



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Action on Sepsis
Research Excellence Cluster

ACTION ON SEPSIS

THROUGH COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION WE WILL CONQUER SEPSIS

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
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Update from our Strategic Planning Workshop

Thank you to everyone who attended our November Strategic Planning Workshop. We've used the discussion to update our **2023 - 2025 Strategic Priorities** ([available here](#)) and guide our funding proposal to the 2023/24 Grants for Catalyzing Research Cluster Competition (results expected in March).

New Resources Now Available

The Pocketbook of Sepsis

The 'Pocketbook of Sepsis' is a **free digital library** of high-impact, evidence-based lectures for health professionals from peer-reviewed international experts, developed by **Sepsis Australia** and Continulus. New lectures will be released weekly, including an upcoming lecture from **Dr Niranjan Kissoon** on "*Decreasing burden through prevention*".

[Watch the Lectures](#)

[Educational pamphlet on post-sepsis syndrome](#)

Recovery after sepsis: A new resource to share with patients, families, and caregivers



Learn more:
bcpsqc.ca/resources/sepsis/



The Action on Sepsis Patient Advisory Council has been working with the BC Patient Safety & Quality Council (BCPSQC) to develop an educational pamphlet on post-sepsis syndrome for patients, caregivers, and family members. The pamphlet is now available to download and share.

[View the Pamphlet](#)

News from the Cluster

Nursing Students Advocate for Sepsis Education and Awareness in Rural BC

In 2022, fourth year nursing student at the College of the Rockies sought to identify potential areas for improvement of sepsis-related care as part of their final year practicum. As part of this project, they spoke to care providers and hosted a sepsis awareness booth at the local health centre in Kimberley, BC.

[Learn More](#)

Innovations in Data-Driven Approaches to Improve Sepsis Care for Children in Low-Resource Settings



In November 2022, **Aine Ivan Aye Ashebukara** (IT Specialist, Smart Triage Team and Holy Innocent's Childrens Hospital) and **Immaculate Nabunje** (Nurse, St Joseph's Kitovu Hospital) were selected to present on the Smart Triage Program at the Uganda Ministry of Health's annual National QI Conference. Smart Triage is a digital triage tool implemented as a component of a QI initiative that aims to reduce the time to treatment and improve quality of care for critically ill children presenting to emergency or outpatient departments in Uganda and Kenya. This initiative was supported by the **Uganda Catholic Medical Bureau**, an important implementing partner for the Smart Triage Program.

Learn more about the Smart Triage Program [here](#).

In November 2022, we also brought together leading researchers for a panel at the 2022 [American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Annual Meeting](#) to share their work developing and leveraging frugal digital technology and data-driven vulnerability prediction to improve care across different points of a critically-ill child's journey.

Click on the links below to view the presentations:

- **Dr Arjun Chandna:** [Risk stratification of pediatric febrile illness to inform effective community management and earlier referral to higher-level care.](#)
- **Dr Samuel Akech:** [Smart Triage, a prediction-based facility quality improvement program for critically ill children.](#)
- **Dr Teresa Kortz:** [Point-of-care biomarkers for mortality risk stratification in pediatric severe febrile illness: using next-generation sequencing for etiology of severe febrile illness.](#)
- **Dr Matthew Wiens:** [Smart Discharges, post-discharge interventions based on the risk of post-discharge mortality.](#)

Implementing COVID-19 Saline Gargle Testing in Botswana

Dr David Goldfarb (UBC) and **Dr Margaret Mokomane** (University of Botswana) have completed a clinical validation of saline gargle for COVID-19 testing in Botswana. They shared the results with **Dr Sikhulile Moyo**, lead at the Botswana–Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership Laboratory where omicron was first sequenced and co-Chief Scientist on the Botswana's Presidential COVID-19 Task Force. The team is now advocating for implementing saline gargle as an option for COVID-19 testing in a number of areas, including the pediatric ward at Princess Marina Hospital (tertiary hospital in Botswana), testing clinics in Gaborone (capital of Botswana) and potentially at the border.

Events

Save the date - On June 21, 2023, Sepsis Canada, alongside the Pacific Northwest Conference, Action on Sepsis, and BC Patient Safety & Quality Council, will be hosting this one-day virtual event for bedside providers, sepsis researchers, global health professionals, sepsis survivors,



SEPSIS FORUM
BENCH-BEDSIDE-BEYOND

and more. **Please sign up [here](#)** to receive further information and be notified when registration opens.

February 10, 2023; 10:00AM PT

The Consortium of Universities for Global Health's February webinar will be hosted by **Dr. Kishor Wasan**, lead of UBC's Neglected Global Diseases Initiative. Register [here](#).

Consortium of
Universities
for Global Health



Upcoming Grants

Current CIHR Opportunities:

Team Grant : Intervention Trial in Inflammation for Chronic Conditions

LOI Due: March 2, 2023

Supports teams investigating the repurposing or development of interventions for prevention, diagnosis, prediction of treatment response, and management of inflammation in chronic conditions, and/or the optimization of such interventions across the lifecycle and for different life stages and considering intersecting factors. Details [here](#).

Café Scientifique Program

Due: March 15, 2023

Funding for events that enable knowledge-sharing and open, respectful dialogues between the general public and health researchers on health-related issues of public interest. Details [here](#).

Chair in Applied Public Health

LOI: Due May 2, 2023

Funds diverse mid-career applied public health researchers in Canada who will undertake inclusive and equitable applied research programs that tackle pressing public health challenges and who will work with decision makers from various sectors and communities to help support evidence-informed decisions that improve health and health equity. Details [here](#).



CIHR IRSC

Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada



Development of innovative strategies, tools, technologies, and methods for diagnostics and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance

Due: March 7, 2023 (pre-proposal); July 4, 2023 (full proposal)

Develop or improve existing tools and digital technologies for (1) AMR diagnosis and/or (2) One Health AMR surveillance. Requires a consortia from a minimum of 3-7 countries (2 have to be from EU or associated countries). If the team coordinator is Canadian, the maximum amount per grant is \$600K over 3 years, whereas Canadian team partners may receive \$500K over 3 years. Details [here](#).

Novel RNA vaccine platform technologies for emerging and select endemic infectious diseases



EOI Due: April 28, 2023

Supports development of novel RNA vaccine platform technologies against emerging and select endemic infectious diseases, based on potentially high-impact innovations offering substantial advantages over existing mRNA technologies. Details [here](#).

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

[SEPSIS.UBC.CA](https://sepsis.ubc.ca) | [TWITTER @ACTIONONSEPSIS](https://twitter.com/ACTIONONSEPSIS)

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