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Prairie CRISM Node *News and Notes*

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Welcome!

News and Notes is designed to keep you in the loop on Regional and National CRISM activities. The picture above was taken at a meeting held in Toronto

on May 29, 2015, where representatives from the Prairie Node (left to right: Colleen Dell [Principal Investigator], David Hodgins [Principal Investigator], Stacey Petersen [Principal Consumer Representative], Allan Aubry [Principal Knowledge User], and Cam Wild [Principal Investigator]) met with CIHR and members of the BC, Ontario, and Quebec/Maritimes CRISM Nodes. At this inaugural National CRISM meeting, we discussed a governance framework for the CRISM network. We also connected with other Nodes and discussed strategies for success of this new network.

Node Happenings

Funding released. After numerous administrative and legal delays over the summer, we are pleased to let you know that Node infrastructure funds were released as of August 31. We can finally start the real work of building our Node. Stay tuned for further updates on regional demonstration projects, development of our web presence, and other opportunities.



Node research manager hired. Over the summer, we initiated an open search for a Node Research Manager. Over 40 individuals applied for the position and we are pleased to introduce you to Dr. Denise Adams. Denise received her PhD in Clinical Epidemiology and has many years of experience coordinating complex multi-site projects. Welcome Denise!

National CRISM Study

One of CIHR's requirements for the network to complete at least one National-level study involving all regional CRISM Nodes. Over the summer, we were informed that CIHR is planning to release a further \$4M of operational funds to the CRISM network (approximately \$1M per Node) in

order to conduct such a National study. Access to these funds will require an application to CIHR, which is due October 1. CIHR stipulated that (a) only CRISM Nominated Principal Investigators are eligible to apply for these operating funds, (b) the proposal must examine interventions for prescription drug misuse, and (c) they need to get the money out the door this calendar year. These requirements and the very tight timeline prevented any of the four CRISM Nodes from consulting with its Members to determine how these funds should best be used - and we certainly would have preferred to adopt a more consultative process with Prairie Node Members if these requirements were not set for us.

The CRISM Nominated Principal Investigators from across the country engaged in a series of discussions and meetings in August. We determined that a National pragmatic trial assessing treatment models for prescription opioid misuse has the best likelihood of making an impact on the target population, and of influencing treatment services and policy in this area.

A draft version of the National study protocol is available [here](#). If you are interested in contributing to this study, or can recommend key people in our Node who should be involved, please send an email to denise.adams@ualberta.ca with a copy to cam.wild@ualberta.ca. We will follow up with you as part of the process of organizing our Node's participation in this National project. We will also be discussing this opportunity with our Node Regional Advisory Panel and Regional Coordinating Committee .

Questions? Comments?

News and Notes is a way to keep informed about Prairie CRISM Node developments. Email us anytime if you would like to discuss Node activities or want additional information. Please send to denise.adams@ualberta.ca with a copy to cam.wild@ualberta.ca

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