



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 2014 Newsletter



News from the chair

Hello everyone! I hope you and your loved ones are keeping well. The Flu season is upon us hope you have gotten or plan on getting the Flu shot this year to keep healthy and keep your patients healthy too.

Wow, it's November already and the time seems to be really passing by quickly. It's not much longer until we meet again at our next annual general meeting which will take place on Wednesday, April 29th, 2015 in Toronto. Planning is well underway and we already have one speaker, Dr. Evan Collins, psychologist, to discuss HIV denial/denialism confirmed for the morning session. Much thanks to those who responded with suggestions for other speakers and topics for the meeting – all fantastic suggestions! Last year's CHAP AGM and CAHR conference in St. John's, Newfoundland will be hard to top (lots of cod kissing honorary Newfies amongst our group), but will strive to make it a must come event so be sure to mark it in your calendar to attend.

A warm welcome to our newest CHAP members: Jaris Swidrovich from Saskatoon, and Ishita Patel from Ontario. We also have some international members joining us: Yenny Tju from Indonesia (new to our membership), and Nicki Hanhoff (formerly Ostrop) from Germany (returning member to CHAP).

I think CHAP is an amazing network of people and I think one of Mahatma Ghandi's quotes describes it very well. *"A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history."* The strength of CHAP is in its members, with the collaborative spirit, development and sharing of resources. A big congratulations and much appreciation to Alison Wong and Alice Tseng on development of the *2014 HIV Oncology Handbook* (electronic version available on the hivclinic.ca website) - a phenomenal undertaking and fantastic resource. Another excellent resource recently made available via the website, *A Guide to Assessing Antiviral Therapy in HIV Hospitalized*

Patients. This, first of its kind guide, stems from the project addressing medication errors in HIV hospitalized patients and was developed by PharmD candidates Emily Li and Elliott Pittman with the support of Alberta CHAP members (Michelle Foisy, Colleen Benson and Jeff Kapler). It is truly amazing the breadth of collaboration within this small, but growing, network of which I am so honored to say I am a member.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the CHAP executive, Christine Hughes (Past Chair), Natalie Dayneka (Secretary/Incoming Chair), Alice Tseng and Deborah Yoong (Treasurers) for their hard work, kind support and guidance.

Keep warm and happy reading!
Shanna Chan, Chair

Welcome to New CHAP members

Jaris Swidrovich, BSP, Pharm.D.

- Jaris is a graduate from the University of Saskatchewan Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program (2010) and the Doctor of Pharmacy program at the University of Toronto (2013) He is a Clinical Coordinator of Pharmaceutical Services with the Saskatoon Health Region at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon. His portfolio includes Adult Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine; however, his personal clinical practice is working with adult inpatients living with HIV/AIDS and addictions (opioid use disorder).
- "I am most passionate about the area of HIV/AIDS and addictions, and recognize the unfortunate overrepresentation of Aboriginal people who experience such struggles. As Canada's first Aboriginal Doctor of Pharmacy and as an individual who is active in the community, I am so thankful and excited for the opportunity to work in this area, with the majority of my patients being Aboriginal, too. I am new to this clinical practice area (<2 months thus far) and building my practice and learning as I go. I would be most appreciative of becoming a member of the CHAP listserv, where I know I would have the opportunity to not only learn from others across the country, but also share my experiences, perspectives, and questions from an inpatient point of view in Saskatchewan."

Ishita Patel, Pharm.D, RPh:

- Ishita works at pharmacy.ca and at the Whitby clinic

Nicki Hanhoff (formerly Ostrop):

- We are thrilled to welcome back Nicki Hanhoff (formerly Ostrop) to CHAP! CHAP members may remember that Nicki worked with the SAC group from 1996-2000 and then moved to Germany, where she has continued to work in the HIV field.

Yenny Tju:

- Yenny is an Independent Consultant for Sub Directorate of HIV &STI of Indonesia Ministry of Health.
- She is currently writing a book on guidelines for Pharmacist care in HIV/AIDS for pharmacist colleagues in Indonesia and wanted to join CHAP to have more information to enrich this book.

Marie-Élaine Métras:

She is a pharmacist at CHU Sainte-Justine in Montréal and has been working with Pascal Bédard at the HIV clinic, CHU Sainte-Justine for almost 1 year.

News from British Columbia

The following article was recently accepted for publication in Antiviral Therapy (CHAP authors include K Lepik, L Akagi and J Toy).

Lepik KJ, Yip B, McGovern RA, Ding E, Nohpal A, Watson BE, Toy J, Akagi L, Harrigan PR, Moore DM, Hogg RS, Montaner JSG, Barrios R. Post-marketing experience with nevirapine extended release (XR) tablets: effectiveness and tolerability in a population-based cohort in British Columbia, Canada. Antiviral Therapy 2014 (In Press).

Kathy

News de l'UHRESS du CHUM

Bonjour de l'UHRESS du CHUM!

Un bel automne à tous!

We have a couple of new pharmacy clinical projects going on at our center this fall and we would like to share them with the group!

As a reminder, the CHUM (Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal) HIV pharmacists work at three different hospitals in Montreal (Hôtel-Dieu, Notre-Dame, Saint-Luc) and are providing pharmaceutical care to HIV-infected inpatients and outpatients. We are proud members of a clinical division known as UHRESS which stands for « Unité hospitalière de recherche, d'enseignement et de soins sur le sida ».

At the clinic, we are getting more and more involved with Hepatitis C. This is a new challenge for all of us as it is for the rest of HIV pharmacists in Canada! Also, we are now starting to write our notes in the medical chart directly from the computer (hopefully to get paper free) in what we call o-word. I was able to have a student help me to build some pre-defined templates to collect information and write our notes in a more standardized manner to facilitate patient follow-up and the quality of pharmaceutical care. We will see this fall if our templates allow us to be more efficient or not.

We have also reviewed our neonatal HIV post-exposure prophylaxis protocol as some of our pregnant patients are now being followed and are giving birth at the CHUM so we had to change our protocol. In addition, we are also collaborating with the kidney transplant team to have a « kidney transplantation protocol » specific for HIV patients.

Rachel Therrien and colleagues are also finishing to complete drug-drug interactions pre-defined templates and notes that are used by our dispensing pharmacists when they identify common drug-drug interactions (e.g. atazanavir and proton pump inhibitors, ritonavir and fluticasone, ritonavir and fentanyl, etc.). This allows hospital pharmacists that are less familiar with HIV pharmaceutical care to rapidly react and have already built-in solutions when they identify a potential drug-drug interaction. They can then send a clinical note to the physician indicating the relevant drug interaction with some pharmacy suggestions.

Rachel is always very active with her website and I would strongly recommend that you download her new app for iPhone « Guide Thérapeutique VIH » on the App Store. You can also find on the website many tools and handbooks including her new HIV and psychiatry handbook (www.guidetherapeutiquevih.com). Thank you Rachel for providing us with all these great tools!

I would also like to congratulate Suzanne Marcotte from our group who is representing the Quebec pharmacists at the PNMVS (Programme national de mentorat sur le VIH-SIDA). For your information, the PNMVS is a continuous medical information program for healthcare professionals actively involved in treating people infected with HIV. A basic HIV 101 conference given for Montreal community pharmacists had great success (given by Alison Wong, Anick Boulerice with Rachel Therrien as the moderator) and reminded us that we sometimes need to go back to basics when presenting to our colleagues.

You can find a lot of information on their website: <http://www.pnmvs.org/>

I wish you all a great fall and winter!

Dominic

On behalf of Dominic, Isabel, Marie-Pierre, Mathieu, Rachel and Suzanne

News from Edmonton

The number of patients enrolled in the Northern Alberta HIV Program continues to rapidly grow as a result of patients moving to Alberta in addition to new infections. Domina Huang, a pharmacist who works in corrections, joined the program in August 2014 in a temporary pharmacist position and has been a valuable addition. Welcome Domina! Some updates from our clinic/region:

CHAP paper:

Great News! Michelle and Alice are pleased to announce that our CHAP paper has been recently accepted for publication as a letter in the International Journal of Pharmacy Practice. We will keep you posted on the final publication citation and hopefully post the link on the CHAP website.

Project on Addressing Medication Errors in HIV Hospitalized Patients:

- As discussed at the 2014 CHAP meeting, we are pleased to update you on the progress of our project addressing medication errors in HIV hospitalized patients. Congratulations to both Emily Li and Elliott Pittman who worked hard on this project! They are convocating with the first UofA PharmD class this November.
- We have reviewed the literature on drug errors in hospitalized patients and have developed an educational resource/guide for inpatient pharmacists to identify and manage ARV errors for efficiently.
- The Guide will be updated periodically as new drugs come available. Since the guide has an Alberta focus, if you are interesting in adapting/using the guide at your site, please contact Michelle Foisy for more information.
- The literature review is published at: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24811394>
- The ARV Assessment Guide can be found at: <http://www.bugsanddrugs.ca/documents/HIVARVGuide.pdf> (it is also posted on the Toronto HIV Website under "Additional Information for Healthcare Providers" and the CHAP website under "Resources.")

Updated Tables for Toronto HIV Clinic Website:

We have recently updated the Pediatric Antiretroviral Dosing and Information on Crushing and Liquid Drug Formulations Charts which are available on the Toronto HIV Clinic website. A big thank you to Natalie Dayneka for reviewing the Pediatric Antiretroviral Dosing Chart and Alice for including these tables! We have also developed a table on Drug Interactions with Antiplatelets and Novel Oral Anticoagulants which is also on the Toronto HIV Clinic website.

Publications:

Michelle Foisy:

Foisy MM, Tseng A. Development of a collaborative professional group for HIV pharmacists: experience from the Canadian HIV/AIDS Pharmacists (CHAP) network. *Int J Pharm Pract.* (in press)

Newman M, **Foisy MM**, Ahmed R. The use of therapeutic drug monitoring in complex antituberculous and antiretroviral drug dosing in HIV-tuberculosis co-infected patients. *J Int Assoc Provid AIDS Care.* (in press)

Pittman E, **Foisy M**. A Guide to Assessing Antiretroviral Therapy in HIV Hospitalized Patients. Northern Alberta Program, Royal Alexandra Hospital, Edmonton, AB, October 17, 2014. Accessed at: <http://www.bugsanddrugs.ca/documents/HIVARVGuide.pdf> (accessed October 30, 2014)

Foisy MM, Li EH. Response to Comment on "Medication reconciliation by a pharmacist in patients with human immunodeficiency virus on antiretroviral therapy: The needed balance of availability and expertise." *Ann Pharmacother* 2014;48(11):1535-36.

Li EH, **Foisy MM**. Antiretroviral and medication errors in hospitalized HIV-positive patients: a review of the literature. *Ann Pharmacother* 2014;48(8):998-1010.

Woods EA, **Foisy MM**. Antiretroviral-related alopecia in HIV-infected patients: a review of the literature. *Ann Pharmacother* 2014;48(9):1187-93.

Foisy M. How to Thwart a Thyroid Problem. CATIE. The Positive Side. Winter 2014;16(1):22-25. Accessed at: <http://librarypdf.catie.ca/PDF/ATI-60000s/60211.pdf> (accessed October 30, 2014)

Christine Hughes:

1. Lefebvre M, **Hughes CA**, Yasui Y, Saunders LD, Houston S. Antiretroviral treatment outcomes among immigrant/refugee persons living with HIV/AIDS in northern Alberta. *Can J Public Health* 2014;105(4):e251-7.
2. **Hughes CA**, Tseng A, Cooper R. Managing drug interactions in HIV-infected adults with comorbid illness. *CMAJ* 2014; Sept 15 [Epub ahead of print]
3. **Hughes C**, Hydrie MZ, Vohra S. Interactions between antiretrovirals and natural health products. In: Watson RR (ed). *Food, Nutrition and Lifestyle in Health of HIV-Infected People (Volumes I&II)*. (in press, Elsevier).

Awards:

Michelle Foisy, Christine Hughes. CSHP Alberta Branch, 2015 Alberta Success Story Newsletter Competition, 2014/15.

Awarded for submission entitled: "Optimizing HIV Perinatal Outcomes: Pharmacist Contributions in a Collaborative Care Model."

Accessed at: http://www.cshp.ca/dms/dmsView/1_Optimizing-HIB-Perinatal-Outcomes-M-Foisy-Winner-AB-Branch-2014.pdf (accessed October 30, 2014)

Michelle Foisy & Christine Hughes

News from the Montreal Chest Institute Montreal, Quebec

There really hasn't been much change at the MCI this year, except for all the preparation that is going into the eventual merge into the mega hospital, the Glen that will occur in the summer of 2015. In light of the move, we have been slowly working to get rid of paper charts as we will not be allowed to bring anything from one hospital to the next. We have therefore been updating our internal databases to better accommodate pharmacists' needs.

In terms of workload, we have had an increasing number of pre-hepatic and pre-renal transplant cases in our HIV population. We also have had an increase in consults regarding the assessment of potential interactions with HCV antivirals.

In regards to projects, the screening tool survey portion has been completed (thanks to all those who participated). We are now working on the development of a screening/referral tool. We are hoping to have some preliminary information to present at CAHR 2015.

The CANDY study: effects of diabetes on antiretroviral pharmacokinetics will be reporting results soon. The pharmacy residents working on this project finished recruiting patients and are now finalizing the statistical analysis. We were able to obtain 49 subjects from the CHEST. Unfortunately we did not reach our goal of 100 subjects we wished for. Depending on the results from the pilot study, we will decide if we will move forward to a multi centre study.

In regards to the Antiretroviral TDM program, as you know the website is up and running:

*Alison Wong
On behalf of the MCI pharmacy team*

Oak Tree Clinic News

We have had another busy year here at Oak Tree Clinic. This past summer, our outpatient clinic moved to electronic charting for our patients, one of only a handful of early adopters at the BC's Children's and Women's Health Centre. The plan next year (Fall of 2015) is for the rest of the site, both Children's and Women's inpatient units, to migrate over to electronic charting as well. While we did have some challenges early on, and continue to do so, overall it has proven to be beneficial in terms of patient safety and care as well as improved efficiency.

Oak Tree Clinic is also celebrating its 20th anniversary this year with events scheduled for Dec. 3rd and an open-house on Dec.5th 2014.

In addition, construction is well underway on the new acute care building for BC's Children's Hospital and is expected to be completed by 2017.

Carlo, Karen, Gloria

News from The Ottawa Hospital

The HIV workload is relative stable, but I anticipate spending more time in HCV, particularly with the commercialization of Harvony (Sofosbuvir/ledipasvir) which may boost the number of new starts.

On a different note, the recruitment for the microboosting study (<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02034838?term=microboosting+study&rank=1>) is now completed. We hope to be able to present the data at the next pharmacology workshop. Stay tuned! Our collective and collaborative projects are moving forward. Thanks to Alison (Screening tool), Michele and Alice (HIV/HCV website and app) for their leadership.

Now I need to get ready for the winter. I officially stored my Madone (giving it a rest for good services during my trip in Tuscany). Now time to move on into hockey (Thomas) and swimming (Andréanne).

Pierre

News from Manitoba

The Scotia Bank AIDS Walk for Life Winnipeg 2014 was held on Sunday, September 21st. We had great weather and a great turn out with ~315 people in attendance and 29 teams participating this year. This year's walk was the most successful to date with almost \$40 000 raised with all the money to be used locally towards supporting people living with HIV.

My kids, Cade (3.5 years old) and Laine (22 months) participated in the walk with me as team "INSPI(RED)" – they got to ride in the wagon after they got too tired to walk.



On a personal note, I have applied for an extended-practice pharmacist license with the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba. Pharmacists granted this designation work in a collaborative practice, and it recognizes those with specialized training allowing prescribing and managing of patient medications. With this designation, I hope to be able work to the full scope of HIV practice and to provide better patient care.

HIV IN MANITOBA 2013

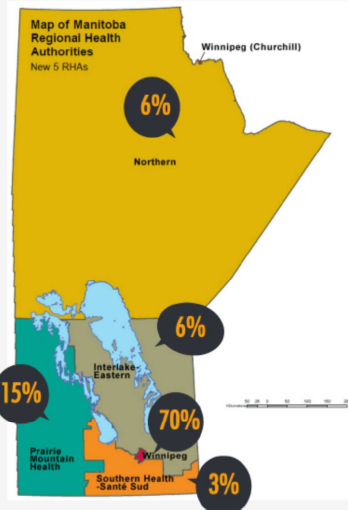


Fig 1: Location of those new to care

In Manitoba, there are nearly 1200 people living with HIV receiving care from the Manitoba HIV Program

HIV care is provided at 2 sites: Nine Circles Community Health Centre and Health Sciences Centre Green Desk

116 people were new to the HIV Program in 2013. Of these, 27 were transfers from other provinces or countries, 1 person returned to HIV care after being lost to care and 88 Manitobans were new to HIV care in 2013.

All new patients in 2013 are linked with the HIV Program and 92% are actively retained in care.

HIV IN MANITOBA - RISK FACTORS



45% heterosexual sex



26% men having sex with men



13% people who use injection drugs



11% endemic

THE FIGURES

WHAT DO WE KNOW?

27% of those new to care were diagnosed with CD4 counts < 200

47% of those new to care are Aboriginal

30% of new patients live outside of Winnipeg

THE FACTS

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



DELAYED PRESENTATION of HIV leads to poorer health outcomes for individuals and missed opportunities for prevention



OVER-REPRESENTATION of Aboriginal people in Manitoba's HIV epidemic calls for improved access to services



PROVINCIAL ISSUE Access to treatment and coordination of care outside Winnipeg remains a critical issue for the Manitoba HIV Program

The Manitoba HIV Program is finishing up a consultation with plans to release the report on World AIDS Day, Dec 1st. The purpose of the consultation is to engage health providers and health system leadership in each regional health authority, First Nations and Inuit Health and MB Health to articulate the vision for expanding HIV Program Services Provincially (currently very Winnipeg-centric), defining the elements of such an expansion and agree upon practical actions towards the vision.

Shanna Chan

*Thank-you to every-one who submitted!
A big Thank-you to everyone who contributes to CHAP!
See you at our Annual Meeting,
Natalie Dayneka
CHAP Secretary 2014-2015*

Conference registration is now open for the Canadian Association for HIV Research (CAHR) 2015 to take place April 30 - May 3, 2015 in Toronto. The theme of the Conference is *Combining Strengths in the Struggle Against HIV*

The abstract deadline is Wednesday, January 7th