



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

Fall 2009 Newsletter

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A Message from the Secretary:

Greetings to all CHAP members! I am delighted to present the first issue of the biannual CHAP newsletter. I want to thank everyone who shared their updates, making this newsletter possible. If you browse through the publications section, you will be amazed at the quantity and quality of work that CHAP members have produced since the last newsletter was circulated in May—a huge congratulations to all! –Niamh Higgins

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to Aneeta Lal! In her words:

My name is Aneeta Lal. I started working at the Toronto General Immunodeficiency Clinic's Clinic Pharmacy. It is a retail satellite pharmacy that functions within the clinic specializing in HIV. I am a graduate from the University of Saskatchewan and have been working as a licensed pharmacist since 2005. This area is very new to me and I am busy learning as much as I can. Reading emails from the CHAP group has certainly helped!

CHA

P Research Updates:

DEscription of Factors Associated with Medication Errors in an HIV Ambulatory Care SeTting: A Pilot Study (DEFEAT Study) (project leader: Niamh Higgins)

The DEFEAT study is a pilot project taking place at the Montreal Chest Institute. The purpose of this study is to better characterize medication errors in our clinic patients and the risk factors associated with these errors.

Thus far, 88 patients have consented to participate and 61 have completed their study visits (we intend to collect medication histories for 120 patients). We plan to use the findings of DEFEAT to conduct a larger, inter-institutional study involving CHAP pharmacists at sites across Canada.

Outcomes of Antiretroviral Therapy with Tenofovir Plus Lamivudine or Emtricitabine and Nevirapine (project leader: Christine Hughes)

The purpose of this study is to evaluate virologic outcomes and development of resistance mutations in patients treated with tenofovir, emtricitabine (or lamivudine), and nevirapine in a clinical practice setting.

After the annual CHAP meeting, a group of pharmacists who expressed interest in participating in the project assessed site feasibility at their institutions. The pharmacists then opted to make a data request to the Canadian Observational Cohort Collaboration (CANOC). The principal investigators of CANOC have expressed interest in the project. Dr. Marina Klein (CANOC PI at McGill University Health Centre) will discuss options for data analysis with participating CHAP members (e.g. selection of a comparator arm, case-control, etc).

The Effect of Aging on the Pharmacokinetics of Nelfinavir and M8 in HIV-1-Infected Individuals (project leader: Nancy Sheehan)

- Preliminary results presented the 10th International Workshop on HIV Pharmacology
- Data suggest no affect of aging on drug concentrations
- 14 more patients are needed to complete the project

Journal Publications:

Higgins N, Tseng A, Sheehan N, la Porte CJL. Antiretroviral Therapeutic Drug Monitoring in Canada: a Pharmacy Position Statement. Pending publication in Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacists.

Hughes CA, Robinson L, Tseng A, MacArthur RD. New antiretroviral drugs: a review of the efficacy, safety, pharmacokinetics, and resistance profile of tipranavir, darunavir, etravirine, rilpivirine, maraviroc, and raltegravir Expert Opinion on Pharmacotherapy. Posted online on 13 Aug 2009.

Lalonde RG, Thomas R, Rachlis A, Gill MJ, Roger M, Angel JB, Smith G, **Higgins N**, Trottier B. Successful Implementation of a National HLA-B*5701 Genetic Testing Service in Canada. Pending publication in Tissue Antigens.

la Porte CJL. Saquinavir, the pioneer antiretroviral protease inhibitor. Expert Opinion on Drug Metabolism and Toxicology. 2009 Sep 8. [Epub ahead of print]

la Porte CJL., Sabo J.P., Béïque L., Cameron D.W. Lack of effect of efavirenz on the pharmacokinetics of tipranavir/ritonavir (TPV/r) in healthy volunteers. Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy. 2009 Aug 31. [Epub ahead of print]

Sheth P.M., Kovacs C. Kemal K.S, Jones R.B., Raboud J.M., Pilon R., **la Porte CJL**, Ostrowski M., Loutfy M., Burger H., Weiser B., Kaul R.; the Toronto Mucosal Immunology Group. Persistent HIV RNA shedding in semen despite effective antiretroviral therapy. AIDS. 2009 Aug 25. [Epub ahead of print].

Pham P.A., **la Porte C.J.L.**, Lee L.S., van Heeswijk R., Sabo J.P., Elgadi M.M., Piliro P.J., Barditch-Crovo P., Fuchs E., Flexner C., Cameron D.W.. Differential Effects of Tipranavir plus Ritonavir on Atorvastatin or Rosuvastatin Pharmacokinetics in Healthy Volunteers. Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy. 2009 Aug 10. [Epub ahead of print]

la Porte C.J.L., van Heeswijk R., Mitchell C.D., Zhang G., Parker J., Rongkavilit C.. Pharmacokinetics and tolerability of once- versus twice-daily

lopinavir/ritonavir treatment in HIV-1-infected children. Antiviral Therapy. 2009;14(4):603-6

Lorello G, **la Porte C.J.L.**, Pilon R, Zhang G, Karnauchow T, MacPherson P. Discordance in HIV-1 viral loads and antiretroviral drug concentrations comparing semen and blood plasma. HIV Medicine. 2009 Jun 8

Talbot A, Machouf N, Thomas R, **Marcotte S, Therrien R**, Lessard B, Dufresne S, Lalonde R. Switch from enfuvirtide to raltegravir in patients with undetectable viral load: efficacy and safety at 24 weeks in a Montreal cohort. J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2009 Jul 1;51(3):362-4.

Conference Abstracts/Posters:

Hughes CA, Lim R, **Foisy M, Hills-Nieminen C**, Houston C. Outcomes of antiretroviral therapy with tenofovir plus lamivudine or emtricitabine and nevirapine. Presented: Canadian Association for HIV Research Conference, Vancouver, BC, April 2009. Published: Can J Infect Dis Med Microbiol 2009;20 (suppl B):51B.

Hills-Nieminen CD, Hughes C, Shafran S, Houston S. Drug-Drug interaction between itraconazole and the protease inhibitor lopinavir/ritonavir. Presented: Canadian Association for HIV Research Conference, Vancouver, BC, April 2009. Published: Can J Infect Dis Med Microbiol 2009;20 (suppl B):62B.

Koblic P, Gold W, **la Porte, C.J.L.**, Zhang G, **Marr T**, Lee T. Atazanavir (ATZ)-associated Urolithiasis. 26th International Congress of Chemotherapy and Infection. June 18-21, 2009, Toronto, Canada. abstract P38.

Spencer T, **Hughes CA**, Twiddy T, Houston S. Assessment of readiness to quit and barriers to smoking cessation in HIV-infected patients. Presented: Canadian Association for HIV Research Conference, Vancouver, BC, April 2009. Published: Can J Infect Dis Med Microbiol 2009;20 (suppl B):81B.

Wong K, **Hughes CA**, Plitt S, **Foisy M**, MacDonald J, Johnson M, Singh A. HIV non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (NPEP) in Alberta: treatment completion and follow-up testing. Presented: Canadian Association for HIV Research Conference, Vancouver, BC, April 2009. Published: Can J Infect Dis Med Microbiol 2009;20 (suppl B):80B.

Awards/Recognitions: no news to speak of for now

Other CHAP Projects

OH Africa (Michelle Foisy)

Chief Executive Director of OHAfrica, Darryl Perry, expressed interest in the CHAP network, possibly to encourage participation in missions to Lesotho. Michelle is in the midst of compiling a list of institutions that are involved with international development projects. Linda R. suggested the idea of developing some sort of train the trainer "care package" to support pharmacists who go overseas with their teaching (e.g. tools, tables, pamphlets, lesson plans etc). More to follow in upcoming months!

Prescriptive authority

In the words of Deborah Kelly:

Prescriptive authority is being pursued here on a provincial level so will be somewhat slow before we see the legislation change. I am in the process of drafting a discussion document, along with a colleague in oncology, which will propose what the authority will look like, eligibility, etc. We will likely refer to this as "Advanced Practice Pharmacists" rather than using the term "prescriptive authority", mainly for political reasons, though the authority being sought will be not only for authorizing prescriptions, but also for ordering relevant laboratory tests. Of note, I'll also be working on the next national CSHP advocacy campaign, which will deal with pharmacist prescribing, over the next year.

New Member Resource Kit (Jeff and Deborah Y)

At the annual CHAP meeting, participants discussed the idea of developing a new member resource kit. The kit could include an introductory letter from the executive board, a list of suggested readings/data resources and provide referrals for peer mentoring.

Endorsement policy (the CHAP working group)

Endorsement Policy is complete and should be available on the CHAP website soon.

The Kaletra MEMS Caps Project (Linda R)

Abbott has names of centres interested and will follow up with the centres directly. No other news about the project at this time.

Announcements

HIV Drug Therapy Handbook 2009 Edition

Alice Tseng and Michelle Foisy edited the 2009 version of the HIV Drug Therapy Handbook (Christine Hughes also co-wrote the first section). Hard copies and CD-ROMs should be available later on this fall and can be ordered through any GlaxoSmithKline or Abbott pharmaceutical representative.

The Toronto General Hospital Immunodeficiency Website

That's right! It's back! The TGH clinic website is back by popular demand. The site includes all of the drug interaction information to which many CHAP members have contributed: www.hivclinic.ca

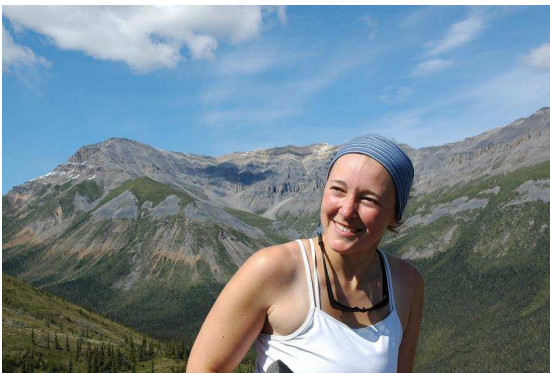
New CHAP Website

The new CHAP website is up and running: www.hivclinic.ca/chap

A Few Photos



**Congratulations to Cara and her family!!
Eliza Chayse Nieminen was born Aug 8 2009,
weighing 8lbs. 8oz., and 20 inches long.**



Josianne in the Yukon!



Niamh and Eric in sailing in Nova Scotia!