Colleagues,

If you need research support during COVID-19, the ACHRI team is here to assist. If you are undertaking COVID-19 related research and need help developing or implementing your project, contact Kathy Gratton or Christina Hirota.

This newsletter is designed to celebrate research and build connections between ACHRI faculty, staff and trainees. If you have information you would like shared, please contact Laura Herperger at laherper@ucalgary.ca

ACHRI GRADUATE, FELLOWSHIP AND CLINICAL RESEARCH FUNDING

ACHRI WELCOMES YOUR APPLICATIONS!

Deadline for new applications is May 1.

There are three upcoming ACHRI trainee funding competitions: ACHRI Graduate Scholarships, Postdoctoral Fellowships, and Clinical Research Fellowships. We welcome your applications and encourage you to take advantage of this support for your research.

You can find more information on how to apply and guidelines for these competitions here.
If you have any questions, please email jklenin@ucalgary.ca.

Visit our Trainee web site for all funding and training opportunities.

COVID RESEARCH - PREGNANCY AND MENTAL HEALTH
Tracking babies born during pandemic for outcomes

A research team from the Cumming School of Medicine and Faculty of Arts at the University of Calgary is asking pregnant moms about the impact COVID-19 is having on their mental and physical health. ACHRI child health researcher Dr. Catherine Lebel, PhD, is leading the study to shed light on stress, depression and infant brain development during this time of extreme change.

Community support

Listen to interviews with Dr. Lebel on CTV Calgary Morning and the CBC national radio program The Current. Study co-leads are Dr. Lianne Tomfohr-Madsen, PhD, and Dr. Gerald Giesbrecht, PhD. More than 1,300 pregnant women across Canada are already participating, with a possibility of expanding the study. This study is supported by community donations through the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation. Read more.

NEED HELP WITH YOUR RESEARCH?

Connect Care Research webinar

Monday April 20 12 pm - 1 pm
This webinar is dedicated to COVID-19 general information and guidance for researchers from AHS and partner organizations including University of Alberta, University of Calgary, Tom Baker Cancer Centre and Cross Cancer Institute.
Call from Calgary: 587-952-0425
Conference ID: 11478039

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Deadlines approaching for these grants:

Arthritis Society Strategic Operating Grants
RSO Pre-application deadline May 4

The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation Research Grant
RSO Internal deadline May 26

NSERC Alliance COVID-19 grants
RSO Internal deadline May 28
Insight into developmental disorders

Dr. Dinushan Nesan, PhD, a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Dr. Deborah Kurrasch, PhD, developed a new technique to culture neural stem and progenitor cells to study early hypothalamic development. Nesan has fellowships from the CIHR, Alberta Innovates, and UCalgary Eyes High.

Hayley Thornton, MSc, a medical student and a former ACHRI graduate scholar in the Kurrasch Lab, is the co-author on the publication. The new technique will allow scientists to learn more about neurogenesis and how hormones, pharmaceuticals, or toxins impact this process which if disrupted can cause effects similar to autism and other developmental disorders. The findings are published in *Endocrinology*.

Lab Spotlight

This is a neurosphere, a cluster of neural stem and progenitor cells grown from a single neural stem cell, at the earliest point of isolation and culture from the hypothalamus. Stained for the astrocyte marker GFAP (pink), the oligodendrocyte
marker PDGFRa (green), along with the nuclear stain DAPI, this image was taken on the Kurrasch Lab Zeiss Axioplan2 microscope at 200x magnification.

**OWERKO NEURODEVELOPMENTAL TALKS**

![Baby on the floor](image)

**Prenatal exposure to plastic chemicals affects children's brains and behaviour**

Dr. Deborah Dewey, PhD, Dr. Gillian England-Mason PhD, and Melody Grohs, MSc.

Details here

**IN THE NEWS**

Dr. James Dickinson, MD
Patients worry about long-term impacts of delaying routine care during COVID-19.

CTV Read web story

Dr. Juliet Guichon, SJD
Alberta drawing up 'ethical framework' for hospitals as COVID-19 surge looms.
Calgary Herald Read more

**A LITTLE DOSE OF HAPPINESS**
**Mustache man!**
Dr. Catherine Lebel's son getting ready for the day, painting a mustache on his face - the best way to eat breakfast and hang out at home!

**Working from home!**
Dr. Marie-Claire Arrieta's daughter and son love dancing. Lots of energy in the morning!
Send a screenshot of your zoom meetings, photos of your science art, children, pets - things to make us all smile. Email laherper@ucalgary.ca

**FAMILY RESOURCES**

**COVIDcast** Mindfulness and self-compassion
Dr. Lianne Tomfohr-Madsen, PhD.

**AHS Learn and Explore Together**

**Resources** for our families and parents

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**CONNECT with @UofCr4kids on:**

Twitter  Facebook  Website