For her pioneering research to explain the biology of the placenta, the crucial organ for pregnancy in humans and most other mammals, Dr. Myriam Hemberger, PhD, is awarded the 2019 March of Dimes and Richard B. Johnston, Jr., MD Prize in Developmental Biology. The prize is awarded annually to an outstanding scientist who has profoundly advanced the science that underlies our understanding of prenatal development and pregnancy. Dr. Hemberger is a professor in the departments of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Medical Genetics and a world leader in the study of placental development. Congratulations Dr. Hemberger!

ACHRI is offering BME-ACHRI summer studentships for the first time this summer. Congratulations to the winners: Syeda Atika (supervisor Dr. Naweed Syed), Cassondra Pedenko (supervisor Dr. Catherine Lebel), and Mitali Pradhan (supervisor Dr. Adam Kirton). These studentships will offer undergraduate students to work on BME-related projects with researchers in a number of different partners across campus. And congratulations to all ACHRI summer student awardees: Mikyla Callaghan, Claire Donnici, Jordyn Flanagan, Sana Jawad, Arsham Moradi, Kendra Mueri, Vascar Nath, Theo Nelson, Marcus Pehar, and Natalie Williams.

Congratulations Dr. Sheri Madigan, PhD! Dr. Madigan and her University of Calgary trainees Rachel Eirich and Christina Rash have received the 2019 APSAC Award for Outstanding Research Article by the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. The article is expected to make a significant advancement in the field of child maltreatment. READ

Congratulations Dr. Carly McMorris (PI), and Drs. Signe Bray and Ashley Harris (Co-Investigators) who received the HBI/Mathison Centre Pilot Fund (PFUN) Research Grant! Their research will focus on the neurological risk factors for suicidal thoughts and behaviours in youth and young adults with autism spectrum disorder. GRANT INFO

MATERNAL HEALTH SURVEY
Are you involved in research related to maternal, fetal, perinatal, and/or reproductive health? If so, please take our short survey, so that we can better serve our members in this area. **SURVEY**

**ACHRI PUBLICATIONS**

Printed copies of our **ACHRI 10th Anniversary Celebration** publications are available. Copies of the two publications will be sent out to all members. If you would like any printed copies, please email deanna.kweens@ucalgary.ca. Digital copies are also available [here](#).

**NEW MEMBER**

Welcome to new member Dr. Thierry Chekouo, PhD joins the Genes, Development and Health Theme as an associate member. Dr. Chekouo is an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. His main research is in establishing new statistical frameworks for analyzing datasets characterized by high dimensionality and complex structures such as high-throughput genomic, epigenomic, transcriptomic, proteomic and imaging data. His special focus is on developing integrative models combining different sources of data for biomarker discovery and clinical prediction.

**CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Kids Cancer Care Chair in Clinical and Translational Research in Pediatric Oncology**

Dr. Aru Narendran is the recipient of the Kids Cancer Care chair in Clinical and Translational Research in Pediatric Oncology. His work is focused on two very specific projects: the development of a way to boost the immune system (neoantigen vaccine) that can further improve our ability to fight cancer and the second is to establish an education program for newly trained pediatric oncology doctors to gain additional working skills in the discovery and use of new cancer medications for children. This chair is funded by generous community donations to the Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation and Kids Cancer Care.

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

ACHRI is committed to supporting the development of the next generation of scientists and clinician researchers. We encourage all trainees and investigators to consider this wonderful opportunity provided by the institute for the following trainee funding competitions. Please apply deadline is May 1.

- ACHRI Graduate Scholarship
- ACHRI Postdoctoral Fellowship
- ACHRI Clinical Research Fellowship
- ACHRI Trainee Small Research Grants

For more information on trainee activities visit [Trainee Weekly update](#).

**CONFERENCES and LECTURES: Calendar**

**Lectures**

**April 30 | 12:00pm - 1:00pm** Child Health Research Rounds  
**Speaker:** Dr. Christina Hirota, PhD  
**Title:** An update on the emerging UCalgary Child Health and Wellness initiative  
**Location:** Conference Room 3, 4th Floor ACH

**May 6 | 8:30am - 9:30am** Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds  
**Speaker:** Dr. Patricia Peluso Silveira, MD, PhD
May 7 | 12:00pm - 1:00pm Child Health Research Rounds
Speaker: Dr. Alberto Nettel-Aguirre, PhD
Location: Conference Rooms 4th Floor ACH

May 13 | 8:30am - 9:30am Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds
Speaker: Dr. Patrick Shannon, MD, FRCPC (Neuropathology)
Title: 7th Annual Dr. Harvey Samat Lectureship: The adverse intrauterine environment: common patterns of brain injury and what they mean
Location: Auditorium 4th Floor ACH

Conferences

NEW May 3
Alberta Precision Health for Rare Disease Summit: The Future is Here
Location: ACH Amphitheatre
Email april.mandar@albertahealthservices.ca for more details

May 6
Knowledge and Exchange Forum on Brain and Mental Health
Register here

May 13 - 15 (Edmonton)
Alberta Spor Support Conference - Impact and Opportunities
Register & Program

May 22
Vi Riddell Pediatric Rehabilitation Research Symposium
Register here

May 29
Child Health Research Symposium and 10th Anniversary Celebration
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Janet Rossant, PhD, FRS, FRSC
Program and register here

June 5
Owerko Centre Conference
Speakers: Dr. Yona Lunksy, PhD and Dr. Russell Schachar, MD
Location: Theatre Four, HSC Foothills Campus
Program and register here

Nov. 6
ACHRI hosting Gairdner Symposium on Precision Medicine
Location: Libin Theatre, HSC Foothills Campus

Dec. 9 - 10
ACHRI All Member Retreat
Location: Banff Centre of the Arts
Registration opening soon

 Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute is supported by generous community donations through the Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation. We believe in a healthier and more prosperous future for children through research.