



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Action on Sepsis
Research Excellence Cluster

ACTION ON SEPSIS

THROUGH COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION WE WILL CONQUER SEPSIS

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A big thank you to everybody for their contributions to our cluster and the global fight against sepsis during 2021. Happy holidays to all, and we look forward to seeing you in the new year!

Research Updates

Supporting the fight against COVID-19:



Findings from the **COVID-19 Immunity Task Force**, including cluster members **Dr David Goldfarb** and **Dr Pascal Lavoie**, demonstrate that individuals who had a longer time interval between COVID-19 mRNA vaccines had a significantly higher level of antibodies regardless of which mRNA vaccine was administered. Read the full papers in [*JAMA*](#) and [*Clinical Infectious Diseases*](#).

In a recent study, **Dr David Goldfarb's** team demonstrated the potential of self-collected saline gargle samples for SARS-CoV-2 detection in outpatient settings. Read the full paper in [*Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease*](#).



Last month, **Dr Manish Sadarangani** shared his thoughts on BC's COVID-19 pediatric vaccination plan, including why



it needs to be “child-focused and in a child-friendly environment”. Listen to the full interview with CBC Radio [here](#).

Publication Spotlights: Global Sepsis Care

Challenges in pediatric post-sepsis care in resource limited settings: a narrative review

Wiens MO, Kissoon N, Holsti L. *Transl Pediatr.* 2021 Oct;10(10):2666-2677

This narrative review outlines the current epidemiology and interventional research within the context of sepsis recovery, and summarizes key priorities for future work in this area. Read the [full paper here](#).

Challenges and health-care priorities for reducing the burden of paediatric sepsis in Latin America: a call to action

Souza DC, Jaramillo-Bustamante JC, Céspedes-Lesczinsky M, Quintero EMC, Jimenez HC, Jabornisky R, Piva J, Kissoon N. *Lancet Child Adolesc Health.* 2021 Dec 10:S2352-4642(21)00341-2

This Viewpoint draws attention to the burden of pediatric sepsis in Latin America and health system challenges within the region, and provides potential solutions to address this burden. Read the [full paper here](#).

News from the Patient Advisory Council



Welcome to our new member, Kristin MacDonald

Kristin is a sepsis survivor from a surgical infection as well as the managing editor of *Applied Spectroscopy*, a peer-reviewed journal of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. She also runs the Facebook group, Canada Sepsis, Septic Shock, and Post-Sepsis Syndrome Resources, when time allows, as well as Gastronomic History, a food history feed on Twitter.

Strengthening partnerships with Sepsis Canada

Kristine Russell will now be overseeing the Communications Committee in developing and launching a network-wide communications strategy for Sepsis Canada, in addition to serving on the Sepsis Canada Steering Committee,



Marie-Maxime Bergeron will be working with Sepsis Canada on the National Preclinical Sepsis Platform (NPSP). The NPSP is a pan-Canadian platform for accelerating the translation of sepsis laboratory research into clinical trials. The program aims to enhance patient engagement by engaging patients and caregivers in this laboratory-based research.



New Video Tutorials from the Sepsis CoLab



[Dataverse](#) is an open-source data repository that enables [Sepsis CoLab](#) Members to 1) access guidelines, tools, algorithms, and many other resources; 2) access and share data through data sharing agreements; and 3) securely store data. During Open Access Week 2021, the Sepsis CoLab released new video tutorials on open data and Dataverse.

- Learn what open data means, and how it can be leveraged to improve health outcomes for children in [this video](#).
- Learn more about Dataverse in [this video](#).

Thank you to the OPSEI co-op program for connecting us to the talented students who created these videos!

Events

Save the Date: The next Pacific Northwest Sepsis Conference will be held on June 6-7, 2022.

More information can be found [here](#).



PACIFIC NORTHWEST SEPSIS CONFERENCE

Missed out on a previous event? View the recording:

- Any of the sessions from this year's International Sepsis Forum can be viewed [here](#).
- Clare Komugisha shared how Smart Discharges is improving post-discharge care for Ugandan children at the National Healthcare QI Conference in November. Watch [here](#).
- In November Dr Yashodani Pillay won Best Trainee Poster during WHRI's and BCCHR's Digital Health Week. Watch her presentation to learn how the Smart Triage program is improving care for critically-ill children in Uganda. View [here](#).

The 2021 World Sepsis Day Event Poster is also [now available to download](#) – take a look and see if you can spot the event our cluster hosted!

Upcoming Grants

BILL &
MELINDA
GATES
foundation

Strengthening Data Science Capacity and the Ecosystem: Enabling Data-Centered Public Health Interventions

Due: Jan 13, 2022

Aims to fund 2 cross-cutting cores to (a) develop data governance data science capacity and standards and (b) build data science capacity, as well as 2 data re-use projects that focus on a specific disease area. Requires collaboration between researchers in at least 2 countries based in any of the following regions: Africa, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, and Brazil. \$250,000 USD over 18-24 months. [Details here](#).

Metagenomic Next Generation Sequencing to Detect, Identify, and

Characterize Pathogens

Due: Jan 13, 2022

Supports travel and accommodation of grantees to San Francisco for training at the CZ Biohub, and the following items: 1) a sequencer suitable for the global health environment, 2) a dedicated sequencing technician, and 3) sequencing reagents for the duration of the award. CZ Biohub and CZI training will include pilot analysis of samples from their home region during hands-on, intensive mentoring. [Details here.](#)



BC Children's Hospital Research (BCCHR) Studentship Deadlines

BCCHR Masters Studentships: Due Jan 14, 2022
BCCHR Doctoral Studentships: Due Jan 28, 2022

Only open to trainees supervised by an Investigator at BCCH. Application packages and guidelines for BCCHR Studentships can be access through the [BCCHR Hub.](#)



MSFHR Scholar Awards

Due Jan 31, 2022

Up to 5 years salary support for an early career researcher based in BC. \$90,000/yr. [Details here](#)

MSFHR Research Trainee Awards

Due Feb 14, 2022

Up to 3 years salary support for post-doctoral fellow based in BC. \$45,000/yr. [Details here.](#)



UBC Faculty of Medicine Precision Health Catalyst Grant

Due Feb 1, 2022

The catalyst grants are intended to enable precision health pilot research projects and to facilitate inter-faculty and cross-institution collaboration. \$50,000 over 1 year. [Details here.](#)



**Pre-announcement: JPIAMR 14TH Call -
Disrupting Drug Resistance Using Innovative
Design**

Pre-proposals due Mar 8 2022. Full proposal due Jul 5 2022.

Supports transnational and multidisciplinary research focused on repurposing of existing antimicrobials for improved application, efficacy, or delivery. [Details here.](#)

Action on Sepsis is based in the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples – SḴWX̱WÚ7MESH (Squamish), STÓ:LŌ and SƏ́ÍŁWƏTÁʔ/SELILWITULH (Tsleilm-Waututh) and XʷMƏΘKʷƏÝƏM (Musqueam) Nations. We also invite everyone to reflect on the land they currently work and live on.

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