



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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Announcements

The Action on Sepsis Podcast has launched!

In our first series, you will meet your host, **Kristine Russell**, sepsis survivor and parent of a neonatal sepsis survivor, as she discusses the impacts of neonatal and maternal sepsis with clinicians and researchers at UBC and BC Children's Hospital.



- Episode 1: **Kristine Russell** introduces our podcast and shares her and her daughter's experience with maternal and neonatal sepsis, respectively.
- Episode 2: **Dr Pascal Lavoie** discusses the impacts of neonatal sepsis, and innovative tools to help health workers recognize sepsis in newborns quicker.
- Episode 3: **Dr Liisa Holsti** discusses follow-up care and support for newborns and their families of babies after spending time in the NICU.
- Episode 4: **Dr Marianne Vidler** discusses approaches for reducing the impact of maternal sepsis, in Canada and globally.

Stay tuned for the release of Series 2 and 3 this spring!

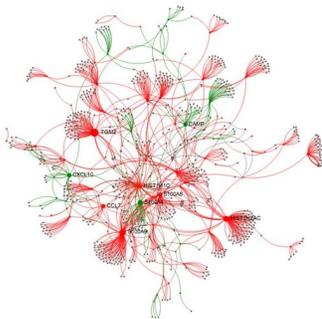
[Listen to the Podcast](#)

Congratulations to our recent grant recipients!



Dr Manish Sadarangani and Dr Kirsty Le Doare were awarded a **2021 CICH Global Health Seed Grant** to support the development of a *Klebsiella* vaccine suitable for LMIC's and build genomics and vaccine discovery science in Uganda.

Dr Matthew Wiens and Dr Pascal Lavoie were awarded a **2021 Healthy Starts Catalyst Grant** to validate a molecular approach for pathogen detection to understand the epidemiology of sepsis in infants in LMICs. Co-Applicants include Dr Constantin Popescu, Dr David Goldfarb, Dr Peter Tilley, and Dr Amy Lee.



In the news: Machine learning and AI used to rapidly detect sepsis

In January, the **Hancock Lab** published findings from their recently completed clinical genomics study of ER and ICU patients with suspected sepsis. The analysis, led by graduate student **Arjun Baghela**, used whole-blood gene expression data and machine learning approaches to predict five distinct endotypes that captured the early sepsis response, within 2 hours of ER admission. Each endotype was defined by a unique sets of genes with distinct biological mechanisms and clinical outcomes. In the future, these endotypes could be used to inform triage and personalized care for patients with sepsis.

Read the news release from UBC [here](#)

Read full paper in *EBioMedicine* [here](#).

Launch of BC's Adult Emergency Department Sepsis Guidelines

A promotional graphic for BC's Adult Emergency Department Sepsis Guidelines. The background is light green with a pattern of stylized gears and suns. In the top left corner is the logo for the BC Patient Safety & Quality Council, which includes a stylized 'Q' and the text 'BC PATIENT SAFETY & QUALITY COUNCIL Working Together. Accelerating Improvement.' In the center, there is a white box with a dark green border containing the text 'UPDATED Adult Sepsis ED Guidelines'. To the right of this box is another white box with a dark green border containing the text 'Know how to spot and treat sepsis infection and shock.' Below this box is a white box with a dark green border containing the text 'Learn more: BCPSQC.ca/sepsis'.

The [BC Sepsis Network](#) has updated BC's Adult Emergency Department Sepsis

Guidelines to align with the new [Surviving Sepsis Campaign Guidelines](#).

Watch Sybil Hoiss, Leader, Strategic Initiatives and David Sweet, Clinical Lead for sepsis explain the BC Emergency Department Adult Sepsis Guidelines update [here](#).

Learn more about the updated guidelines [here](#).

Publication Spotlights

Longitudinal Plasma Proteomics Analysis Reveals Novel Candidate Biomarkers in Acute COVID-19

Mohammed Y, Goodlett DR, Cheng MP, Vinh DC, Lee TC, Mcgeer A, **Sweet D**, Tran K, Lee T, **Murthy S**, **Boyd JH**, Singer J, **Walley KR**, Patrick DM, Quan C, Ismail S, Amar L, Pal A, Bassawon R, Fesdekjian L, Gou K, Lamontagne F, Marshall J, Haljan G, Fowler R, Winston BW, **Russell JA**; ARBs CORONA I.

This longitudinal proteomic analysis of blood plasma from acute-phase COVID-19 patients identified several proteins that were differentially expressed in COVID-19 patients, and several distinct patterns of protein abundance over the 14 day observation period. These findings can inform future research assessing these proteins as biomarkers of COVID-19 and/or possible therapeutic targets.

[Read the paper here](#)

Clinical Presentations and Outcomes of Children in Canada With Recurrent Invasive Pneumococcal Disease From the IMPACT Surveillance Network

Murad Y, Hung TY, **Sadarangani M**, Morris SK, Le Saux N, Vanderkooi OG, Kellner JD, Tyrrell GJ, Martin I, Demczuk W, Halperin SA, Bettinger JA; **Members of IMPACT**. *Pediatr Infect Dis J*. 2022 Apr 1;41(4):e166-e171.

This retrospective study of recurrent invasive pneumococcal disease cases from the Canadian Immunization Monitoring Program, ACTive (IMPACT) found that the incidence of recurrent invasive pneumococcal disease due to vaccine-covered serotypes has decreased in this cohort; however, this was offset by an increase of non-vaccine serotypes.

[Read the paper here](#)

Events



Neglected Diseases: Recent Breakthroughs

March 25, 2022 | Virtual

It's not too late to register for this free symposium hosted by the Neglected Global Diseases Initiative (NGDI) at UBC. Speakers include Dr. Amy Lee, Assistant Professor at Simon Fraser University, presenting on "Why are babies at risk for sepsis? A systems biology approach to understanding neonatal sepsis in Africa." She is leading this research along with collaborators Dr Pascal Lavoie and Dr Constantine Popescu.

[Register Here](#)

Sepsis Canada Summit Series

Advocacy, Knowledge Transfer and
Education

April 21st, 2022

12pm EST - 1pm EST



Sepsis Canada

Sepsis Canada Summit Series Webinar

April 21, 2022 | Virtual

Dr. Jeanna Parsons-Leigh will provide an update on Sepsis Canada's Team 2 - Advocacy, Knowledge Transfer and Education: Creating a Culture of Sepsis Awareness Through Advocacy, Health Literacy and Knowledge Transfer.

[Register Here](#)

You can learn more about Sepsis Canada's projects at their previous Summit Series Webinars. The recordings can be viewed [here](#) and [here](#).



WSC Spotlight:
Novel Therapeutic and Diagnostic Approaches for COVID-19 and Sepsis

A Free Online Congress by
the Global Sepsis Alliance

To be held completely online
on April 27, 2022

World Sepsis Congress Spotlight

April 27, 2022 | Virtual

The World Sepsis Congress Spotlight returns! Over the course of 8 distinctive sessions, more than 35 speakers from all regions of the world will share the newest therapeutic and diagnostic approaches for COVID-19 and sepsis, covering all novel aspects of our understanding of bacterial and viral sepsis, from new methods of diagnosis and risk assessment to novel treatment modalities, and beyond.

[Register Here](#)



PACIFIC NORTHWEST SEPSIS CONFERENCE

Pacific Northwest Sepsis Conference 2022

June 6-7, 2022 | Virtual and In-Person at Marriot Seattle Airport

Save the date! This year's conference is being planned with support from Action on Sepsis, and will focus on care for sepsis across diverse patient populations. Registration opening soon.

Visit the Conference Website



WFPICCS 2022

Cape Town Goes Virtual

11th Congress of the World Federation of Pediatric Intensive & Critical Care Societies (WFPICCS)

July 12-16, 2022 | Virtual

WFPICCS 2022 will be tailored to the entire interprofessional WFPICCS community of physicians, nurses, scientists, and allied health professionals, providing a platform to advance professional knowledge, enhance skills, share experience and network with colleagues and friends. WFPICCS 2022 will deliver a high quality scientific program, sharing the latest developments in pediatric intensive and critical care across the spectrum from basic science to the bedside and beyond to global health challenges and opportunities.

Register Here

Funding Opportunities



UBC Post-Doctoral Travel Awards

Deadline & Award: Depends on conference dates and UBC Faculty

Conference registration and travel costs (Faculty of Medicine or Faculty of Science only) for post-doctoral fellows attending conferences to present research conducted while at UBC.

Full details [here](#).

UBC Graduate Student Travel and Research Dissemination Fund

Deadline: After the publication has submitted/presented occurred

Award: Up to \$500

Assists UBC graduate students in sharing the results of their research with professional audiences. Provides open-access publication costs or conference registration and travel costs for a presentation.

Full details [here](#).

UBC Faculty of Medicine (FoM) Strategic Investment Fund

Consultation Deadline: April 1, 2022

Submission Deadline: May 1, 2022

Supports members of the FoM with obtaining funding for projects that advance UBC FoM's Strategic Plan, *Building the Future: 2021-2026*. Investments must not fund individual research projects or clinical care delivery projects. Research platforms must be scalable and sustainable.

Full details [here](#).



MSFHR Health Professional-investigator Award

LOI Deadline: April 29, 2022

Full Application Deadline: June 20, 2022

Award: Up to \$90,000 per year for 5 years

Salary support for health professionals who are actively involved in patient care to conduct and apply research relevant to health and/or the health system to improve health outcomes in BC and beyond.

Full details [here](#).

Rural Coordination
Centre of BC



Rural Global Health Partnership Initiative

Deadline: April 30, 2022

Award: \$5,000 or \$10,000

Open to BC medical trainees or physicians with experience and a demonstrated interest in rural medicine and global health. Supports partnerships with underserved communities in BC, Canada, and in developing countries.

Full details [here](#).



New Investigator Research Grants in Child and Youth Health (2022)

Deadline: April 20, 2022

Award: \$100,000/year for up to 3 years

Support for research in biomedical, clinical, health systems and services, population and public health sectors that has the potential for significant impact on children's health outcomes. Only funds research that primarily benefits children in Canada.

Full details [here](#).

CIHR Catalyst Grant: CPHO's Report 2021: Future of Public Health

Deadline: May 4, 2022

Award: \$100,000/1 year

Supports population and public health research on research priorities identified by the 2021 CPHO annual report and listed in the [Generating Knowledge to Inform Public Health Systems](#)

Full details [here](#).



Women RISE: Research to support women's health and economic empowerment for a COVID-19 Recovery that is Inclusive, Sustainable and Equitable

Concept Note Due: April 12 2022
Award: \$1,000,000 over 2 years

Supports action-orientated population and public health research in LMICs aligned with research priority 3.5 identified in the [UN Research Roadmap for the COVID-19 Recovery](#): "How have recent economic changes disproportionately impacted women and how can recovery strategies be inclusive and gender-transformative?"

Full details [here](#).



Establishing Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Centres of Excellence to Improve Patient Outcomes by Addressing Access Disparities

Deadline: April 6, 2022
Award: Up to \$75,000 USD

Supports development and implementation of local AMS programs. Open to Institutions providing hospital-based care for patients with infections that have identified resource limitations and / or underserved populations, within Higher Income Countries (HICs) and Lower Middle Income Countries (LMICs).

Full details [here](#).



New Frontiers for Research Fund 2022 Special Call - Research for Post-Pandemic Recovery

NOI Due: April 26, 2022. Full Application Due: August 9, 2022
Award: \$250,000/year for 2 years

Supports Canadian-led, action-orientated research projects that directly address one or more of the research priorities outlined in the [UN Research Roadmap for the COVID-19 Recovery](#).

Full details [here](#).

Action on Sepsis is based in the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples – SḴW̱X̱W̱7MESH (Squamish), STÓ:LŌ and SƏ́ḺḺW̱ƏṮA?/SELILWITULH (Tseilim-Waututh) and X̱ʷMƏΘḴʷƏY̱ƏM (Musqueam) Nations. We also invite everyone to reflect on the land they currently work and live on.

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