leijser. Read UToday

Calgary Sun
Global News

COVID-19 RESPONSE GUIDANCE FOR RESEARCHERS

Impact of new government COVID-19 restrictions at UCalgary
Read more

Impact on research operations at Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH)
All UCalgary faculty and staff must work from home – except under the following conditions: ACH access is required to use tools and equipment, work involves secure data and confidential information, or on-site preparation and attendance are required to deliver services to faculty, students, staff and the public.

For work performed on site, an approved COVID work plan must be in place as per the ACH research relaunch strategy. Review your work plan to make sure that staff conducting work on-site are listed, including new summer students or trainees.

On-boarding of any new undergraduate summer students should be suspended until May 25. Summer students who have completed their on-boarding should follow the same guidelines for working at home as staff members. There are remote on-boarding steps outlined specifically for ACH.

Research participants - All in-person participant research should be suspended until May 25, with the exception of studies where suspension could adversely affect the health of participants, or where time-dependent follow-up assessments must occur. In-person research visits to ACH may continue under these circumstances, in accordance with approved COVID work plans.
CIHR Banting and Best Canada Graduate Scholarship

Amelia Potter-Dickey, a doctoral student mentored by ACHRI's Dr. Nicole Letourneau and Dr. Jason de Koning, has been awarded a CIHR Banting and Best Canada Graduate Scholarship to support research on parenting and attachment in preschool children. “My research is focused on understanding the impact that children’s genotype contributes to attachment pattern development. This will advance our ability to target programs and nursing interventions to specific populations based on a child’s genotype and caregiving environments,” says Potter-Dickey. Congratulations Amelia!

Read more

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Offices of Faculty Development and Performance & Professionalism, Equity and Diversity

EDI Lunch & Learn - Creative Trans Inclusive Practices
Wednesday, May 12
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
An ambassador from Skipping Stone Foundation will identify actions that foster inclusion

Register

Office of the Associate Dean Research

“Making Friends in Science” Webinar Series

Collaborating outside the academy
Wednesday, May 19
1 pm - 2:30 pm
Panel includes ACHRI's Dr. Katrina Milaney and Dr. Maria Santana

Register

Collaborating with other academics
Friday, June 4
2:30 pm - 4 pm
Panel includes ACHRI's Drs. Marie-Claire Arrieta, Francois Bernier, Stephen Freedman, and Deborah Marshall

**Register**

**Unique NEW opportunity!**

**Address child health gaps province wide**

The Pediatric Health Outcomes Research Program is designed to allow researchers and care providers to ask important child health and wellness clinical care questions to improve child health outcomes.

WCHRI and ACHRI are partnering on this exciting new offering!

Deadline - June 15

More information

**Campus Alberta Neuroscience (CAN) Entrepreneurship Seed Grant**

This grant is a foundational pillar of CAN’s Entrepreneurship Program funding early-stage innovation projects with solutions to address neuroscience and mental health-related challenges in Alberta.

Deadline: June 30

More information

**TRAINEE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Summer Student Program** kicks off this Wednesday, May 12

This summer, ACHRI, HBI, Libin, the Owerko Centre, and Snyder are pleased to offer a compelling Summer Student Program: a series of eight workshops, journal clubs, other opportunities and resources, it culminates in a Summer Student Symposium in August. Visit the **Summer Student Program** for details.

Summer students across campus are welcome to participate in any or all aspects of the program offered online from May - August.

**Maternal Child Health Journal Club**

Part of the ongoing MCH RUSS program

May 10, Noon - 1 pm

Register

if you are interested in presenting, contact taylor.scheidl@ucalgary.ca

**EVENTS AND SEMINARS**

**Child Health and Wellness Seminars**

Monday, May 10

8:30 am to 9:30 am

Dr. Douglas Mahoney, PhD

Dr. Franz Zemp, PhD

*The Alberta Cellular Therapy and Immune Oncology Initiative (ACTION)*

Register

**Child Health and Wellness Special Seminar**

Wednesday, May 12
2 pm - 3:30 pm
Dr. Francois Bernier, MD, Head of Medical Genetics
*Ending the Diagnostic Odyssey and the Launch of an Undiagnosed Disease Program*
[Register](#)

Thursday, June 10
11 am - Noon
Dr. Rebecca Knickmeyer, PhD, Michigan State University
*The Infant Microbiome-Gut-Brain Axis*
[Register](#)

**Navigating Partnered Research**
Hosted by Knowledge Engagement and Research Services
Tuesday, May 11
10 - 11 am
*Papering Partnerships*
[Register](#)

**9th Annual Dr. Harvey B. Sarnat Lectureship in Developmental Neuroanatomy and Neuropathology**
Monday, May 17
8:30 - 9:30 am
Dr. Christopher Dunham, MD, FRCPC, BC Children’s Hospital & Clinical Associate Professor, UBC
*The Sonic Hedgehog Pathway in Neuroembryology and Neuropathology*
[Register](#)

**2021 Mini-Symposium on Paediatric Neural Tumours**
Tuesday, May 18
8 am - 12 pm
Dr. Christopher Dunham, BC Children’s Hospital
Dr. Lucie Lafay-Cousins, Paediatric Oncologist, ACH
Dr. Walter Hader, Head of Neurosurgery, ACH
Dr. Harvey Sarnat, Paediatric Neurologist, Neuropathologist, ACH
[Register](#)

**Owerko Centre Conference**
Wednesday, June 9
9 am - 3:45 pm
*In the Beginning: How Early Experiences and Exposures Saves Lives*
Dr. Joanne Weinberg, PhD, University of British Columbia
Dr. Michael Kobor, PhD, University of British Columbia
View program and [Register](#)

**28th Annual CSM Symposium**
Friday, June 11
11 am - 5 pm
Dr. Ami Bhatt, Dr. Deborah Sloboda, Dr. Rima Al-awar, Dr. Barbel Rohrer

Register

For all events visit the ACHRI calendar

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Key resources  Updated Isolation Guidance | Procedure for sick students | Procedure for sick employees | Dashboard of cases on campus

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