Save the Date for the ACHRI Research Symposium

Thursday, December 12 & Friday, December 13

We are inviting all members and trainees to gather at the Banff Centre for the inaugural ACHRI Research Symposium. This symposium is designed to bring ACHRI researchers together, spark collaboration, and showcase global leaders in child health research. It will feature keynote speakers as well as trainee talks, and poster sessions. Please hold this date in your calendar as registration will open shortly. [Program overview]

Child Health & Wellness Town Halls

Be part of the emerging Child Health and Wellness Initiative

The final research town hall in our series of five takes place on Tuesday, June 25 at noon. Join more than 350 UCalgary scientists and clinicians brainstorming grand challenges in child health and wellness. Our goal? To build upon, and spark new interdisciplinary research to accelerate discovery, translation and impact for children and families. [Read more] If you are unable to attend the town halls, please send grand challenges to Christina Hirota chirot@ucalgary.ca 403-220-4876

- June 25 12:00-1:30pm Big Data and Social Determinants of Child Health, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, University of Calgary

Canada Research Chairs

Congratulations to ACHRI recipients

Dr. Sorana Morrissy, PhD has been announced as a Tier II CRC. She uses the leading-edge techniques of precision medicine in her work, leveraging knowledge of the genetic basis of cancer to expand the arsenal of tools in the fight against the deadly disease. We congratulate all 14 scholars at UCalgary receiving this honour and give a special shout out to our five members:

- Dr. Stephanie Borgland, PhD – CRC I in Molecular Physiology of Addiction (Cumming School of Medicine)
- Dr. Myriam Hemberger, PhD – CRC I in Developmental Genetics and Epigenetics (Cumming School of Medicine)
- Dr. Catherine Lebel, PhD – CRC II in Paediatric Neuroimaging (Cumming School of Medicine)
- Dr. Sorana Morrissy, PhD – CRC II in Precision Oncology (Cumming School of Medicine)
Better understanding of non-epileptic seizures
Tyson Sawchuk, MSc, RPsych is co-author of a study published in a leading journal of epilepsy. His work focuses on psychogenic non-epileptic seizures (PNES), a stress-related condition involving abnormal emotion processing and impaired awareness. This disorder is currently considered difficult to diagnose and treat. Sawchuk, a clinical psychologist at the Alberta Children’s Hospital, collaborated in a five-nation global study to better understand its signs and risk factors. The study is the largest ever done using cross-cultural comparisons among children and represents a major step forward towards recognition and advocacy. The findings are published in Seizure: European Journal of Epilepsy. Sawchuk was recently awarded an ACHRI Small Equipment Grant to acquire a capnometer for diagnosis research.

Building sickle cell research and treatments globally
Dr. Greg Guilcher, MD, a paediatric cancer specialist at Alberta Children’s Hospital (ACH) and a Canadian research leader in sickle cell therapies, is working toward sharing this expertise globally so that children around the world can access a cure in their home countries. Dr. Guilcher is a leader in pioneering less-intensive bone marrow transplants to help sickle cell disease patients. The research was highlighted by the university as part of National Sickle Cell Awareness Day on June 19. Read more

Advancing cures for cancer
Dr. Darren Derksen, PhD and a team from the Department of Chemistry published results in the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry. The team designed a synthetic molecule that is capable of degrading an important cancer protein, MCL1. This protein plays a key role in preventing cell death in various cancers, including leukemia and multiple myeloma. This work involved collaborations with the labs of Dr. Nizar Bahlis at the Cumming School of Medicine and Dr. Justin MacCallum from the Centre for Molecular Simulation. The team also had art work illustrating this process featured as a supplemental cover. Congratulations!

Teen sexting associated with poor social behaviour
UCalgary psychologist and lead author Dr. Sheri Madigan and graduate student Camille Mori are calling for better education to raise awareness about digital health, safety and conduct following a major study into teen sexting. An analysis of 23 studies of adolescent behaviour between 2012 and 2018 showed teen sexting associated with other risk factors for young people, including multiple sexual partners, lack of contraception use, and mental health problems like anxiety, depression, delinquent behaviour and substance use. The study is published in Jama Pediatrics.

ACHRI's Summer Student Research Day is FRIDAY, AUGUST 23
Calling all summer students! We are excited to present the institute's Summer Student Research Day, open to all students supervised by an ACHRI member. This day will give all participants opportunities to share their research, network, and enjoy keynote addresses from a senior investigator and exceptional trainees. We expect over 150 participants, so please register early. For information on all the trainee opportunities, visit the ACHRI website weekly training post.
Owerko and ACHRI Summer Student Workshops - open to all summer students supervised by an ACHRI supervisor
Spots are limited. Register

- Thurs. June 27 HSC Theatre Four 12:00pm - 1:00pm
  Communicating Science: Verbal communication
- Wed. July 10 11:00am - 12:00pm Alberta Children's Hospital
  Theatre, 4th floor. Communicating Science: Visual communication
- Wed. July 24 HSC Theatre One 12:00pm to 1:00pm Biostatistics
- Wed. July 31 HSC 1500 12:00pm - 1:00pm How to write an abstract
- Friday, Aug. 23 Session at ACHRI's Summer Student Research Day,
  Leveraging your summer studentship

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to our new members of ACHRI. We look forward to profiling your labs and research in upcoming newsletters!

Dr. Eli Gilad, MD – Healthy Outcomes Theme - research focus on two common issues in pediatric clinical care: acute airway management and fluid management

Dr. Matthw Hill, PhD – Behaviour & the Developing Brain Theme - research focus on the role of the endocannabinoid system in the regulation of stress

Dr. Davide Martino, MD, PhD – Behaviour & the Developing Brain Theme - examines the role of immune mechanisms in neurodevelopmental disorders

Dr. Dylan Pillai, MD, PhD – Healthy Outcomes Theme – translational research to develop new treatments and diagnostic strategies for pathogens of global health importance

Dr. Leslie Skeith, MD – Healthy Outcomes Theme - research focus in preventing venous thromboembolism (VTE) during pregnancy and postpartum period

Dr. Ray Turner, PhD – Behaviour & the Developing Brain Theme - interactions between calcium and potassium channels at the molecular and physiological levels to understand the regulation of excitability and synaptic plasticity in cerebellar granule cells and hippocampal pyramidal cells

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

CIHR - Catalyst Grant : Patient-Oriented Research Registration
June 25, 2019
RSO Internal Deadline: September 10, 2019 at noon
Contact: Anna LeMarquand

CIHR - Network Catalyst Grants Registration CIHR: July 9, 2019
RSO Internal Deadline: August 1, 2019 at noon
Contact: Anna LeMarquand

The RMS was launched on June 18. Any questions regarding the new system can be directed to Kathy Gratton.
kgratton@ucalgary.ca

CONFERENCES and LECTURES: Calendar

SUMMER BREAK - ACHRI's theme lecture series will return in September

Oct. 3 Owerko Family Lecture
Time: 2-3pm
Speaker: Dr. Stephen Hinshaw, PhD, UC Berkeley
Location: Theatre 4, Health Sciences Centre
Nov. 6  ACHRI - Gairdner Symposium on Precision Medicine
Location: Libin Theatre, HSC Foothills Campus

Dec. 12 & 13  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.

research4kids.ucalgary.ca
This message was sent to deanna.kweens@ucalgary.ca because you are listed as a student, faculty, staff, alumni, donor or partner of the University of Calgary.