Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute Newsletter Contact us

Weekly Newsletter 02.04.19

SPECIAL LECTURE

Youth Addiction and Mental Health Lecture

Integrating research and practice in primary substance use prevention for adolescents: The case of Iceland

Dr. Alfgeir L. Kristjansson, professor at the School of Public Health, West Virginia University, presents a successful upstream social change strategy to address youth drug, alcohol, and tobacco use which was credited for the reduction of drug and alcohol use among Iceland's youth from 42 percent to less than 5 percent. This model, also known as **Planet Youth**, has been adopted in more than 40 countries worldwide. All faculty members, research staff and trainees are invited to attend this lecture.

There is a luncheon for those attending the lecture and we kindly request your registration for this event.

Date: February 13, 2019 | 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Location: KNB 126, Kinesiology Block B Building
Lunch: Senate Room at Hotel Alma Register

The lecture and luncheon are presented by the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute and the Department of Psychology

GRANTS

Congratulations to all our members successful at the recently announced federal grant competitions!

CIHR Project Grant competition:

Catherine Lebel Brain development and internalizing symptoms in youth with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder

Jong Rho Effects of Cannabidiol on Cellular and Mitochondrial Metabolism: Implications for the Epileptic Brain

Cam Teskey Epilepsy and emotional comorbidities: Role of the endocannabinoid system

Jennifer Thompson Metabolic disorders of pregnancy and early-onset disease risk in the offspring: role of adipose tissue expandability

Tuan Trang Regulation of microglial pannexin-1 channels in arthritis pain

CIHR Project Grant Priority competition:

Susan Samuel and co-investigator **Albertao Nettel-Aguirre** Defining the immune dysfunction in childhood nephrotic syndrome

SSHRC Insight Development Grant competition:

Emma Climie Strength and Stigma in individuals with ADHD

Deneira Exner-Cortens Diffusing the Daily Report Card: The utility of an innovative coaching model to support dissemination of an evidence-based resource

Daniel Kopala-Sibley Examining interactions between children's genes and temperament and their parent's in predicting behaviours

Jennifer Zwicker Who benefits from disability financial support? An assessment of how disability benefits support caregivers

ACHRI trainees successful in Alberta Innovates awards

Congratulations! ACHRI investigators and their trainees have been very successful in this latest round of Alberta Innovates postdoctoral awards.
Here are the successful awardees:
MD-PhD Graduate studentship: Wisoo Shin (PI Jeff Biernaskie)
Clinician Fellowship: Nicole Racine (PI Sheri Madigan)
Postdoctoral Fellowship:

- Rafael Fortuna (PI Raylene Reimer)
- Kharah Ross (PI Nicole Letourneau)
- Morteza Seifi (PI Francois Bernier)
- Gillian Tarr (PI Stephen Freedman)
- Luana Tenorio Lopes (PI Richard Wilson)

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Sheri Madigan and Dr. Suzanne Tough find learning delays linked to screen time

Dr. Sheri Madigan, lead author, **Dr. Suzanne Tough**, co-lead, and postdoctoral fellow Dr. Nicole Racine have completed a major study on a subject that worries many parents - the impact of digital screens on children. The study is published in the prestigious ***JAMA Pediatrics.*** The researchers examined the association between screen time and early childhood development in 2,500 Alberta homes between 2011 and 2016. The mothers and children who participated were enrolled in the **All Our Families** study. The findings show that children with high levels of screen time are delayed in achieving important developmental milestones. Dr. Madigan is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology and member of the Owerko Centre at ACHRI. She holds the Canada Research Chair in the Determinants of Child Development. Dr. Tough is a professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Community Health Sciences and is a member of the Owerko Centre.

Read more

IN THE NEWS

Dr. Scott Patten offers advice on seasonal affective disorder

Dr. Scott Patten appeared on Breakfast TV Calgary to discuss the very common condition of feeling sad during the winter season. Dr. Scott Patten, MD, PhD explains that you might have seasonal affective disorder which often manifests in young people as fatigue, increased appetite, lack of concentration and moodiness. Light therapy is often a treatment. Dr. Patten holds the Cuthbertson-Fischer Chair in Pediatric Mental Health. His research seeks to evaluate the distribution and determinants of mood disorders such as major depressive disorder and bipolar disorder in the population of Canada. **Interview**

Dr. James Dickinson says this year's vaccine 72% effective at preventing flu

Dr. James Dickinson leads the surveillance network in Alberta which monitors the efficacy of the annual flu vaccine. In an interview with CBC, Dr. Dickinson said part of the reason that this year's vaccine has been so effective is that H1N1 has mutated less quickly. An interim report is published by the team of Canadian surveillance researchers in *Eurosurveillance* and results are shared with the World Health Organization (WHO) to help determine how to formulate the flu vaccine for the following season. Alberta has about 70 doctors in the network. Dr. Dickinson is a professor in the departments of Family Medicine and Community Health Sciences. **Read**

NEW STAFF

Christina Hirota, PhD, joins ACHRI as Strategic Development Officer

Welcome! Christina Hirota, PhD, came to Calgary in 2007 as a postdoctoral fellow to study intestinal epithelial inflammation. She then transitioned into staff roles, including Personalized Medicine Project Coordinator (Department of Medicine) and most recently, Research Facilitator in the Division of Rheumatology. She particularly enjoys working on research grant proposals – "the sweet spot where creativity and feasibility combine to offer unique solutions to problems." Her temporary office will be located in HMRB 282A. Please stop by to welcome and congratulate her on her new role.

NEW MEMBER

Jennifer Yamamoto, MD, joins ACHRI

Welcome! Dr. Jennifer Yamamoto is a full member of ACHRI joining the Healthy Outcomes Theme. Dr. Yamamoto is a clinical lecturer in the departments of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Medicine at the Cumming School of Medicine. Dr. Yamamoto has a research focus on women with diabetes in pregnancy with an emphasis on using technology to improve the health of both mothers and their babies. Dr. Yamamoto is hoping to develop and test technologies such as Continuous Glucose Monitoring (also called CGM) and the 'artificial pancreas' during pregnancy to help improve outcomes.

TRAINEE UPDATE

Trainee funding:
MNCY SN 2019 Studentship Competition
Deadline: February 18 **Apply**

NEW Biomedical Engineering undergraduate summer student program
Deadline: Feb. 26 **Apply**

Trainee Research Visit Award Competition
Deadline: March 1 **Apply**

For more information visit **ACHRI Trainee Weekly Bulletin**

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Child Health Research Funding Opportunities

CIHR Project Grant
Registration Deadline: February 6, 2019
RSO Internal Deadline for Full Application: March 4, 2019 at 9:00 am
Contact: Anna LeMarquand

SSHRC Partnership Engage Grants
RSO Deadline: March 13, 2019 at noon
Contact: Katie Ryan

For more information on these opportunities and others, visit our web site **Child Health Research Funding**

ACHRI 10th ANNIVERSARY

NEW Research spotlight: Dr. Suzanne Tough and Dr. Donna Slater

To mark ACHRI's **10th anniversary,** we are pleased to announce a new weekly series that showcases outstanding child health

research from our members and their trainees. This week we present research from Dr. Suzanne Tough and Dr. Donna Slater. Their research has had a profound impact on our understanding of conditions in pregnancy and early childhood development. Dr. Tough launched one of the first studies in Canada to better understand the impact of Alberta's high rate of preterm births. And together, Dr. Slater and Dr. Tough developed one of the most reliable blood tests in the world to identify pregnant women at risk of delivering prematurely. You are invited to share on social media.
View Video

Conferences, Meetings and Workshops

Feb. 13 **New**

Integrating research and practice in primary substance use prevention for adolescents: The case of Iceland

Speaker: Dr. Alfgeir L. Kristjansson, PhD

Location: KNB 126, Kinesiology Block B Building

Followed by Lunch at Hoel Alma - please RSVP for lunch

Feb. 19

How to be an effective, successful, happy academic

Speakers: Dr. Alex Clark, PhD and Bailey Sousa

Location: ACH Conference Room 6

Feb. 22 **New**

7th Annual Psychology Day

Registration information to come

Location: ACH

Feb. 27

CSM Celebration of Excellence

Location: HRIC Atrium, Foothills Campus 3pm-4pm

May 9

7th Annual StemCell Talks YYC

Contact: sctalkscalgary@gmail.com

May 29

Child Health Research Symposium

Speaker: Dr. Janet Rossant, PhD, FRS, FRSC

Location: Theatre Four, HSC Foothills Campus

May 30 **New**

ACH Quality Forum

Location: ACH 4th floor Amphitheatre 8am-2:30pm

June 5

Owerko Centre Conference

Speakers: Dr. Yona Lunksy, PhD and Dr. Russell Schachar, MD

Location: Theatre Four, HSC Foothills Campus

Lectures

Feb. 6 (12:00pm - 1:00pm)

Owerko Neurodevelopmental Rounds - Neuroimaging research and translation to clinic

Speakers: Dr. Helen Carlson, PhD and Brandon Craig

Location: CDC Room 100

Feb. 11 (8:30am - 9:30am)

Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds - Understanding a "Modern Public Health Disaster":

Speaker: Dr. Melanie Noel, PhD

Location: ACH Kinsmen Auditorium

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.

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.

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