



Canadian HIV/AIDS Pharmacists Network
*Association Canadienne des Pharmaciens en
VIH/SIDA*

CHAP Fall 2008 Newsletter

2008/09 CHAIR

Linda Akagi, B.Sc.Pharm.
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SECRETARY

Cara Hills-Niemenin,
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**Members of the Working
Group:**

ALBERTA

Michelle Foisy, Pharm.D.
Christine Hughes, Pharm.D.
Jeff Kapler, B.Sc.Pharm.
Kathy Lee, Pharm.D.
Jinell Mah-Ming, B.Sc. Pharm.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Gloria Tsang, B.Sc.Pharm.

ONTARIO

Natalie Dayneka, Pharm.D.
Lizanne Béique, Pharm.D.
Norman Dewhurst, B.Sc.Pharm.
Charles laPorte, Pharm.D.,
Ph.D.
Pierre Giguère, B. Pharm,
M.Sc.
Linda Robinson, B.Sc.Pharm.
Alice Tseng, Pharm.D.
Deborah Yoong, Pharm.D.

QUEBEC

Marie Courchesne,
B.Pharm.,M.Sc.
Line Labbé, Ph.D.
Nancy Sheehan, B.Pharm.,
M.Sc.
Niamh Higgins, Pharm. D.
Rachel Therrien, B.Pharm.,
M.Sc.

SASKATCHEWAN

Linda Sulz, Pharm.D.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Debbie Kelly, Pharm.D.



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Newsletter Editor: Secretary

I. WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Patricia Marr-HIV Pharmacist for the ID clinic at Toronto General Hospital (covering Alice's maternity leave)

Shanna Chan –HIV Pharmacist for the Manitoba HIV Program

Alissa Koop –Pharmacist for the Hamilton Ontario, HIV Program

II. RESEARCH PROJECT UPDATES – CHAP Initiatives

- Endorsement policy (Linda R.)-pending
- Pregnancy & TDM (Niamh, Christine)-pending
- Medication reconciliation (Trish, Marie, Niamh)-update from Niamh
 - Description of Factors Associated with Medication Errors in an HIV Ambulatory Care Setting: A Pilot Study (DEFEAT Study)
 - Sept 1-submitted a full proposal for our medication safety pilot project
 - also submitting the proposal for internal funding at the MUHC
 - decided that we will move forward with our pilot project as institution and then use these results to develop a larger inter-institutional/multijurisdictional study (hopefully this will be a CHAP initiative)
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- Maternal management (Gloria, Tamar)-pending
- Crushing tablet chart (Christine)-see attachment
- Bioequivalence of crushed/opened ARVs (Charles)-pending
- Regional summary for HIV exposed newborn management (Natalie)-pending

III. MEMBER PUBLICATIONS/POSTERS/PRESENTATIONS

Publications:

1. Hughes CA, Foisy MM, Dewhurst N, Higgins N, Robinson L, Kelly D, Lechelt K.

Abacavir hypersensitivity reaction: an update.

Ann Pharmacother 2008;42(3):387-96

2. Erin M Yakiwchuk, Michelle M Foisy, and Christine A Hughes

Complexity of Interactions Between Voriconazole and Antiretroviral Agents

Ann Pharmacother 2008;42:698-703.

3. Charles la Porte

Inhibitory quotient in HIV pharmacology

Current Opinion in HIV & AIDS. 3(3):283-287, May 2008.

4. Michelle M Foisy, Erin M Yakiwchuk, and Christine A Hughes

Induction Effects of Ritonavir: Implications for Drug Interactions

Ann Pharmacother 2008;42:1048-1059.

5. MM Foisy, EMK Yakiwchuk, I Chiu and AE Singh

Adrenal suppression and Cushing's syndrome secondary to an interaction between ritonavir and fluticasone: a review

of the literature

HIV Medicine Volume 9, Issue 6, Date: July 2008, Pages:389-396

6. Patricia Marr and Sharon Walmsley

Reassessment of enfuvirtide's role in the management of HIV-1 infection

Expert Opinion on Pharmacotherapy September 2008, Vol. 9, No. 13: 2349-2362

Posters:

B Orng, S Fortier, G Benyayer, I Tang, L Labbé, S Perreault, NM Higgins, RG Lalonde, SL Sheehan. Physician adherence to pharmacological advice in an antiretroviral therapeutic drug monitoring program. Abstract #. 9th International Workshop on Clinical Pharmacology of HIV Therapy, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA April 7-10, 2008.

I Tang, B Orng, S Fortier, G Benyayer, L Labbé, S Perreault, NM Higgins, RG Lalonde, SL Sheehan. Evaluation of physician satisfaction with the Québec provincial antiretroviral therapeutic drug monitoring program. Abstract #. 9th International Workshop on Clinical Pharmacology of HIV Therapy, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA April 7-10, 2008

Presentations:

Higgins NM, Lapointe N, Gauthier J, Lalonde RG, Sheehan NL. Retrospective Evaluation of Efavirenz Concentrations in Pediatric Patients in an Antiretroviral Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM) Program. Abstract #8. 9th International Workshop on Clinical Pharmacology of HIV Therapy, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA April 7-10, 2008.

IV. AWARDS/OTHER PROJECTS/NEWS

News from Alberta:

Congratulations to Christine Hughes-one of the first pharmacists in Canada able to prescribe! See article below!

Pharmacists get power of prescriptions

EDMONTON -- A group of 15 pharmacists in Alberta have become the first in Canada given powers to prescribe new medications to patients without needing final authorization from a doctor.

They were part of a pilot project to ensure all future pharmacists wanting additional prescribing powers under Alberta's Pharmacists Act are rigorously evaluated before taking on the new responsibility.

"Pharmacists are quite highly educated, and to just be stuck doing dispensing-type things, it's not really a good use of our training and expertise," said Christine Hughes, who has been a pharmacist since 1994.



Nese Yuksel along with Christine Hughes, two of the first 15 pharmacists across Alberta who have been given prescribing powers. Christine is an HIV specialist, Nese is a women's health specialist (menopause).

The move to give pharmacists prescribing powers was initially met with resistance from doctors. The Alberta Medical Association questioned whether pharmacists had the training and education to handle the extra responsibility.

Hughes has now received approval to prescribe new drugs -- other than narcotics, anabolic steroids and barbiturates, such as morphine and codeine -- to patients.

Her powers go beyond giving prescription refills to people who have run out of birth control pills or asthma inhalers before scheduling a doctor's appointment. More than 90 per cent of Alberta pharmacists can adapt prescriptions or prescribe in an emergency after going through an orientation course.

But Hughes can actually write people brand new prescriptions, change their drug therapies and significantly adjust dosages. For the past 10 years, she has worked with HIV/AIDS patients out of an infectious disease clinic at the University of Alberta Hospital and has a detailed understanding of how anti-retroviral drugs affect patients.

Hughes said patients probably won't even notice the new powers pharmacists have.

"It just legalizes and improves some of the efficiencies of the system," Hughes said.

"I think it is important, that sharing of responsibility. And I think in terms of care for the patient, it will improve care and efficiency and off-load some very routine things that might get hung up on a physician's desk and they can focus in on more complex patients."

The Northern Alberta HIV Program won the Capital Health Reach Award for Team work!

News from Ottawa:

Natalie Dayneka in Ottawa has a visiting pharmacist for one month from Ghana, Africa who is at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario with the support of a Pharmabridge grant from the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). Nathan tells me that he has 300 pediatric HIV positive patients.

For the newsletter could you please include the following

News from Windsor (Linda R):

I've been working with CMEon HIV to update the pharmacists' section to now include some newer (and hopefully improved) research/sharing capabilities. I will be recording a brief description of the new features for the members benefits and will notify all CHAP members when this is finished. The first expected CHAP member feature presentation will hopefully be Charles LaPortes's TDM talk we were hoping to get at our meeting last April but ran out of time. I'll keep you all posted...

Also, I've been asked by Dr. Rodger MacArthur to co-author a paper on PK and PD of newer ARV's. Alice and Christine Hughes will also join us on this article which will be featured in the journal 'Expert Opinion'. Timeline for completion is January.

I'm still working with the Working group on the final publication of the Canadian Consensus Guidelines for Managing CV Risk in HIV + patients which got started in Montreal in April and is expected to be published in Pulsus, +others. I'll keep the group posted on that paper when out as well. I have volunteered to help create and update a useful clinic tool as a result of the recommendations of this group.

For the benefit of our Ont. members, I'm still planning a CE day with travel and hotel sponsorship from the AIDS Bureau and may be calling on some of them for speaking. It is hoped to have this day before the end of this calendar year.

I'm writing and submitting the AAHIVM Specialist Credentialing Exam by the end of September and will provide feedback to any members interested in the process once I've completed it.(hopefully successfully) It is the first year that they've offered this for "PharmD's, but have accepted Canadians and recognized my non-Pharm D degree, but acknowledged experience in case anyone else is interested in this.

News from Montreal:

Our HIV pharmacy team (Nancy Sheehan, Marie Courchesne, Anick Boulerice, Benoît Lemire and Niamh Higgins) won the Prix de reconnaissance de innovation en pratique clinique PPC (Les Partenaires Pharmaceutiques du Canada), from l'Association des pharmaciens des établissements de santé (APES), 2008 for our TDM program.

Nancy also won Prix en pratique spécialisée Jansenn Ortho.

Summer Fun

Michelle's Trip to BC



Cara's trip to BC and new dog, Earl

