



Interior Health

Evidence Matters Update

Connecting Research & Practice in Interior Health and Beyond

February 2025



IH RESEARCH WEEK 2025

MAY 6-9





Contact: research@interiorhealth.ca

SAVE THE DATE

IH Research Week 2025!

Moving to May!
Happening May 6-9, IH Research Week 2025 is hosted by Interior Health, BC SUPPORT Unit Interior Centre, and in partnership with BC Cancer Clinical Trials!
All events are FREE and open to everyone!
Explore past IH Research Week recordings: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLws0NwJdLuYQqzu7WSYioPIEStoyQdY0t>
Stay tuned for more information and email us anytime: research@interiorhealth.ca

12th Annual

Okanagan Embrace Aging Month

A full month of events

MARCH 2025





EMBRACE AGING 2025

REGISTER NOW!
The Institute for Healthy Living and Chronic Disease Prevention is delighted to co-sponsor with Beem Credit Union and Interior Health to bring the Annual Okanagan Embrace Aging month in March each year. Embrace Aging is a month long series of events to celebrate and raise awareness about positive aging in the Okanagan valley. The sessions are for everyone – young and old alike, and focus on a variety of topics related to healthy aging and ways to enhance quality of life among seniors.
How: <https://www.okanaganembraceaging.com/events-calendar/>



Evacuate or shelter-in-place?

Applying a risk-informed decision support tool for long-term care facilities threatened by wildfire

PUBLICATION ALERT!
What: Using an Evaluation Risk Decision-Support Tool to inform Long-Term Care facility evacuations during wildfire emergencies.
Who: Brent Hobbs, Alana Hicik, Jeffrey Tochkin, and Andre Bloemink
How: Hobbs, B., Hicik, A., Tochkin, J. and Bloemink, A. (2024), Evacuation or shelter-in-place? "Applying a risk-informed decision support tool for long-term care facilities threatened by wildfire", Journal of Business Continuity & Emergency Planning, Vol. 18, No. 3



Refusing the Diversity Problem: Liberalism, Genomics, and Indigenous Critique

Date and Time: February 18, 2025 / 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PST
Event Description: The “genomic diversity problem” in the field of medical genetics and precision health research reflects an enduring colonial logic tied to liberal identity/difference politics, which prioritize inclusion and representation over substantive engagement with Indigenous sovereignties on their own terms. This paper critiques diversity initiatives in genomics, arguing that they perpetuate colonial structures by framing Indigeneity through liberal identity/difference politics of representation. Instead, it calls for Indigenous-led genomic governance that centers local sovereignties and relationalities moving beyond the reductive politics of inclusion to transform knowledge production.
How: <https://learningcircle.ubc.ca/2025/01/24/jessica-kolopenuk-diversity-problem/>



BCCHR & WHRI PRESENT: Big Data, Fast Solutions: High-Performance Computing in Digital Health

The BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (BCCHR) and the Women's Health Research Institute (WHRI) are collaborating to host a digital health research series.
Date and Time: February 27, 2025 / 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM PST
Event Description: Unlock the power of HPC in digital health! Learn how big data drives fast solutions, from AI innovations to real-world healthcare impact.
Objectives:

- Understand the Role of High-Performance Computing in Digital Health: Explore how high-performance computing (HPC) accelerates the analysis of complex datasets, driving innovation in digital health research and applications.
- Identify Key Challenges and Opportunities in Using Big Data for Healthcare Solutions: Examine the technical, ethical, and operational challenges of processing big data in healthcare, and discuss strategies to overcome them.
- Explore best practices and encourage further research: Share research studies and projects that have effectively implemented HPC in the current practices. Stimulate interest among seminar attendees to pursue research opportunities related to HPC in healthcare and to potentially highlight areas where additional research is needed.

How: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/big-data-fast-solutions-high-performance-computing-in-digital-health>



Indigenous Health Administration and Leadership Program (IHALP)

Now Accepting Applications!
Rooted in the core values of resiliency, culture and Indigenous perspectives, the UBC Certificate in Indigenous Health Administration and Leadership is designed to build and enhance your knowledge of health administration so you can confidently design, lead, and deliver holistic health and wellness programming in Indigenous organizations and communities.

- Format:** Courses are either virtual classes with 3 day in-person residencies (held at UBC Vancouver campus)
- Duration:** One year, part-time
- Next program start date:** March 28, 2025

Final application deadline: February 19, 2025
How: <https://health.indigenous.ubc.ca/home-page/programs/ihalp/>



KT Canada Summer Institute 2025

Knowledge Translation (KT) Canada Summer Institute will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, from June 17-19, 2025 at the Simon Fraser University Harbourfront Centre. The theme for this Summer Institute will be “KT and learning health systems”. The Summer Institute provides participants with the opportunity to increase their understanding of knowledge translation research as well as opportunities and challenges in this field. The Summer Institute will also provide participants with the chance to network with colleagues including national and international KT experts. The Summer Institute is aimed at graduate students, post-doctoral and clinical fellows, junior faculty who study issues relevant to KT, and those who want to learn more about how to advance their research skills in this area. We encourage applications from a wide range of disciplines that span all of CIHR's research themes (clinical, health services, and population health).
Application Deadline: February 10, 2025
More information: <https://ktcanada.org/event/kt-canada-summer-institute-2025/>



Search the IH PubHub

Interior Health Publications Hub (IH PubHub) is a searchable bibliographic database of published material created by Interior Health staff and/or physicians. It is designed to index, share, and celebrate the scholarly output of our research community.

ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

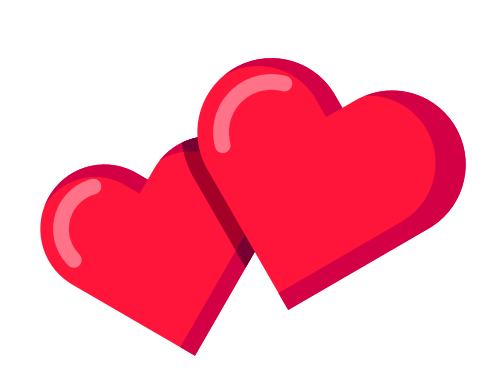
Radon and lung cancer risk
<https://www.cmaj.ca/content/195/24/E850>

MONEY MATTERS

GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

see hyperlinks for each grant offering eligibility and criteria*

- CIHR Project Grant Spring 2025
Deadline: February 5, 2025.
 - Health Research BC Research Trainee Program
Full application deadline (applicant): February 13th, 2025
 - SSHRC, CIHR, & MSHR: Research on Research Joint Initiative
Deadline: February 20, 2025.
 - 2025 Research Impact Canada (RIC) Engaged Scholarship Award
Deadline: February 24, 2025.
 - UBC Clinician Scholar Program
 - WorkSafeBC Research Grant Opportunities
- MSHR: CANTRAIN Clinical Research Internship
Deadline: Accepting on a rolling basis until March.
 - BC NEIHR: Graduate and Postdoctoral Funding
Deadline: March 15, 2025.
 - Health Research BC: Advancing the Use of Evidence in Seniors' Home and Community Care Program
Applicant letter of intent deadline: March 24, 2025
 - SSHRC Partnership Engage Grants
 - NSERC Alliance-Mitacs Accelerate Grants
 - NSERC Alliance Advantage





Rural Coordination Centre

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

2025 BC Rural Health Conference

June 6-8, 2025, in Prince George!
Call for Poster Abstracts
Currently accepting poster abstracts for the 2025 BC Rural Health Conference. Share your ideas on improving the rural health of patients and communities, cultivating rural innovations, creating high-quality health system improvements across British Columbia or globally, and more. Submit your poster abstract by Tuesday, April 1st, 2025.

Research & Capacity Building

Five Days in May

Research Events

SAVE THE DATE

5 Days in May 2025

B.C.'s health research month is designed to educate, inform, inspire, stimulate and transform.
Every year, Island Health collaborates with partner organizations to bring together researchers and students, patients and healthcare providers, decision-makers and members of the public to learn, share ideas and spark innovation. These events are open to everyone.
Explore past recordings here: <https://www.islandhealth.ca/research-capacity-building/five-days-may>

C2 SPOTLIGHT

From Theory to Practice: A Self-Assessment Tool for Learning Health Systems Implementation

Date and Time: February 24, 2025 / 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM PST
Event Description: Learning health systems (LHS) promise to transform healthcare delivery through data-driven improvement, but their practical implementation often proves challenging. While the concept of using real-world data and embedded research to enhance quality improvement is compelling, healthcare teams frequently struggle to translate these principles into actionable steps. The result? Wasted resources, delayed initiatives, and frustrated partners. Dr. Victor Rentes addresses this gap by introducing a novel self-assessment tool designed specifically for interprofessional healthcare teams. This practical instrument guides teams through the concrete steps of LHS implementation, helping them:

- Establish clear, shared objectives across diverse partners
- Assess their current LHS maturity level
- Identify specific action items for progress
- Track implementation milestones effectively

Drawing from pilot studies at the University of Michigan Medical School and the University of Toronto's Institute of Health Policy, Management, and Evaluation, Dr. Rentes will share insights from the tool's collaborative development process and early implementation results. Session participants will learn about the tool's key components, its practical application in different healthcare settings, and its potential to streamline LHS initiatives across multiple clinical programs.
How: https://ubc.zoom.us/j/9583546829?mc_cid=3e78c10e60&mc_eid=85dd7fa28b#/registration



2025 CHSPR Health Policy Conference

Aiming for the Quad: Primary Care at A(nother) Crossroads
March 3-4, 2025 | UBC Alumni Centre, Vancouver & Virtual
The 2025 CHSPR health policy conference will confront the primary care crisis. With primary care stretched beyond its limits, it is necessary for provincially delivered and funded systems learn from each other and more quickly apply evidence to practice. Speakers will engage with approaches that are being implemented to support patients in navigating primary care, address workforce shortages, decrease inefficiencies, and use data to transform care. CHSPR's long-standing conference promotes discussion between policy-makers, academics, providers, trainees, patients and national organizations on timely issues shaping health systems in Canada. The 2025 conference will bring together participants from diverse groups and from across the country to discuss ways to manage, deliver and finance primary care that aims to achieve the Quadruple Aim; and explore ways to increase health care equity through innovations in care delivery. Addressing challenges in our primary care systems requires co-designing strategies, collaborative dialogues, and coordinating activities, and the conference promises to engage in this transformative work.
Registration is open: <https://chspr.ubc.ca/conference/registration/>
More details at <http://chspr.ubc.ca/conference/>

Quality Café:

Exploring Lean: Strengthening the Quality Improvement Toolbox

Date and Time: February 19, 2025 / 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM PST
Event Description Despite significant effort to improve healthcare, efficiency and effectiveness, rates of harm remain consistently high, and healthcare associated costs continue to grow. This stark reality requires those within the system to adopt multi-faceted, innovative approaches to improving quality of care that will contribute to sustainability of our public system. Lean is one form of improvement that has been successfully utilized by several leading healthcare organizations in their efforts to meet the dynamic and growing demands of healthcare industry. Often thought of as a standalone method of improvement, Lean principles and tools are most effective when used in conjunction with other methodologies including the IHI Model for Improvement. By adopting Lean as part of a larger strategy for Quality Improvement, we can create a more robust, effective “toolbox” to support a mindset of continuous improvement that can be tailored to any setting or improvement effort.
Learning Objectives

- At the end of this webinar, learners will be able to:
 - Describe how Lean fits with other quality improvement methodologies.
- Identify specific ways Lean principles can be applied to guide improvement efforts within organizations.
- Explain the foundational principles of Lean and their relevance to continuous improvement.

How: <https://healthqualitybc.ca/events/quality-cafe-exploring-lean-strengthening-the-quality-improvement-toolbox/>

Quality Forum 2025: Embracing Human Connection

Register now for the Health Quality BC Quality Forum!
The Quality Forum is an annual conference that brings together British Columbia's health care community to share and discuss how to improve quality across the continuum of care. This three-day event is a great opportunity to learn new skills and strategies, discuss opportunities and challenges, and network with others interested in improving health care.
Forum Dates: March 11 - 13, 2025
Where: Vancouver Convention Centre
How: <https://healthqualitybc.ca/quality-forum/registration/>