NEW RESEARCH PROGRAMS

ACHRI Members: Please select your new program

To take child health and wellness research to the next level, ACHRI has now restructured into seven program areas based on a comprehensive research strengths analysis and input from six town halls involving 640 participants in 2019. Click here for information on these seven programs. If you have questions regarding the programs feel free to reach out to the individual program directors. Please click here to select your primary program by February 7, 2020.

NOW ACCEPTING 2020 ACHRI SUMMER STUDENTSHIP APPLICATIONS

ACHRI Summer Studentships

We are pleased to OPEN applications for ACHRI Summer Studentship and BME-ACHRI Summer Studentship awards. The deadline is February 7 for students and February 14 for supervisors.

ACHRI summer students please apply using the UCalgary Central student application system.
For BME-ACHRI Undergraduate Research Funding please apply here.

The ACHRI Trainee Publication Award application deadline is February 14. More information here.
Sarthak Sinha, MD-PhD student  
Supervised by Dr. Jeff Biernaskie

Sinha’s career in research began as a summer student in Dr. Jeff Biernaskie’s lab where he became interested in studying dermal stem cells to harness their potential for regenerating the dermal portion of the skin for patients who suffer severe skin damage.

“As an ACHRI summer student, I was exposed to a highly integrated training environment that greatly expanded my basic-science and clinical interests.”

Daniela Urrego, MD-PhD student  
Supervised by Dr. Donna Slater and Dr. Robert Newton

Urrego worked as a summer student in Dr. Benedikt Hallgrímsson’s lab in 2013 studying the age-related trajectory of craniofacial shape in children.

"ACHRI summer studentships are a great opportunity to develop relationships with faculty and graduate students who offer valuable insights into career planning and embarking in graduate studies in the current academic climate.”

TRAINEE WORKSHOPS

Presented in partnership with HBI REALISE. Enrolment is limited.

Feb. 7  9 am – 4 pm Building Professional Relationships  
Feb. 27  9 am – 5 pm Resume Writing and Interview Preparation

Register by emailing achri.training@ucalgary.ca. Please provide your name, your supervisor’s name, and level of training.

Learn about this program and other opportunities by visiting the ACHRI Weekly Training Post on the ACHRI website.
Effects of Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation on GABA and Glx in Children

This study in PLOS was authored by ACHRI trainee and medical student Chidera Nwaroh, PIs Drs. Frank MacMaster, Adam Kirton and Ashley Harris, and trainees Lauran Cole and Adrianna Giuffre.

Transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) is a form of non-invasive brain stimulation that safely influences brain excitability and has therapeutic potential for many conditions. This study used magnetic resonance spectroscopy to examine changes in GABA and glutamate, primary inhibitory and excitatory metabolites, (respectively), that are involved in plasticity and learning. The results suggest that neither a 5-day protocol of anodal tDCS or high definition tDCS locally affect these metabolites in the developing brain. The team suspects there could be a different responses in adults.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Bridge Funding

ACHRI offers bridge funding to its members who are highly ranked, but fall below the CIHR cutoff. Bridge funds are designed to sustain research programs of ACHRI members until the next external granting competition.

[Application and guidelines](#)
Deadline for submission: February 10, 2020

ACHRI Internal Funding Awards
The Allied Health Research Award  
Application and guidelines

The Shaikh Family Research Award  
Application and guidelines

These awards recognize, promote and support nurses and other allied health professionals to perform clinical and/or translational research initiatives related to child health. They also support research activities that are clinically significant, have scientific merit, the potential for meaningful impact and relevant to advancing shared priorities of ACHRI and AHS/Alberta Children's Hospital.

Deadline for submissions: March 6, 2020

ACHRI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Open to all investigators, clinicians, trainees and research staff, these events are supported by generous community donations through the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation.

For additional details, please visit our [website](#).

GRAND ROUNDS & LECTURES

Jan. 30 | Dr. Jennifer Thompson, PhD  
Child Health Research Rounds  
8:30 am - 9:30 am ACH Conference Room 3  
*Metabolic disorders of pregnancy and early-onset cardiovascular disease risk in the offspring: role of developmental adipogenesis*

Feb. 03 | Dr. Nils Daniel Forkert, PhD  
Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds  
8:30 am - 9:30 am ACH Auditorium  
*Machine Learning for Precision Medicine*

Feb. 05 | Dr. Gabrielle Wilcox, PsyD  
Owerko Neurodevelopmental Research Rounds  
12 pm - 1 pm Green Room, CDC 3rd Floor  
*Wired to Read: Repeated Reading and TDCS Lessons Learned from a Pilot Study*

Feb. 06 | Dr. Tanya McCance, DPhil, RGN  
Child Health Research Rounds  
8:30 am - 9:30 am Room 222, Professional Faculties Building  
*Making Person-centred Practice a Reality within Healthcare Systems*
Feb. 10 | Dr. Frank P. MacMaster, PhD
Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds
8:30 am - 9:30 am ACH Auditorium
*New Directions in Brain Stimulation in Psychiatry*

Feb. 19 | Dr. Quan Long, PhD
Research in Progress Seminar
1 pm - 2 pm G382, Health Sciences Centre
*Use Natural Language Processing to Identify Patient Concerns and Adverse Events from Electronic Medical Records*

Feb. 20 | Dr. Monica Justice, PhD
Precision Medicine & Disease Mechanisms Program
11 am - 12 pm, Theatre 4, Health Sciences Centre
*A genetic suppressor screen in MeCP2 mice implicates the DNA damage response in Rett syndrome pathology*

Feb. 20 | Sara Austin
Child Health Research Rounds
8:30 am - 9:30 am ACH Auditorium
*Raising Canada: Sounding the alarm on the state of childhood in Canada*

Mar. 9 | Dr. Hilary Critchley, MD, FRCOG, FRSE
Precision Medicine & Disease Mechanisms Program
11 am - 12 pm, Theatre 4, Health Sciences Centre
*Unmet clinical need: Menstrual bleeding, role of the endometrium and potential as a therapeutic target*

CONFERENCES

Jan. 31 | Graduate networking event
Contact marle.pretorius@ucalgary.ca

Feb. 11 | 4th Annual Meeting DOHaD Canada
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity

Feb. 12 | Canadian National Perinatal Research Meeting
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity

Mar. 6 | 33rd Annual Sebastian K. Littman Research Day
Clara Christie Theatre, Health Sciences Centre

Mar. 19-22 | Canadian Developmental Biology Meeting
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity

Mar. 23 | APRON 10th Anniversary Research Day
May 5 | Doug Lockhart Memorial Oncology Research Day
Alberta Children's Hospital Auditorium

June 4 | 28th Annual Cumming School of Medicine Symposium
Drs. Deborah Sloboda, Barbel Rohrer, Ami Bhatt, Jie Shen & Jenn Haverfield
Foothills Campus

June 10 | Owerko Centre Conference
Drs. Joanne Weinberg, PhD and Michael Kobor, PhD
Theatre Four, Health Sciences Centre

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Save the date May 23
Crescendo brings together top musicians and inspiring stories of strength shared by young people and their families. Tickets for sale soon. Proceeds will help develop the world-leading research program at the new Centre for Child & Adolescent Mental Health.

Caring for Kids Radiothon Feb. 5-7
Since it first hit the airwaves in 2003, the Caring for Kids Radiothon has been an inspiring, cherished community initiative that raises funds for the highest priority needs of the ACH. Donations from our community have supported crucial programs, equipment and research that change lives every day.

CONNECT with @UofCr4kids on:
Twitter  Facebook  Website