



theta



Quarterly



Autumn 2010



## Project Updates

### *Ongoing Research*

#### **Risk Assessment and Alternative Foam Mattresses to Prevent Pressure Ulcers in Long-Stay Clients of Ontario Community Care Access Centres: Cost Effectiveness and Budget Impact Analysis**

A final report will be published in late 2010.

#### **Turning for Ulcer Reduction (TURN) Study**

Participant recruitment is almost complete for Ontario. Currently, 492 of 500 participants have been recruited from 7 long-term care homes in the GTA.

#### **Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness Assessment of Heart Failure Clinics in Ontario**

The overall research question for this field evaluation is to understand the current service models used in HF clinics in Ontario and their effectiveness and cost-effectiveness. Specific objectives include: Phase 1- Identify all specialized HF clinics in Ontario; Phase 2- Describe the scope of current service models for patients in specialized HF clinics; Phase 3- Understand practice patterns for patients in a subset of identified clinics; and Phase 4- Assess the clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of HF clinics in Ontario.

Data collection for Phase 1 and 2 is well underway and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

#### **Specialized Multidisciplinary Community-Based Care for Chronic Wounds: A Field Evaluation**

The purpose of this project is to determine the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of specialized multidisciplinary wound care clinics for community based patients with chronic wounds in Ontario, relative to standard care.

This project has recently been approved by the MOHLTC.

### *New Projects*

#### **Pressure Ulcer Multi-Disciplinary Teams via Telemedicine (PUMTT): A Cluster Pragmatic Randomised Controlled Trial**

The purpose of this trial is to evaluate the clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of 'enhanced' multi-disciplinary wound care teams vs. 'usual' care teams in LTC homes in Ontario for the treatment of pressure ulcers.

Hiring is almost complete and data collection is scheduled to begin in October.

You can read more about THETA's projects [here](#).

## Academic Rounds

Many thanks to past presenters:

Guillermo Sandoval  
Gerald Evans

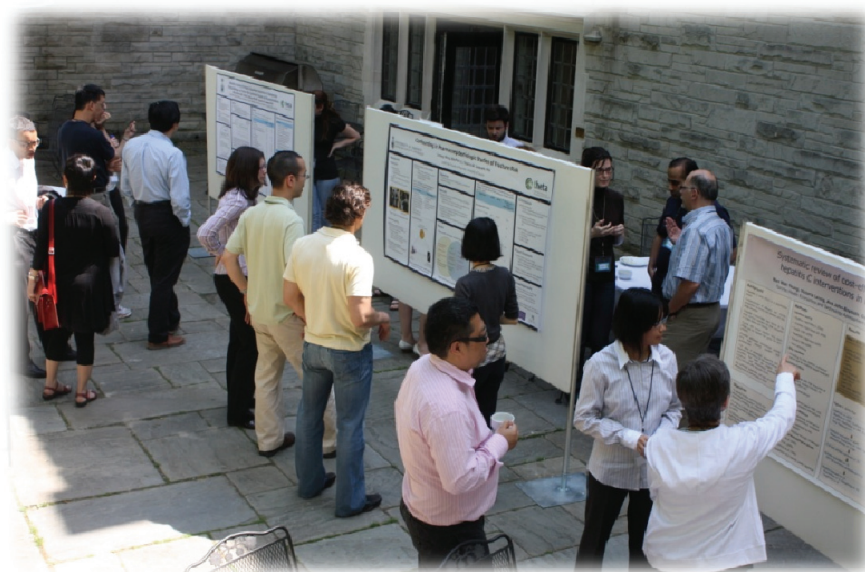
Upcoming presenters:

David Fisman  
Maurice McGregor  
Anirban Basu  
David Meltzer

# “Knowledge Translation to Policy” Day & THETA Collaborative 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Symposium

THETA Collaborative held its first annual KT Day on wound care and cardiovascular research and third annual Symposium on May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at The Estates of Sunnybrook.

Both events were attended by over 60 delegates who represented diverse organizations and backgrounds, including universities, research institutes, provincial organisations and hospitals, various academic departments, THETA staff, students, and government.



THETA Collaborative would like to thank you very much for your attendance. Both events proved to be very successful, with an excellent turnout, beautiful weather, and really great external and local speakers.

[KT Day](#) and THETA [Symposium](#) presentation material can be found on the THETA website.

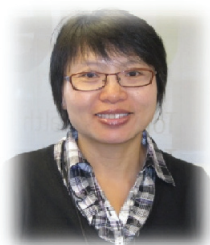
## In the Spotlight

In April 2010, Dinsie Williams, a Ulysses/THETA graduate, was recruited by *Doctors Without Borders* to volunteer in Haiti. Dinsie was asked to help out with the biomedical services at three hospitals in Port-au-Prince. You can read the rest of her moving and thought-provoking story, "To Haiti with Doctors Without Borders" [here](#).



## New THETA Staff

THETA Collaborative would like to welcome the following new staff members :



Mildred Lim  
Administrative Assistant

Mildred will be assuming Karen Liu's duties; as Karen will be on maternity leave beginning October 18, 2010. Mildred has a BA degree in Economics from Simon Fraser University in BC, and was an Administrator in the Registrar's Office of post-secondary education in Singapore.



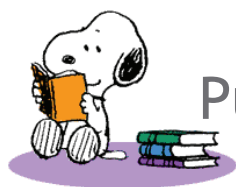
Marjan Vidmar  
Study Coordinator

Marjan holds a MSc in Epidemiology and Community Health from the University of Toronto, as well as medical qualification from the former Yugoslavia. Marjan has 15 years experience in health research, particularly work-related injuries with the Institute of Work and Health, and clinical and cancer research with the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and the University of Toronto, respectively.



Josephine Wong  
Research Associate

Josephine graduated from the Medical School of the University of Hong Kong and has practiced medicine in Hong Kong, the UK and Singapore. She was a research associate at the University of California at San Francisco for four years.



## Publications

Bhinder S, Chowdhury N, Granton J, Krahn M, Tullis E, Waddell T, Singer L (2010). [Feasibility of internet-based health-related quality of life data collection in a large patient cohort](#). *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 12(3), e35.

Culyer A (2010). [Perspective and desire in comparative effectiveness research: the relative unimportance of mere preferences, the central importance of context](#). *Pharmacoeconomics*, 285(10), 889-97.

Hancock R, Ungar W, Einarson A, Koren G (2010). [International practices in the provision of teratology information: a survey of international teratogen information programmes and comparisons with the North American model](#). *Pediatric Journal of evaluation in clinical practice*, 16(5), 957-63.

Khan U, Bogue C, Ungar W, Hilliard P, Carcao M, Moineddin R Doria A (2010). [Cost-effectiveness analysis of different imaging strategies for diagnosis of haemophilic arthropathy](#). *Haemophilia*, 16(2), 322-32.

Kuster S, Drews S, Green K, Blair J, Davis I, Downey J, Fowler R, Katz K, Lapinsky S, McRitchie D, Pataki J, Powis J, Rose D, Sarabia A, Simone C, Simor A, Stewart T, McGeer A (2010). [Epidemiology of influenza-associated hospitalization in adults, Toronto, 2007/8](#). *European journal of clinical microbiology & infectious diseases*, 29(7), 835-43.

Lee C, MacDonald D, Callum J, Day A, Fowler R (2010). [A patient with shortness of breath and bilateral pulmonary infiltrates](#). *Open Medicine* [accepted].

Panju A, Bell C (2010). [Policy alternatives for treatments for rare diseases](#). *Canadian Medical Association journal* [Epub ahead of print].

Sander B, Bauch C, Fisman D, Fowler R, Kwong J, Maetzel A, McGeer A, Rouboud J, Scales D, Gojovic M, Krahn M (2010). [Is a mass immunization program for pandemic \(H1N1\) 2009 good value for money? Evidence from the Canadian Experience](#). *Vaccine*, 28(38), 6210-20.

Stiff D, Kumar A, Kissoon N, Fowler R, Jovet P, Skippen P, Smetanin P, Kesselman M, Veroukis S (2010). [Potential pediatric intensive care unit demand/capacity mismatch due to novel pH1N1 in Canada](#). *Pediatric critical care medicine* [Epub ahead of print].

Ungar W, Cope S, Kozyrskyj A, Paterson J (2010). [Socioeconomic factors and home allergen exposure in children with asthma](#). *Journal of pediatric health care*, 24(2), 108-15-1847.

van der Velde G, Pham B, Machado M, Ieraci L, Witteman W, Bombardier C, Krahn M (2010). [Cost-effectiveness of biologic response modifiers compared to disease modifying anti-rheumatic drugs for rheumatoid arthritis: a systematic review](#). *Arthritis Care and Research* [Epub ahead of print].

Woo G, Tomlinson G, Nishikawa Y, Kowgier M, Sherman M, Wong D, Pham B, Ungar W, Einarson T, Heathcote E, Krahn M (2010). [Tenofovir and Entecavir Are the Most Effective Antiviral Agents for Chronic Hepatitis B: A Systematic Review and Bayesian Meta-Analyses](#). *Gastroenterology* [Epub ahead of print].



## Research Grants

### Epidemiology of ThromboEmbolicism in Critical Care

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

\$63,899; 2010 – 2011

PI: Cook D.

Co-Investigators: Crowther M, Devereaux P, Dodek P, Fowler R, Hall R, Herridge M, Jacka M, Lauzier F, Marshall J, Meade M, Mehta S, Muscedere J, Turgeon A.

### Impact of H1N1 Pandemic on Critical Care Services for Children

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

\$99,972; 2010 – 2011

PI: Jouvett P.

Co-Investigators: Kissoon N, Hutchison H, Menon J, Fowler R.

### Pressure Ulcer Multi-disciplinary Teams via Telemedicine (PUMTT): A Cluster Pragmatic Randomised Controlled Trial in Long Term Care

[Canadian Patient Safety Institute](#), Medical Advisory Secretariat, Central Community Care Access Centre

\$571,900; 2010 – 2012

PI: Stern A.

Co-Investigators: Krahn M, Baker R, Levin L, Jeffs L, Harris C, Alibhai S, Woodbury G, Zwarenstein M, Teague L, Tomlinson G, Woo K, Pham B, Paulden M, Kowgier M, McLaren A, Hon J, Norton L, Santos J.

### Platform for Outcomes Research and Translation in Asthma and Allergy (PORTAL)

AllerGen NCE Inc. (Allergy, Genes & Environmental Network), member of the Networks of Centres of Excellence Canada program

\$326,493; 2009 – 2012

PIs: Lynd L, Ungar W.

Co-Investigators: Marra C, Dell S, Fitzgerald M, Clarke A, Elliott S.



## Social Networking



On the first Friday of each month at 4pm, THETA staff, students and collaborators congregate at a selected pub in Toronto. We will circulate an e-mail approximately 1 week prior to inform you of the selected venue. If you have any pub suggestions, please notify [Mildred Lim](#). We look forward to seeing you there!

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