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### ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA AAC-CFPC Osteoarthritis (OA) Tool for Family Practice

On July 20th, the [Arthritis Alliance of Canada \(AAC\)](#) and [The College of Family Physicians of Canada \(CFPC\)](#) launched the [Osteoarthritis Tool](#), designed to provide primary health care providers with key professional knowledge and skills necessary to effectively diagnose and facilitate the management of patients living with osteoarthritis (OA); as well as to help them to:

1) identify, assess, and monitor OA; 2) equip patients for high quality self-care and 3) recommend specific non-pharmacologic and pharmacologic therapies. We encourage you **to raise your voice and join the movement to support** this important initiative by sharing the Tool, by **all** or **either** of the listed ways:

- **Posting to your website**
- **Posting to Twitter** using the hashtag #OATool;
- **Posting to Facebook**
- **Promoting this initiative among your professional networks**, such as LinkedIn, using the hashtag #OATool
- **Sharing your impressions** of the Tool and how it has helped in your practice in your **community newsletter** as well as the [AAC newsletter!](#)

A launch guide in English and French were provided for ease of sharing the Tool. We will be re-launching the tool in September for Arthritis Awareness month. You can expect to receive a September launch kit on **Monday, September 18th**. Please contact Lina Gazizova [lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca](mailto:lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca) if you would like more information about this project.

## 2017 Annual Meeting in Vancouver: Annual Meeting Program: “CHANGE IS GOOD: IMPLEMENTING ARTHRITIS MODELS OF CARE”

For program details and registration, please visit: <http://arthritisalliance.ca/conference2017/>

### Wednesday, October 25

- *The Arthritis Society Trainee Workshop-closed session (half-day)*

### Thursday, October 26

- *The Arthritis Society Trainee Workshop-closed session (half-day)*

### Arthritis Alliance of Canada Workshops

#### Thursday, October 26

- AAC Annual General Meeting/Business Meeting
- Public Health Agency of Canada: ***National surveillance of arthritis in Canada: Chronic Disease Surveillance System Results***
- Arthritis Consumer-Patient Organizations and Groups Coalition Workshop: ***Patient Experiences and Perspectives of Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care: Gaps, Solutions and Pushing for Implementation***
- AAC Research Workshop/Session: ***Cost Consequence Analysis of Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care***

#### Reception:

- Poster Viewing Session
- Remarks/AAC 2017 Research Awards
- The Qualman-Davies Arthritis Consumer Community Award
- The Arthritis Society Trainee Awards

### Friday, October 27

- AAC Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care Workshop: ***Implementing Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care: What Does It Mean? How Does Success Look Like? Our Strategic Plan Moving Forward.***
- AAC Osteoarthritis Models of Care Workshop: ***Models of Care in Action: Implementing the OA Tool in Family Practice***
- AAC Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care Interactive Session for Early Career Rheumatologists: ***Setting up an Inflammatory Arthritis Model of Care in Practice***

## Arthritis Alliance of Canada Research Awards Program

The Arthritis Alliance of Canada (AAC) is in the process of reviewing the applications received July 17th. The Award winners will be announced at the AAC Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. *Thank you again to our sponsors:*

- [McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health and Joint Health](#) (Master Student)
- [Arthritis Consumer Experts](#) (PhD Student)
- [CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis](#) (Post-doctoral Fellow and Early Career Researcher/ Faculty Member)
- [Bone and Joint Institute of the University of Western Ontario](#) (Knowledge Translation Research)
- [Amgen Canada](#) (Knowledge Translation practice); and
- [The Arthritis Society](#) (Patient for active engagement in arthritis research).



We are also very grateful to our reviewers who raised their hands to put their time and efforts in identifying winning research awards applications!

Dr. Frank Beier, Western University  
Dr. Lisa Carlesso, Université de Montréal  
Dr. André Bussi eres, McGill University  
Dr. Rahul Gawri, University of Toronto  
Dr. Debbie Feldman, Université de Montr eal

Ms. Cheryl Koehn (Consumer), Arthritis Consumer Experts  
Ms. Alex Klemm (Consumer), Arthritis Patient Advisory Board  
Dr. Diane Lacaille, University of British Columbia  
Dr. Deborah Marshall, University of Calgary  
Ms. Marilyn Walsh (Consumer), Cochrane Canada

*Thank you again to all of you for your great support in making this AAC program a successful endeavour!*

### AAC Welcomes Goldi Gill!

Please join us in warmly welcoming Goldi Gill to the AAC team!

The AAC team is pleased to announce that effective August 14th, Goldi Gill joined the Arthritis Alliance of Canada, serving in the role of Executive Director for Jaime Coish's one-year maternity leave until September 2018.



Goldi has worked in both the private and public sectors over her 15 plus year career span. She has held several senior management positions, most recently, Director Sales and Marketing at Pro-Art Dental Lab. Her extensive educational background consists of: Bachelor's degree in Communications, Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from Queens University, and she is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Business Psychology at the Chicago School of Psychology. She is completing a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Program at the Schulich School of Business. Goldi sits on the Ontario Dental Assistants Association (ODAA) Board, as President Elect.

In her new role as Executive Director, Goldi will be responsible for the overall operations management of the AAC and will work with the Board of Directors to lead the AAC in advancing its initiatives in advocacy, research and models of care. Goldi will be based in Toronto and can be reached at 416-979-7228, ext. 3581 or [ggill@arthritisalliance.ca](mailto:ggill@arthritisalliance.ca).

### A Big Thanks!

On behalf of the Board and entire membership, AAC would like to thank our dear colleague Anne Lyddiatt who has recently resigned from her role as Patient Partners Member representative for the Alliance, for her engagement and dedication to the coalition over more than 10 years.

Thank you, Anne! Your insight, support to all AAC pillar committees and Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care Committee in particular are invaluable! We will miss your human touch and sense of humor!

All the best, Anne!



# MEMBER'S CORNER

## ALBERTA BONE AND JOINT HEALTH INSTITUTE

### BJH SCN Workshop a Pathway Forward to Improving Care for OA Sufferers with Added Burden of Obesity



Alberta's first workshop on how to improve care for osteoarthritis sufferers who have the added burden of being obese revealed that patients and their care providers need new evidence-informed guidance. "We need to shift patient perception of the role of surgery, adapt OA treatment strategies to reflect the unique needs of obese patients, and develop provincial-level treatment guidance for surgeons," said Dr. Ania Kania-Richmond, Assistant

Scientific Director, Bone and Joint Health Strategic Clinical Network. This advice came from orthopaedic and bariatric surgeons, family doctors, dietitians, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, researchers and, importantly, patients themselves who attended

the June 13-14 workshop organized by the BJH SCN. The strong attendance reflected the rapidly growing rate of obesity and OA in the population and the dearth of evidence-informed knowledge about treating patients who have both conditions.

The workshop was especially relevant to Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute. Last year, ABJHI established a *Music in Motion* postdoctoral fellowship to study the effects of obesity on hip and knee OA and on the outcomes of patients who have these joints replaced. Postdoctoral fellow Behnam Sharif presented some of his research at the workshop. Dr. Kania-Richmond said the next step is to identify action teams that will tackle the issues that emerged.

## ARTHRITIS CONSUMER EXPERTS

### Biosim•Exchange Updates

Based on the latest research presented at this year's EULAR Congress and policy changes in Canadian provincial formularies, ACE updated the Research and Policy sections of its Biosim•Exchange. Under Research, ACE summarizes the following studies:

- Immunogenicity studies show comparable results between biosimilars and originator biologics
- Policy transition results surprise Danish researchers
- Educating patients about biosimilars: Best practice spotlight from Denmark.



Under Policy, ACE presented its latest positioning on biosimilars policies in Canada and discussed the listing of etanercept (Brenzys®) to the Yukon, Ontario, and British Columbia provincial formularies for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis.

### Summer Edition of JointHealth™ insight

ACE published its summer edition of [JointHealth™ insight – What's hot in arthritis research?](#) - featuring articles on the OA Tool, the experiences of a young scientist looking at biomarkers for OA and the latest research from the EULAR annual meeting.

## ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA

### Fitbit/FitViz Study

Arthritis Research Canada is currently recruiting for Dr. Linda Li's **Fitbit/FitViz study**. This study is an opportunity for people living with Osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) to become more physically active, safely, and at their own pace. The study has been developed to include the use of a Fitbit (a physical activity tracker) paired with a new app FitViz, and physical activity counseling. For more information, go to <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/opam-ia-a-physical-activity-intervention> (for Rheumatoid Arthritis and Lupus) and <http://www.arthritisresearch.ca/supra-a-physical-activity-intervention> (for Knee Osteoarthritis). Participants must reside in the Vancouver, BC lower mainland.

**September is Arthritis Awareness Month. Time to get back to work!**

This September, The Arthritis Society will be focusing on the relationship between Arthritis and work – as well as the impact for students, current options for people with OA and IA, and innovations that will help improve life for Canadians with Arthritis. Highlights from the month include:



- a report on the state of Arthritis and Work, plus a roundtable forum
- informational videos about biologics and biosimilars
- a variety of education articles and research profiles
- exciting awareness and partnership initiatives.

These and many more activities will be taking place nationally and locally throughout the month, so to stay up to date on all our Arthritis Awareness events during the month of September, be sure to follow us on [Twitter](#), like us on [Facebook](#), and visit our [website](#).

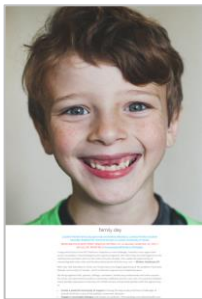
**Staff Announcement**

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Sian Bevan will be joining The Arthritis Society as Chief Science Officer effective October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sian completed her PhD in medical biophysics at the University of Toronto, after her undergraduate studies at McGill University. She led the research programs for the Ontario Genomics Institute before joining the Canadian Cancer Society in progressively senior roles leading to Vice-President of Research, providing scientific leadership and financial stewardship for the Cancer Society’s research program.

To complement Sian’s appointment to the Chief Science Officer role, we have engaged Dr. Hani El-Gabalawy as Research Strategy Advisor until the end of March, 2018 to advise on and support the development of the research strategy.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON**

**Cassie & Friends Family Day – September 16!**



The Arthritis Society, BC & Yukon Division, is very pleased to tell you about Cassie & Friends’ upcoming Family Day. This is a fun and informative event for families living with Juvenile Arthritis and other rheumatic conditions. It provides a wonderful opportunity for families from around the province to connect and create relationships, and The Arthritis Society is happy to sponsor this event by providing travel bursaries to help families from outside the Lower Mainland attend. Taking place on **September 16 in Burnaby, BC**, this will be their 9<sup>th</sup> annual Family Day conference. It is a **FREE** event to all families, and includes breakfast, lunch, snacks and all kids' activities. <http://cassieandfriends.ca/programs/family-day/>.

**QUEBEC DIVISION**

**Five Webinar and Two Satellite Events for the 4th Quebec Forum on Arthritis!**

The 4th Quebec Forum on Arthritis will be held on September 16 at the Centre des congrès in Quebec City. For this occasion, The Arthritis Society offers you a full-day event complete with 20 seminars and workshops, a ton of arthritis-related activities and resources and an exhibitor fair. In 2017, our team focuses more than ever on access to information and resources for patients. In line with this vision, five of our seminars will be webcast throughout the country! In addition, satellite events will be held simultaneously in Granby and Sherbrooke so that those who are interested can gather and meet with local stakeholders. [Register now!](#) Photo credit: @cosmosimage.com.

**CANADIAN ARTHRITIS PATIENT ALLIANCE**

**CAPA News**

The CAPA [Summer Newsletter](#) was released in August and includes a report of what we’ve been up to over the last few months. Key highlights of the newsletter include:

- The [presentation](#) delivered at the 2017 EULAR Congress by CAPA Board Member Laurie Proulx about the [pregnancy and parenting with arthritis resource](#);



- An [article](#) written by Dr. Karine Toupin-April about a complementary and alternative medicine questionnaire developed for Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis

Stay informed about these and other CAPA initiatives by [becoming a member](#) on the CAPA website!

### Mourning Loss of a Dear Colleague

It is with very heavy hearts that we share the news of Louise Bergeron's untimely passing. As many of you know, Louise was a tireless patient advocate who devoted many hours to her activities with the Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance, the Canadian Arthritis Network, numerous research projects on which she was a collaborator, and other activities that ensured the patient voice was front and centre. Many of us remember Louise for her passion and influence, and her legacy will not be forgotten any time soon in our community and beyond.

## CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION

### CRA & AHPA 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting: Precision and Personalized Medicine in Rheumatology

Featuring keynote presentations from:

Dr. Marvin Fritzler (Biomarkers)  
 Dr. Ranjeny Thomas (Immunotherapy)  
 Dr. Linda Li (Arthritis care in the digital age)

Attendees are invited to submit an abstract for [podium](#) or [poster presentation](#) during the meeting.

Deadline: October 16, 2017

[Submit abstract here](#)

[More conference information and important dates](#)

## McCAIG INSTITUTE FOR BONE AND JOINT HEALTH

### Introducing two new McCaig Institute faculty members: Sarah Manske and Antoine Dufour

We are pleased to welcome two new faculty members to the McCaig Institute!



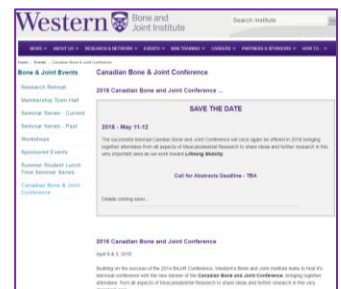
**Dr. Sarah Manske's** research is focused on musculoskeletal imaging and biomechanics, with particular interests in high-resolution quantitative computed tomography (HR-pQCT) and epidemiology. Her research program aims to reduce the burden of musculoskeletal diseases by improving our understanding of the mechanisms that underpin them.

**Dr. Antoine Dufour's** research is focused on the role of proteases in immunity and novel drug target identification in inflammatory musculoskeletal diseases, with a particular interest in quantitative mass spectrometry and systems biology. His research program aims to understand the key mechanisms of inflammatory and immune responses in musculoskeletal diseases.

## WESTERN BONE AND JOINT INSTITUTE

### SAVE THE DATE!

The Canadian Bone and Joint Conference will once again be offered in 2018 in London Ontario. This biennial conference brings together attendees from all aspects of Musculoskeletal Research to share ideas and further research in this very important area as we work toward *Lifelong Mobility*. Call for Abstracts will be announced in the early Fall. Information will be made available at: <http://boneandjoint.uwo.ca/events/CBJC.html>.



# Community Updates

## CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ADMINISTRATIVE DATA NETWORK



The CANRAD Network team includes a variety of decision makers, epidemiologists, clinicians and researchers interested in the use of administrative data for rheumatic disease research. We held a successful CANRAD Network Meeting during 2017 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting in Ottawa, ON and we will be organizing another CANRAD Network Webinar this fall! For more information pertaining to our webinars or all other information concerning the CANRAD Network, please contact Autumn Neville at [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca) or visit our

website <http://www.canradnetwork.ca/>.

The Canadian Network for Advanced Interdisciplinary Methods for comparative effectiveness research (CAN-AIM) objective is to respond to key knowledge gaps regarding drug safety and effectiveness by answering queries which arise from Health Canada and other regulatory parties. Our team has collaborated with DSECT's webinar series; we encourage you to participate in the very informative sessions. We held a successful CAN-AIM DSEN meeting in February with team members to review on-going projects and discuss new, emerging queries that may be of interest. Discussions led to exciting new ways in which our team can expand. For information on our queries, on our upcoming webinars or for more information on our team, please contact Autumn Neville at [autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca](mailto:autumn.neville@rimuhc.ca) or visit our website <http://canaim.ca/>.



## CENTRE FOR HIP HEALTH AND MOBILITY

### Patient views on quality indicator resources for hip and knee replacement rehabilitation: a Canada-wide survey

Researchers at the Centre for Hip Health and Mobility in Vancouver have developed quality indicators (QIs) for hip and knee replacement rehabilitation. Quality indicators state the quality of rehabilitation care that all patients having a joint replacement for hip or knee osteoarthritis



(OA) should expect to receive. We are now creating a 'toolkit' to help people like you and your families learn about these QIs and use them to: 1) make informed decisions about your rehabilitation options; 2) track the quality of care you receive; 3) communicate your needs with your healthcare team.

We are conducting a survey to learn what types of resources and information patients would like to have in this [EQUIP-TJR](#) toolkit. You are eligible to participate in this survey if you:

- Are 19 years of age or older AND
- Have osteoarthritis of the hip or knee and waiting for hip or knee replacement surgery OR
- Have had joint replacement surgery for hip or knee osteoarthritis in the past year.
- 

We encourage you to share the survey link with others who you think may be interested and also meet these characteristics. The survey has been extended until: **October 31st, 2017**. You will be eligible to win a \$100 Chapters/Indigo gift card for participating! Click here to take the survey: [www.bit.ly/EQUIPTJR](http://www.bit.ly/EQUIPTJR) (or copy and paste the URL into your browser).

## OSTEOPOROSIS CANADA

### Bonefit Workshops for Health Professionals

Bonefit workshops on *September 16-17 at the MacBain Community Centre in Niagara Falls*.

**Bone Fit™** is an evidence-informed exercise training workshop, designed for healthcare professionals and exercise practitioners to provide training on the most appropriate, safe and effective methods to prescribe and progress exercise for people with osteoporosis.

1. **Benefit Basics (1-day)**, aimed at exercise and fitness professionals working in the community with uncomplicated osteoporosis clients
2. **Benefit Clinical (2-day)**, developed for rehabilitation professionals working in a clinical environment with simple or complex osteoporosis clients.

Continuing Education Credits are available with CSEP, Canfitpro, OFC, CPTN, CFES, CATA and YMCA upon completion of Benefit training. Visit [www.benefit.ca](http://www.benefit.ca) for complete registration details or contact Kevin Ng at [kng@osteoporosis.ca](mailto:kng@osteoporosis.ca).



## Calendar of Events

Rheumatology Update 2017	September 15, 2017	Toronto, Ontario
BRIESE: British Columbia Rheumatology Invitational Education Series	September 29-30, 2017	Vancouver, British Columbia
19th Asia Pacific League of Association for Rheumatology Congress	October 16-20, 2017	Dubai, UAE
AMRQ Annual Conference 2017	October 19-21, 2017	Estérel Resort, Québec
Arthritis Research Canada – Reaching Out with Arthritis Research (ROAR)	October 21, 2017	Vancouver, British Columbia
<b>Arthritis Alliance of Canada 2017 Annual Meeting</b>	<b>October 26-27, 2017</b>	<b>Vancouver, British Columbia</b>
ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting 2017	November 3 - 8, 2017	San Diego, California
Canadian Rheumatology Association’s Canada Night in San Diego	November 6, 2017	San Diego, California
Family Medicine Forum	November 8-11, 2017	Montreal, Quebec
Clinical Day in Rheumatology ‘The Pearls You Need To Know’”	November 17, 2017	Hamilton, Ontario
LACA 2017, 6th Latin American Congress on Autoimmunity	November 26-29, 2017	Cancun, Mexico
10th International Symposium on Nutritional Aspects of Osteoporosis	November 28-December 1, 2017	Kowloon, Hong Kong
38th SICOT Orthopaedic World Congress	November 30-December 2, 2017	Cape Town, South Africa
2017 CRA National Rheumatology Residents Weekend	December 1-3, 2017	Toronto, Ontario
2018 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting & AHPA Annual Meeting	February 21-24, 2018	Vancouver, British Columbia

### **ABOUT THE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE OF CANADA**

With more than 30 member organizations, the Arthritis Alliance brings together arthritis health care professionals, researchers, funding agencies, governments, voluntary sector agencies, industry and, most importantly, representatives from arthritis consumer organizations from across Canada. While each member organization continues its own work, the Alliance provides a central focus for national arthritis-related initiatives.

**For more information about the Arthritis Alliance, please contact:**

Lina Gazizova at [lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca](mailto:lgazizova@arthritisalliance.ca) or visit our website: [www.arthritisalliance.ca](http://www.arthritisalliance.ca)