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CRISM Prairie Node *News and Notes*

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CRISM is a national network dedicated to translating substance misuse intervention research results into practice and policy.



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News and Notes is designed to keep you in the loop on Regional and National activities from the Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse (CRISM) Prairie Node.

Research Funding Opportunity



A funding opportunity is available from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Patient-Oriented Research Collaboration Grants, as part of Canada's **Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR)**.

SPOR is a coalition of federal, provincial and territorial partners dedicated to the integration of research into care. SPOR is about ensuring that the right patient receives the right intervention at the right time.

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therapists, pharmacists, social workers, physiotherapists, psychologist, and other health professionals) to be involved and learn in the context of patient-oriented research teams.

The application deadline is **December 13 2016**

For more information please visit [Research Net](#) competition 201612PEG or access the posting directly [here](#)

Meeting with the Federal Health Minister

On October 3, the four CRISM NPIs met with the Honourable Jane Philpott, Federal Minister of Health, to discuss topics of mutual interest, including the current opioid crisis, cannabis legalization, and the role CRISM infrastructure will play in generating timely evidence to inform practice and policy.

You can download the Q&A style briefing note provided to Minister Philpott below. Please feel free to share this document in your networks.

[Click Here to Access the Q&A Briefing Note](#)

SAVE THE DATE Issues of Substance Conference

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Centre canadien de lutte
contre les toxicomanies

Partnership. Knowledge. Change.
Collaboration. Connaissance. Changement.

SUBSTANCE
CONFERENCE

2017

QUESTIONS de
SUBSTANCE

Addiction matters • La dépendance, ça compte

November 13-15
Calgary, Alberta

Le 13 au 15 novembre
Calgary (Alberta)

November 13-15, 2017

Calgary Alberta

Hosted by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA), Issues of Substance (IOS) is Canada's only national conference that brings together addiction workers, healthcare professionals, researchers, policy makers and knowledge brokers from across the country. This premier learning event provides an unparalleled opportunity to share new developments and best practices, and to get practical training related to prevention, treatment and recovery. IOS is also a forum for showcasing new research and knowledge mobilization efforts in the addiction field.

For more information, visit www.issuesofsubstance.ca

HR17 Conference Registration OPEN

25th Harm Reduction International Conference

May 14-17 2017

Montreal Quebec

The theme of this year's conference is 'At the Heart of the Response', and HRI is encouraging abstract submissions about innovative harm reduction services, new or ground-breaking research, effective or successful advocacy campaigns or key policy discussions or debates. The agenda will encompass, high profile main plenaries, research, panel

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Registration and Call for Submissions is Now Open!

www.hri.global/conference-2017

CRISM Quebec-Maritimes node website is live

The CRISM Quebec-Maritimes website is up and running!

Please take a moment to have a look at their website for great regional information, links, study recruitment, research descriptions, and more!

Follow this link: www.qmcrism-icras.com

Lecturer (Alcohol and Drug Studies) School of Population Health University of Auckland

The School of Population Health at the University of Auckland (New Zealand) is currently advertising for a full-time permanent academic who will contribute to teaching and research in addiction studies. The candidate will join a team that teaches in a number of School of Population Health programmes that focus on addiction studies. The candidate will specifically co-ordinate and teach post graduate Certificate and Diploma courses in alcohol and drug studies. Lecturing staff will also be expected to advance research in the area.

Applications are due **October 21 2016**

To view the full position description, find more information, and to apply please click [here](#)

ACRP announces unrestricted access to Clinical Trials Training Program

Free Program to Help Develop Competence in Clinical Research Workforce and Raise Awareness of Clinical Trials

Washington, DC – The Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) today announces immediate availability of a free educational program, "Introduction to Clinical Trials."

Introduced at DIA 2016 in Philadelphia, PA, last month, Introduction to Clinical Trials provides fundamental education about the role clinical research plays in advancing medical knowledge and the work conducted by clinical research professionals.

The course details how medical products are developed, how volunteer patients are protected, and who plays key roles in the development, research, review, and approval of medical products. The one-hour online program also explores how historical studies have laid the path for creation, revision, and enforcement of the ethical principles and guidelines governing today's clinical trials.

"ACRP is proud to offer this fundamental education in support of our mission to promote excellence in clinical research," says Jim Kremidas, ACRP Executive Director. "As the leader in clinical research workforce development, providing those new to the profession with a core understanding of clinical research is a critical initiative for ACRP. We are thrilled to be able to freely provide this program to individuals, clinical trial sites, contract research organizations, and trial sponsors and suppliers. Thank you to Labconnect LLC for providing ACRP the educational grant to develop this program."

Introduction to Clinical Trials is an ideal program for novice clinical researchers, including investigators, coordinators, and trial monitors, to develop the foundational knowledge upon which they can develop their competence as clinical research professionals. The program is also perfect for those interested in the profession or indirectly involved in clinical trials.

Introduction to Clinical Research is immediately available for free individual use through ACRP's Learning Management System (LMS) [here](#). The SCORM-compliant program can also

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information.

In addition to supporting clinical research professionals and organizations, this program is an ideal tool for organizations seeking to help educate the public about clinical research and to raise awareness of clinical trials and the clinical research profession.

"We welcome everyone looking to spread the word about clinical research to leverage this resource, including the academic institutions and other associations around the world educating those who will ultimately become the workforce of tomorrow," says Kremidas.

Introduction to Clinical Trials is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide 1 Continuing Medical Education credit for physicians, and by the California Board of Registered Nursing to provide 1 contact hour of continuing nursing education credit.

About ACRP

ACRP supports clinical research professionals through membership, training and development, and certification. Founded in 1976, ACRP is a Washington, DC-based nonprofit organization with more than 13,000 members who work in clinical research in more than 70 countries. ACRP's vision is that clinical research is performed ethically, responsibly, and professionally everywhere in the world. ACRP's mission is to promote excellence in clinical research. www.acrpnet.org

Invitation to Participate: Take Home Naloxone Evaluation

Alberta is experiencing a large increase in fentanyl related deaths. In response to this crisis, the province is taking steps to make the opioid overdose reversal drug, naloxone, available to opioid users across the province through Take Home Naloxone (THN) programs. Alberta Health (AH) and the Alberta Community Council on HIV (ACCH) established THN programs through the partner agencies in ACCH in the summer of 2015. Alberta Health Services

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and residential services; correctional facilities; and some pharmacies and medical clinics. At the same time, Health Canada has removed the prescription requirement from Naloxone and AH is working to change provincial regulations so the drug is available behind the counter at pharmacies without a prescription. This change is anticipated to make naloxone more easily accessible and widely available.

Alberta Health, ACCH and AHS have partnered to evaluate THN programs across the province. A provincial evaluation provides the opportunity to assess the impact of large scale distribution of naloxone, compare different models of delivering THN programs, and study the outcome of changing the prescription status of naloxone. It also provides an opportunity to assess how THN programs can contribute to holistic harm reduction programs and policies in the province.

Alberta Health, ACCH and AHS are interested in partnering with academic researchers working in the field of substance abuse on the evaluation of the THN programs. The present provincial evaluation of the THN programs is in the early stages of planning and there are opportunities for interested researchers or students to:

- Provide conceptual input into the direction of the overall evaluation through participation on the working group,
- Develop a more in-depth study of a local THN program,
- Develop a more in-depth study of a specific aspect of the THN programs (e.g., overdose prevention training, program efficiency), or
- Develop a broader study of the fentanyl crisis that could inform THN programs and their evaluation.

Currently there are limited resources for the provincial THN evaluation; however, AH, ACCH and AHS can facilitate access to program information, staff, clients and administrative data for researchers interested in studying THN programs.

For more information please contact:

Kay Rittenbach, PhD

Assistant Scientific Director, Addiction & Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network, AHS

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780-616-6623

Node development grants

The CRISM Prairie Node will consider ad-hoc requests from Node Members (Investigators and Knowledge Users) on a rolling basis to provide one-time funding up to \$15,000. Funds are to be used to support research and/or knowledge exchange activities in the area of substance misuse interventions.

To date, we have received 8 applications from Members for Node support, of which 5 are approved and 3 are under review. Congratulations to **Bonnie Lee** (University of Lethbridge), **Darlene Chalmers** (University of Regina), **Elaine Hyshka** (University of Alberta), **Darren Christensen** (University of Lethbridge), and **Anas El-Aneed** (University of Saskatchewan) and their colleagues.

Members can submit applications via email to Denise Adams at denise.adams@ualberta.ca. The application form can be accessed via the button below.

[Click here to access the Node Funding application](#)

Links

Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR)

Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions and *CIHR* jointly sponsor the Alberta SPOR SUPPORT unit, which offers assistance to researchers working on patient-oriented research. For more

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Saskatchewan Centre for Patient Oriented Research (SCPOR). For more information, click the button below.

Prescription drug misuse information

The US-based *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)* provides a weekly update service on the latest trends in prescription drug misuse. Each week, they summarize dozens of articles and resources of interest to researchers and non-academics alike. Clicking on the button below will take you directly to their sign up page to subscribe to this service.

[Click here to connect with Alberta's SPOR SUPPORT unit](#)

[Click here to connect with Saskatchewan's SPOR SUPPORT unit](#)

[Click here to subscribe to SAMHSA's Prescription Drug Abuse Weekly Update](#)

Questions? Comments? Contact us!

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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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