



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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Do you have a colleague or trainee who might be interested in the activities and events below? Please share this newsletter with them, and let them know they can subscribe by contacting Stefanie at [stefanie.novakowski@bcchr.ca](mailto:stefanie.novakowski@bcchr.ca).

## Announcements

### Sepsis Canada & LifTING Research Training Program: applications now open



What are the Sepsis Canada & LifTING Programs?

- Free health research training program focused on sepsis and life-threatening illnesses
- Include virtual interactive sessions & access to online content
- Training in research skills, anti-oppressive practices, & interdisciplinary teamwork
- Mentorship and networking opportunities & training awards

Live Q&A Session on the Application Process: **May 24th, 5 pm (EST)**.

Applications Due: **June 1, 2022**



## The second series of the Action on Sepsis Podcast is now available

In this series, **Kristin MacDonald** shares her sepsis experience following a bowel puncture during gall bladder removal surgery. Later episodes delve into the experiences of sepsis patients in the ICU with **Dr John Boyd**, an intensivist from St Pauls' Hospital, and groundbreaking research on understanding post-sepsis syndrome led by **Andy An**, an MD-PhD student with the Hancock Lab at UBC.

Stay tuned for our third series, launching at the end of June!

[Listen to the Podcast](#)

In March, our Patient Advisory Council also shared their work on creating an educational pamphlet on post-sepsis syndrome at the BC SUPPORT's annual Putting Patients First Conference. You can watch a recording of their presentation [here](#).

## Congratulations to our recent grant recipients!



Dr John Boyd has received a VCHRI Innovation and Translational Research Award from the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute to **assess the safety and feasibility of a 10-week aerobic exercise training program for sepsis survivors**. Learn more [here](#).

A team from the [Sepsis CoLab](#), the [Centre for International Child Health](#), and UBC have been awarded a [Data Champions Pilot Project](#) grant from the Digital Research Alliance of Canada for **optimizing the re-use of clinical data** to improve maternal, newborn, and child health. Learn more [here](#).



Our members are also supporting multi-site collaborations across Canada:

- Dr Keith Walley is a co-Investigator on a Clinical Trial Award from the Stem Cell Network for a **Phase II clinical trial of mesenchymal stem cells in patients with septic shock**. This project will be led by Dr. Lauralyn McIntyre from the Ottawa Research Institute.
- A team from BC Children's Hospital, including Dr Garth Meckler, Dr Srinivas Murthy, Dr Manish Sadarangani, and Dr Fiona Muttalib, are among

those leading activities for Pediatric Outcome Improvement through Coordination of Research Networks ([POPCORN](#)), a CIHR-funded pediatric COVID-19 research platform. The platform will be led by Dr. Caroline Quach at the Centre hospitalier universitaire Sainte-Justine in Montreal.

## We want to hear from you!

- Have you recently received a grant or award?
- Do you have a new publication or collaboration you'd like us to highlight?
- Is there an event you're taking part in that we can share with our networks?



**Let us know!** We want to showcase the accomplishments and achievements of members of our cluster, and help facilitate new partnerships whenever possible. If you have a story that you think would be of interest to us, please contact Stefanie at [stefanie.novakowski@bcchr.ca](mailto:stefanie.novakowski@bcchr.ca)

## Publication Spotlights

### **Anemia and adverse outcomes in pregnancy: subgroup analysis of the CLIP cluster-randomized trial in India.**

Bone JN, Bellad M, Goudar S, Mallapur A, Charantimath U, Ramadurg U, Katageri G, Lesperance M, Woo Kinshella ML, Suleman R, Vidler M, Sharma S, Derman R, Magee LA, von Dadelszen P; CLIP working group. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth*. 2022 May 13;22(1):407. doi: [10.1186/s12884-022-04714-y](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-022-04714-y).

Iron-deficiency anemia is a known risk factor for several adverse perinatal outcomes, but data on its impact on specific maternal morbidities is less robust. In this subgroup analysis, no significant association was found between anemia severity and haemorrhage (antepartum or postpartum) or sepsis, but there was an association between anemia severity and pregnancy hypertension.

### **The responsibility to care: lessons learned from emergency department workers' perspectives during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada.**

Lavoie B, Bourque CJ, Côté AJ, Rajagopal M, Clerc P, Bourdeau V, Ali S, Doyon-Trottier E, Castonguay V, Fontaine-Pagé É, Burstein B, Desaulniers P, Goldman RD, Thompson G, Berthelot S, Lagacé M, Gaucher N; Pediatric Emergency Research Canada (PERC). *CJEM*. 2022 May 11;1-11. doi: [10.1007/s43678-022-00306-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s43678-022-00306-z)

In this qualitative study at 9 Canadian EDs, ED workers reported that they felt a responsibility to provide care through a pandemic, they wanted to be engaged in decision-making, and work during the pandemic created new sources of moral distress and fatigue. This work can inform practices to help protect from burnout and ensure the sustainability of the health workforce.

### **Antimicrobial treatment duration for uncomplicated bloodstream infections in critically ill children: a multicentre observational study.**

Pong S, Fowler RA, Murthy S, Pernica JM, Gilfoyle E, Fontela P, Rishu AH, Mitsakakis N, Hutchison JS, Science M, Seto W, Jouvett P, Daneman N; Canadian Critical Care Trials Group. *BMC Pediatr*. 2022 Apr 5;22(1):179. doi: [10.1186/s12887-022-03219-z](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12887-022-03219-z).

Bloodstream infections (BSIs) cause significant morbidity and mortality in critically

ill children but treatment duration is understudied. In this retrospective observational study in 6 PICUs, most critically ill children with BSIs received at least two weeks of antimicrobial treatment, but further study is needed to determine whether shorter duration therapy would be effective for selected critically ill children.

## Events

### UBC Dep't of Pediatrics Grand Rounds **Pediatric care in Kenya: identification of critically ill children at triage in resource poor settings**

**May 27, 2022 | Virtual**  
**12:00 - 1:00 PM PST**



**Dr Samuel Akech** (KEMRI-Wellcome Trust) will discuss the derivation and validation of a data-driven prediction model to guide frontline health workers in triaging children in Nairobi, Kenya, and a process for determining predictors of sepsis at triage for children.

#### **To join:**

Go to <https://ubc.zoom.us/> and click on 'Join a Meeting'  
Zoom Meeting ID: 9322 6612 845  
Zoom Meeting Passcode: 612845



### **Pacific Northwest Sepsis Conference 2022**

**June 6-7, 2022 | Virtual and In-Person**

The aim of the conference is to eliminate global sepsis suffering through education. UBC and PHSA staff and faculty qualify for a member discount. Sign-up before it's too late to take part!

[Register Here](#)



**Sepsis Canada**  
Suspect sepsis. Save lives. Support recovery.

### **Sepsis Canada Summit Series - Team #3**

**June 15, 2022 | Virtual**  
**9:00 - 10:00am PST**

Drs. Manoj Lalu, Asher Mendelson & Braedon McDonald will discuss the National Preclinical Sepsis Platform. This project aims to establish a national network of Canadian laboratories to conduct an innovative preclinical multicenter trial of

[Register Here](#)

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



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

July 12-16, 2022 | Virtual

WFPICCS 2022 will share 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.

The **Sepsis CoLab**, in partnership with Emory University, will be launching an international data challenge to develop risk prediction models for pediatric sepsis mortality during the pre-congress workshops.

[Register 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

## #ICYMI: World Sepsis Congress Spotlight

Did you miss April's World Sepsis Congress Spotlight? Recordings from the sessions can be viewed [here](#).

## Funding Opportunities



### Rural Health Services Research Network of BC Team Building Awards

**Due:** May 31, 2022  
**Award:** \$5,000 over 1 year

Support development of new multidisciplinary research teams focused on an issue of current importance to rural and remote health services whose main goal is to apply for research funding.

Details [here](#).



## MITACS Elevate Fellowship

**Due:** Jul 6, 2022

**Award:** \$80,000/year for 2 years

Salary + research support for Postdoctoral Fellows. Requires a partner organization to provide 50% of the funds. Recipients will also gain access to professional development training that helps them ensure project success and gain in-demand career skills.

Details [here](#).



## Maternal & Infant Health Award

### Maternal & Infant Health Award

**Register By:** June 2, 2022

**Application Due:** June 30, 2022

**Award:** \$10M over 3-5 years

Funding to implement solutions for improving maternal & child health outcomes globally. Emphasis is on solutions that are community-led, impactful, durable, and, feasible.

Details [here](#).



### CIHR Operating Grant: Clinical Trials Projects

**Registration By:** June 1, 2022.

**Application Due:** July 5, 2022

**Award:** \$90,000,000 over 3 years of funding available.

Supports an array of clinical trial phases, designs, and objectives across a broad range of health research areas, aligning with the priorities of Canada's Biomufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy.

Details [here](#).



### Michelson Prizes

**Due:** Jun 26, 2022

**Award:** \$150,000 USD.

Supports promising researchers who are applying disruptive concepts and inventive processes to advance human immunology, vaccine discovery, and immunotherapy research for major global diseases. Applicants must be under 35 years of age but can be in any stage of their career.

Details [here](#).



### 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](#).

Action on Sepsis is based in the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples – SK̓WX̓WÚ7MESH (Squamish), STÓ:LŌ and SƏ́ÍLWƏTÁʔ/SELILWITULH (Tseilim-Waututh) and XʷMƏΘKʷƏÝƏM (Musqueam) Nations. We also invite everyone to reflect on the land they currently work and live on.

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