



The Canadian HIV/AIDS Pharmacists Network (CHAP)

The Canadian HIV/AIDS Pharmacists Network (CHAP) was formed in January, 1997, and is comprised of pharmacists involved in HIV practice across Canada. CHAP members meet on an annual basis, communicate regularly through e-mails, and collaborate on a variety of projects and publications.

Fall 2016 Newsletter



say that I was impressed by how active and involved our working group continues to be. You are definitely a model of outstanding contribution for not only the HIV/Viral Hepatitis world of practice, but the Pharmacy Profession as a whole. The CHAP Executive once again started planning a successful Annual General Meeting. I look forward to the next Annual General Meeting in Montreal which will coincide with CAHR 2017.

News from the Past Chair

Dear CHAP: It has been an honour to serve on the CHAP executive. CHAP has accomplished so much over the years and continues to offer a huge service for all its patients across Canada.

After each Annual General Meeting, the CHAP Terms of Reference state that each member of the Working Group must re-affirm their level of involvement with CHAP. It is the responsibility of the Past Chair to organize and carry out this review. As your Past-Chair, it became my responsibility. Having now completed this review, I must

A big Thank-you to everyone who contributes to CHAP!

See you at our next Annual Meeting,

Natalie Dayneka, CHAP Past Chair 2016-2017

News from the chair

Dear CHAP members,

To serve as the CHAP chair for the coming year is a great honour and privilege. Thank you for your confidence!

Though reaching virologic goals, both for HIV and HCV, is easier due to more effective and better tolerated antivirals, we are all faced with tremendous challenges with our patients growing older and facing multiple co-morbidities. The role of the pharmacist in the care of people living with HIV and / our viral hepatitis has perhaps never been any broader and the CHAP members are leading the way of best clinical practices, education and research for these difficult to treat patients. There is no doubt that we are crucial members of our multidisciplinary teams for complex and vulnerable patients. As such, CHAP initiatives continue to be valuable contributions to the fight against these infections and our individual and collective efforts are greatly appreciated by our patients and other healthcare professionals.

I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Natalie Dayneka (now past chair) for all her remarkable work last year as chair. She splendidly led the organization of the 2016 CHAP annual general meeting (AGM) and the meeting was a great success because of her. I want to thank Dominic Martel (secretary) for stepping up and volunteering to be part of the CHAP executive. It is a great experience to be part of this executive because of the tireless effort put in by all its members. A huge thanks to Alice Tseng and Deborah Young who year after year act as our treasurers. We will be electing a new secretary at next year's AGM so please consider joining the team.

Dominic and I will be very happy to welcome you to our city, Montréal, for next year's

CAHR and CHAP AGM. You can find all the information about CAHR 2017 (April 6-9, 2017) on the official website (<http://www.cahr-acrv.ca/conference/>), including some important dates such as the abstract submission deadline of December 14th 2016.

(Dominic apologizes for submitting the newsletter after the CAHR abstract submission deadline!)

The CHAP AGM is planned for Wednesday April 5th, 2017 and a therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) workshop will be held the morning of April 6th, 2017 (more details to come). We are presently welcoming any suggestions for speakers, presentations, discussions, new CHAP initiatives, etc. for the AGM. Please don't hesitate to contact me or other members of the executive if you have ideas.



I look forward to seeing you in La belle province in April!

Nancy Sheehan, CHAP chair 2016-2017
Chronic Viral Illness Service, McGill
University Health Centre, Montréal
nancy.sheehan@umontreal.ca

Welcome to All the New CHAP Members !

Sophia Wytsma
Shayna Campbell

Sophia and Shayna have joined Jeff Kapler at the Southern Alberta Clinic.

Tracy Janzen Cheney

Tracy has a Bachelors of Pharmacy as well as a hospital residency and has been working as a staff pharmacist at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg with extensive experience in providing care to inpatient internal medicine wards of which the vast majority of the local HIV patient population is admitted.

Nancy Gosselin

Nancy is a community pharmacist working in Montréal at the Pharmacie van Hoenaker & Tremblay. This pharmacy has a large HIV and hepatitis C population. She also participates in teaching at the Faculty of Pharmacy (Université de Montréal) and has offered numerous continuing medical education sessions on HIV.

Upcoming Meetings

Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI), Seattle, USA, February 13-17, 2017.

www.croiconference.org

International Liver Congress (EASL), Amsterdam, April 19-23, 2017.

<http://www.easl.eu/discover/events/detail/2017/the-international-liver-congress-2017>

Canadian Association for HIV Research (CAHR) annual meeting, Montreal, QC, Canada, April 6-9, 2017.

<http://www.cahr-acrv.ca/conference/>

CHAP annual general meeting

April 5th, 2017 and a therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) workshop will be held the morning of April 6th, 2017 (more details to come)

18th International Workshop on Clinical Pharmacology of HIV & Hepatitis Therapy, Chicago, USA, June 14-16, 2017.

<http://www.virology-education.com/event/upcoming/18th-international-workshop-clinical-pharmacology-antiviral-therapy/>

Abstract submission deadline: March 10, 2017

Regular registration deadline: February 14, 2017

Late online registration deadline: April 14, 2017

Check out the CAHR travel awards program for help with funding to go to HIV meetings!

<http://www.cahr-acrv.ca/hcp-travel-awards-competition/#conditionsoffunding>

News from across the country, from east to west

NEWS from newfoundland

- **From the Provincial HIV Program, Eastern Health, St. John's** (Debbie Kelly)

Greetings from the far east! Winter has found us already but that is not slowing things down at all in our clinic. New infections are still being seen in large numbers for us (10-12 per year vs. 5-6 per year), and an alarming number are presenting late in disease. I've been involved in managing OI's that I haven't seen since my training days in the mid-90's sadly. This has led to a review being undertaken of all our new infection cases over the past 5 years to look for missed opportunities for earlier diagnosis. This project is being led by one of the ID docs and a medical resident with our clinic, and we look forward to seeing the results.

The HIV POCT study in community pharmacies has been consuming a lot of our time. NL and AB will be ready to begin offering testing in two community pharmacies in each province by beginning of Feb. 2017. It's been an exciting journey so far, just engaging our local stakeholders in public health, government, ASO's, etc. in dialogue about the issues related to testing in our provinces. The study is being met with a lot of enthusiasm from everyone,

including local media on World AIDS day as we sent a "teaser" on the study out as part of the AIDS committee of NL's press release. Kudos and most sincere thanks to Christine Hughes and Jason Kielly, as the pharmacist leads on the project. We have such a great team working on this project – they are working tirelessly to make this happen. Thanks also to Linda Robinson for inviting me to speak to the Ontario Specialty Pharmacists' group as part of their joint meeting with OHTN. I enjoyed a brief mini-CHAP reunion with Linda, Alice and Michelle and it was so inspiring to hear the feedback and response to our POCT project from those who attended.

Hope everyone is keeping safe and warm this winter. Can't wait to catch up with you all at CHAP and CAHR in lovely Montreal this spring!!
Debbie

Nouvelles du Québec

- **From the McGill University Health Centre, Montréal** (Nancy Sheehan and Benoît Lemire, on behalf of the Chronic Viral Illness Service (CVIS) pharmacy team)

It still continues to be extremely busy for the pharmacy team at the Chronic Viral

Illness Service (CVIS). Luckily we will have some help in 2017 as we are told we will have residents on rotation with us for 12 consecutive months.

Alison is presently away on a 6 month sabbatical and should return sometime in March. Katherine Mousseau is now back from her maternity leave. It's a great pleasure having her with us. There have also been changes in our CVIS team. We welcomed last month a new physician, Dr. Nadine Kronfli. She trained in Infectious Diseases at McMaster University and is particularly interested in women with HIV and HIV/HCV co-infection. She is presently a CIHR CTN postdoctoral fellow. Our clinic nurses also have new responsibilities. They have recently started doing annual assessments of our patients; reviewing cardiovascular risk, updating vaccinations, doing gynecological exams, etc.

The Québec Antiretroviral Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM) Program has officially launched the analyses of rilpivirine, elvitegravir and dolutegravir. The analytical methods are now completely validated. So far, we find these have been very valuable to manage complex drug-drug interactions; for example, four-way interactions between 1) elvitegravir/cobicistat, darunavir and etravirine or 2) tipranavir/ritonavir, etravirine and dolutegravir. We have many complex patients with unusual regimens! We are planning a TDM conference and workshop on interpretation of plasma concentrations that will be held in Montréal on April 6th 2017 in the morning, just before the start of CAHR.

More information will follow (likely in February 2017) and people interested in participating will have to RSVP.

In terms of research, our MSc residents have completed the PHIRST Trial – Pharmacist Consults: Prioritization of HIV-Patients with a Referral Screening Tool. Developing a scoring system to prioritize consults has been challenging, to say the least. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Delphi survey! We are planning to ask Alison to present the results to you at the next CHAP AGM.

- **From the Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM), Montréal** (Dominic Martel on behalf of the UHRESS-team: Isabel Turcotte, Marie-Pierre Marquis, Mathieu Laroche and Rachel Therrien)

Bonjour from Montréal!

After completing the CHAP fall newsletter, I realized how much HIV pharmacists are dedicated to their patients, students, teaching, research across Canada. Here at the CHUM, we are slowly getting ready to our next big move in the new hospital. We know it will be great, but we don't know when we will move yet as it appears that the hospital is not ready! Hopefully, it will be this year in 2017...

On my side, I have been working the past few months in developing courses for the Université de Montréal (on viral hepatitis and management of cirrhosis) and I have had the chance to collaborate with Alison (from Montreal)

on one of the course. I also gave an evening presentation to hospital pharmacists on the treatment of hepatitis C. The presentation was open to hospital pharmacists across the whole province of Quebec.

In the next couple of months, we will start to work on an innovative project in hepatitis C in the province of Quebec, the ECHO® project, learning by doing. In summary, the project will reunite on a web platform a multidisciplinary panel of hepatitis C specialists (known as hub) with healthcare professionals (known as spokes) who will have the chance to learn and discuss cases and educational material. Pharmacists at our clinic will likely be very active in the project.

Suzanne presented a talk on HIV to nurses working at the OVO fertility clinic which are now treating women living with HIV. Prevention of HIV transmission to the partner, mother-to-child and post-exposure prophylaxis were discussed.

Rachel is putting a lot of efforts on the design of her website (<http://www.guidetherapeutiquevih.com>) which will completely change in a near future, so stay tuned for the new website soon. As usual, Rachel gave interesting presentations on drug-drug interactions (ARV with new oral anticoagulants) and the future of antiretroviral therapy at the annual PNMVS symposium.

I also want to take the opportunity to welcome Isabel Turcotte who is back in our team from a maternity leave. So welcome back Isabel and we are looking forward to work with you again!

I am sure we will have much more to say when you all come and visit us at the next CHAP AGM in 2017 in Montreal!

News from Ontario

From the Ottawa Viral Hepatitis Clinic, Ottawa (Pierre Giguère)

Hello from Ottawa!

Nothing out of the extraordinary here at TOH, beside the high incidence of STIs in the past 6 months. The trend of using integrase inhibitor-based therapy is still on. So far, no unexpected bad surprises: a few intolerant cases, very little resistance. Time has changed since nevirapine – Combivir days!!!

I am in the midst of updating our local PEP guidelines to dolutegravir – Truvada. It should be completed by the end of this year. Along with Alice and Michelle, I am also spending my time putting the finishing touches on the ‘yet to come’ drug interaction mobile app. Stay tuned!!! I was fortunate to have a pharmacy resident accepting to work on a pan Canadian survey on the perception of the interaction between dolutegravir and metformin. We are expecting to distribute the survey in the first quarter of 2017. I will get in touch with you for help in dissemination of the survey.

On a more personal note, 2016 has been good to me for travels: South Africa, Scotland, Martinique, and Winnipeg!!!. I am getting used to it.

Now my vacation bank is trying to tell me to calm down! I was able to keep my bike happy this summer, but no crazy trips or events (how can I ? I am never home, they say). Kids and wife seem doing well, sharing their time between hockey, swimming and hiking. It is always fun to hear you guys in the CHAP discussions. Enjoy the upcoming Holiday Season. Enjoy the presence of Family and a well-deserved rest!

Pierre

- **From Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa**
(Natalie Dayneka)

Appointments

Natalie Dayneka continues on in her second year as a voting member of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI). She recently started her term as the chair of the Vaccine Safety Working Group, NACI.

- **From St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto** (Deborah Yoong)

Things are pretty routine here at the hospital site. We continue to see newly diagnosed patients, patients seeking PrEP, patients started on PEP, and patients co-infected with hepatitis B and C. Since January, we've had just under 2000 visits for routine HIV follow-up, 148 visits for new patients, 89 new visits for PrEP and 168 visits for PrEP follow-up. Visits for HIV PEP are also very frequent and scrambling for meds is a routine activity here! Our hepatitis program also continues to be very active with just under 100 treated

(mono- and co-infected) and many to start sofosbuvir/velpatasvir in the new year. We remain VERY fortunate to have a full complement of nursing, social work, dietetics, psychiatry and hepatology, although one of our long-time nurses who has been here since the beginning in the 80s has officially retired! We're in the process of hiring her replacement and are looking forward to getting back a nurse dedicated to our clinic.

- **From Toronto General Hospital, Toronto** (Alice Tseng)

Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) Clinical Conference and HIV Pharmacy Specialty Group (HIV PSG) annual meeting: this past October, the OHTN clinical conference was held in Toronto. This was the first time in 3 years that the OHTN had hosted a large clinical meeting, and it was very well attended. Clinical faculty included numerous international speakers. The HIV PSG was involved in the planning and there was excellent representation of PSG members as faculty, moderators and attendees throughout the meeting. The PSG also had its annual AGM this week, and celebrated its 20th anniversary! Michelle Foisy and Debbie Kelly were guest presenters and gave excellent presentations which generated a lot of discussion. Linda Robinson and Sue Gill were recognized for their significant efforts in leading the group for over 10 years. (see attached photo).

HIV/HCV app. The app has been very

well received and is undergoing beta testing at the moment. The goal is to have the app available for download in the iTunes and Google Play stores by the end of the year. The app has also received awards from CSHP (Ontario Branch and National) for representing innovation in technology/promoting patient care. Work on version 2.0 of the app will begin in the new year. Thanks to everyone for their support and feedback on this huge endeavour.

CHAP Preceptorship Task Force. The task force will be meeting at the end of November to set up some draft guidelines on supporting preceptorship opportunities within CHAP, for both CHAP and non-CHAP (or future CHAP) members who wish to gain additional clinical expertise in a particular setting or specialty area. Depending upon funding, it may be possible to initiate a pilot preceptorship in the early part of 2017. Stay tuned!

TGH clinic. There continues to be an increasing focus on both treatment simplification (for naives as well as treatment-experienced patients) and management of comorbidities. Cancer diagnoses appear to be occurring more frequently, and can be a challenge to manage in treatment-experienced patients. The majority of our HIV/HCV coinfecting patients have been treated. Rates of reinfection are relatively low in our clinic. We are now focusing on recapturing the “hard to treat” segment of our population.

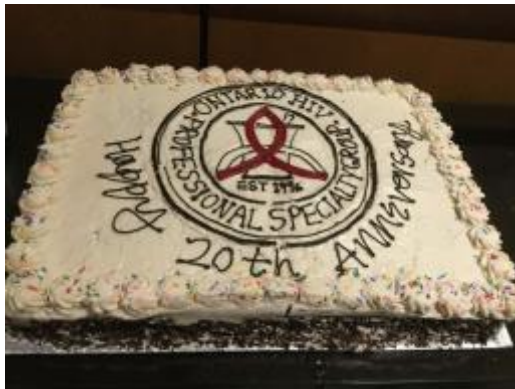
- **From Windsor** (Linda Robinson)

Hello from Windsor!

Plenty of changes have been happening in our center. Three of our original nurses have retired in the last year and there was a threat to completely dismantle our program, including the dispensary, and piece it out to the community. With plenty of notices and meetings with the powers that be, including a two page document to the CEO of why this decision about pharmacy would significantly create gaps in care in our community, we have been given 3 years to find a home in the community. This is largely because our hospital is trying to get approval for a new mega hospital in our region and the goal is to provide acute care only, leaving outpatient chronic care clinics to community based centers. Needless to say, it has been quite a political year but the good news for us is as of 2 weeks ago, our outpatient HIV clinic satellite has become a fully OCP accredited site, so we are proud of that. As for pharmacy personnel, congrats go out to my colleague, Melanie McQueen, who will be going on maternity leave in March. We are very happy for her. Her replacement will likely be a pharmacist with some HIV training but more expertise in retail pharmacy operations, hopefully combining both of our areas of specialty for seamless pharmaceutical care. I will introduce this person to CHAP when all things are final.

On the Ontario HIV Pharmacists Group side of things, we recently celebrated our 20th anniversary at our 8th annual PSG Education Day which was added as an ancillary event to the OHTN Education Clinical Conference. We were also asked to include pharmacists at

many of the plenaries and workshops throughout the conference which was a really nice compliment to us and a boost for HIV Pharmacists recognized as key players in the team approach to HIV patients as we march forward with our aging, chronically managed, patients. Thanks again to Deb Kelly and Michelle Foisy for making our birthday celebration even greater as they enlightened us as plenary speakers.



News from MANITOBA

- **From the Manitoba HIV Program**
(Shanna Chan)

Greetings from Manitoba! I am happy to share some fantastic information about our HIV program in Manitoba.

Firstly, we have welcomed a second full time HIV pharmacist to our program, Tracy Janzen Cheney. She started her training in early November and will be a great addition with her background in internal medicine. We will now have 1 pharmacist on a daily basis at both of our two HIV clinics in Winnipeg and we

will be rotating between the two sites on a weekly basis.

Secondly, we have a new HIV clinic in Manitoba which is located in the western portion of our province in the second largest city, Brandon, at 7th Street Health Access Centre, to help provide HIV care to those living in the Prairie Mountain Regional Health Authority. Historically people living in this region would either have to travel ~2.5 hours by car/bus to attend their appointments in Winnipeg or arrangements needed to be made for a Telehealth (video conference) appointment. Now patients can have the option to receive their care locally and thus far, it has been very well received. Clinical members of the Winnipeg based MB HIV Program continue to provide support through telephone consultation or through the patients' electronic medical records accessed through a secure online program.

And lastly, we welcome the addition of a HIV Program Development officer, Stephanie Van Haute, to our Manitoba HIV Program. The provision of HIV care in Manitoba has been centered in Winnipeg and one of her vast roles is to communicate and develop ongoing relationships with the other health regions outside of Winnipeg and partners agencies. She will assist the leadership team with strategic planning as well as program evaluation.

Shanna
Pharmacist – Manitoba HIV Program

News from Saskatchewan

- From Regina (Mike Stuber)

Things are pretty steady here in Regina while our patient numbers continue to increase. I continue to provide clinical services in Regina. I have also started traveling to remote rural and reserve sites in Saskatchewan with one of our ID physicians to provide HIV (and some HCV) care outside of the big cities. We are doing a lot of work collaborating with our community pharmacy partners, students and allied health care professionals. We are promoting HIV awareness, testing and best treatment practices in areas where comprehensive health care is harder to access, and to build capacity of current health care infrastructure in remote locations.”

- From the Saskatoon Positive Living Program, Saskatoon (Shannon Stone)

Fall is well upon us and we are fast moving into the winter season. Despite a few brief outs of snow, we are still able to say nothing has stuck yet and are enjoying a few warm days before winter sets in.

Saskatoon remains a very busy place with some great new editions to the team. A warm welcome to the 2 new ID specialists, Dr. S. Kogilwaimath and Dr. S. Peermohamed who have recently completed their training joined the ID team this past summer. A fond farewell and thank you to Dr. Yvonne Blonde, a

family physician that worked with the team for the last year and is moving on to a different clinic environment. Brent remains the clinic pharmacist, supporting the new physicians and the all the previous clinics on a regular basis. The final new edition includes a new case manager, Darlene Christensen. The program continues its ongoing work with various partners including Sanctum (the HIV hospice), Saskatoon Tribal Council, AIDS Saskatoon, & and the PLWA in building a community of support. Thanks to Brent for providing the update, hope everyone enjoys the upcoming holiday season! Wishing you all peace, love and happiness in the new year.

Shannon

News from Alberta

- From Edmonton (Christine Hughes, Michelle Foisy):

Greetings from the Northern Alberta Program in Edmonton. Overall we are doing well, however our numbers and workload continue to increase. So far this year we have had record-breaking numbers of pregnancies (almost at 50 now) which has been a big challenge for our perinatal nurse and team (no positive babies so far!). Beyond regular clinical activities, we continue to support the HCV program and provide a medication review for all co-infected patients starting on HCV treatment. We are also quite involved in providing seamless

care to HIV+ hospitalized and corrections patients.

Staffing changes:

- Welcome to *Domina Huang* who now works full-time at the Royal Alexandra Hospital clinic site. She has experience working in our program over the past 2 years, she has worked in corrections with HIV+ patients, and also has served as manager of the hospital Rexall where antiretrovirals are dispensed. She is a great asset to our program and we have very pleased to have her on board!

- We wish *Shayna Campbell* well as she moves on to Calgary to work in the Southern Alberta Program. Shayna worked with our program for the past year and she will be dearly missed. Thank-you for all of your hard work Shayna and best of luck to you!

Select Presentations:

Hughes C. New drugs for hepatitis C: on the road to a cure? Presented at: Canadian Pharmacists Conference, Calgary AB, June 27, 2016.

Foisy M. Update: Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV. Presented at: HIV Pharmacy Education Day- Ontario HIV Pharmacists' Professional Specialty Group. Toronto, Ontario, October 26, 2016.

Projects:

Michelle is working on the development a pocket card to support seamless care in institutionalized patients (hospital, corrections). The provincial card is being piloted in practice and will be available in early 2017. A more generic Canadian card will follow.

Publications:

Subramanian Y, Khan MN, Berger S, *Foisy M*, Singh A, Woods D, Pyne D, Ahmed R. HIV outcomes at a Canadian remand centre. *Int J Prison Health* 2016;12(3):145-56.

- **From the Southern Alberta Clinic, Calgary** (Jeff Kapler, Jinell Mah Ming)

There are many exciting changes here. We are not quite buried in snow, however, it is COLD COLD COLD with -21C weather and windchill up to -30C!

Our team here would like to welcome Shayna Campbell to the Southern Alberta Clinic (She has left our colder Alberta city of Edmonton to come South to Calgary! :)

For myself, I am working parttime at the Southern Alberta Clinic and doing an additional part time at the Calgary Tuberculosis Clinic.

Most exciting is that our Lovely Genvieve is expecting her 3rd child with a due date for January 12. And our casual pharmacist Sophia Wytsma, will be working Genvieve's maternity leave.

Have a wonderful day and stay warm!

Jinell

We at last have some stability in our staffing here. We are moving to have pharmacy staff maximize their potential, working to full-scope with technician-checking of prescriptions. We're also working on computerized order sets for

ARV for the adult hospitals in Calgary.

Jeff

News from British Columbia

- From St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver (Linda Akagi)

The cold, wet weather has definitely arrived in the west and we even have had our first snow fall (yikes!) Talk about bringing the city to a standstill 😊

The BC CfE in HIV/AIDS held their semi-annual education update on November 28th. Highlights from the meeting included information on the epidemic of overdose deaths in BC, treatment of opioid use disorder and HIV testing and prevention. Recordings of the update will be posted on the BC CfE's website under Education and Training in the near future

<http://education.cfenet.ubc.ca/>

Work wise, we continue to look at ways to improve our efficiencies and provide service to patients who have their medications mailed to them and do not have the benefit of direct contact with a HIV pharmacist. This group represents approximately half of the patients who are dispensed medications from St. Paul's hospital. Past review identified these patients as being more vulnerable (ie higher proportion were female, aboriginal, had a CD4 count <200, had a

physician with less HIV experience) and having less favorable clinical outcomes (ie less likely to be virologically suppressed or meet the guidelines for minimum laboratory monitoring, lower medication adherence.) This has meant strengthening ties with clinicians, outreach service workers and our community pharmacy partners and access to a clinical pharmacist through a toll-free line.

For patients who still come to St. Paul's hospital to receive their care, approximately 50% have moved to a more streamlined system of dispensing where clinical checks are mostly done prior to patients picking up their medications. This has allowed our pharmacists to focus more of their attention on patients who require direct care and more intensive follow up.

- From Oak Tree Clinic, Vancouver (Karen Tulloch, Carlo Quaia)

Hello!

We have been our usual busy selves here at Oak Tree Clinic. Melice Bell is currently on maternity leave caring for her new baby boy until the end of summer 2017. During this time, pharmacist Mira Yoo, while not trained in HIV/HCV, has joined us and has been instrumental in providing very much appreciated help with the day-to-day activities. In addition, Arleen Tyndall continues working casual shifts and most importantly brings new insights to our clinic operations and patient care management.

We have recently received approval for and changed to a TAF-containing

regimen for 2 of our patients (one for Genvoya and the other for DRV/RTV/Descovy-200/10). So far there have not been any concerns or issues raised with therapy although it is early in their treatment. With two additional requests pending for these medications, it will be interesting to see what role these new medications will be in our clinic.

Our Hep C Treatment Program has been progressing well. To date, 10/10 women patients have successfully completed treatment with more patients continually being considered eligible for treatment. Patient enrolment at the current time has slowed however as a

result of two overlapping Nurse Practitioner maternity leaves (NPs head our program administration).

Finally, we would like to share a note of kudos we have received. The Oak Tree Clinic was recently selected as one of six recipients of this year's AIDS Vancouver's Red Ribbon Awards and the presentation will be given at a reception on World AIDS Day Dec.1, 2016.

That wraps up our news for now. We send best wishes to everyone and look forward to seeing you in 2017 at CHAP/CAHR in Montreal (for Carlo....likely his last one: ☹ and ☺).

Carlo and Karen

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this newsletter!

I hope we will see you all at our next Annual General Meeting in Montréal!

Dominic Martel, CHAP Secretary 2016-2017