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Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse

News and Notes

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

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You can contact CRISM Prairies using the information provided at the bottom of this email.



Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research



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

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CRISM Prairies Updates

If you haven't visited the CRISM | Prairies website recently, please checkout out our new content and format

The CRISM Prairies website is expanding to showcase new content and events. Be sure to visit the site regularly for updates and additions like our 'Featured Activities' highlight box that is now available on the landing page at www.crismprairies.ca

If you have any content, events, or activities that you would like to share on the CRISM Prairies website please be in touch with node manager [Denise Adams](#) at your convenience.

Interested in secondary analyses of addiction-related health services data? Announcing a free CRISM | Prairies service

CRISM | Prairies has partnered with the [Alberta Addiction and Mental Health Research Partnership Program](#) and the [Addictions & Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network](#) of Alberta Health Services and invites Prairie Node members with an interest in secondary analyses of addiction-related health services data to access this new initiative. The partnership offers a dedicated Masters-level analyst to access AHS data holdings for CRISM | Prairie members. Approved projects can address research, evaluation, quality improvement, and measurement questions related to substance misuse through this free service.

Rationale

- CRISM | Prairies has partnered with Alberta Health Services (Alberta Addiction and Mental Health Research Partnership Program and the Addiction and Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network) to promote innovation in analytics related to substance use and health care utilization.
- The long-term goal of this partnership is to support access to addiction and mental health (AMH) client data from relevant health care services and programs in Alberta Health Services (AHS) for researchers and to promote innovative analytic projects.

Purpose

- The overarching purpose is to identify and address mutually agreed upon and mutually beneficial research, evaluation, quality improvement and measurement questions.
- CRISM | Prairies has funded a full time analyst to work in the AHS Knowledge, Performance and Integrated Planning program. Projects will be categorized as follows:
 - Analysis of well-developed research, evaluation, measurement, or quality improvement questions using administrative health data
 - Consultation around development of question

Projects are eligible for this service using the following criteria

- No primary data collection
- The project makes use of data already held in AHS or AH data repositories
- The project proposal must align with CRISM objectives or AHS priorities, or both
- Preference will be given to projects in the following order:
 - Aligns with both CRISM objectives and AHS priorities
 - Aligns with CRISM or AHS with some overlap with the other agency

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Application Process

Download the short [application](#) template.

Submit the completed application to ResearchPartnership@albertahealthservices.ca
Applications are reviewed by a joint CRISM | Praries and AHS governance committee.

For more information contact Denise Adams at denise.adams@ualberta.ca

Can you assist with study recruitment?

On behalf of Dr. Matt Keough and his doctoral student Jona Frohlich at the University of Manitoba:

"We are currently seeking support with recruitment for an RCT examining an online intervention for comorbid alcohol misuse and emotional problems (depression and anxiety). The target population are young adults in Canada (18 to 35 years), and we have broad ethics to recruit Canada-wide. Currently, we are experiencing difficulties reaching our intended population, and are hoping to increase awareness of the study across the country. Please circulate the attached [recruitment poster](#) to colleagues, organizations, or any others who may have access to this population".

To learn more about the study and access additional recruitment materials please contact either Dr. Keough (matthew.keough@umanitoba.ca) or Jona Frohlich (umfrohlj@myumanitoba.ca).

New Webinar on the Management of opioid use disorders: A national clinical practice guideline

Please join us in this webinar to listen to Dr. Ron Lim discuss the opioid crisis and the development of the *Management of opioid use disorders: A national clinical practice guidelines*.

[To access the webinar click this link.](#)

Events & Activities

Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine Scientific Conference

Where: Halifax, Nova Scotia

When: October 24-26, 2019

Abstract submissions close May 10, 2019

The CSAM Scientific Conference #CSAM2019 is Canada's foremost conference on new research and best practices in addiction care at the front line and systems level. This year's theme is Building Bridges through Shared Learning/Créer des connections grâce à l'apprentissage partagé. We are looking for abstracts for posters on all aspects of addiction, particularly research findings and QI projects. Abstracts for oral presentations and symposia that reflect the theme by enabling attendees to apply new research in

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evidence-based treatments and harm reduction.

[For more information please click this link.](#)

Healing Indigenous Intergenerational Trauma Conference

Join us for a two day conference on Healing Indigenous Intergenerational Trauma on May 8 & 9, and the first Alberta Wide Indigenous Youth Headstrong Summit on May 10th followed by the 38th Annual Ben Calf Robe Annual Pow Wow at Clarke Stadium, Edmonton on May 11th.

For more information and to register please visit: www.bcrsconference.ca

Perinatal Substance Use Symposium

Save the date: Friday, May 31, 2019 8:30-4:00 pm

Location: Carriage House Inn, Calgary, AB

This symposium will offer a day of expert talks and open discussion about perinatal substance use, as well as an opportunity for networking amongst hospital-based care providers and community agencies working with pregnant women with substance use disorders across Calgary.

For more information and to register please [visit the event site here.](#)

Prevention Matters 2019 Conference



The [Prevention Matters 2019 Conference](#), hosted by the Saskatchewan Prevention Institute, will run **October 2-4, 2019** at TCU Place, Saskatoon SK.

Prevention Matters 2019 will focus on building connections and collaborations across disciplines and across the province, to learn from one another to address healthy child development and well-being. The conference will highlight the role of prevention in health and how knowledge exchange (sharing knowledge in multiple directions and ways) is the foundation to addressing needs and improving health.

Please follow this link for registration information <https://skprevention.ca/pm2019/#registration>.

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Resources & Funding Opportunities

SAMHSA Treatment Guidance on Native Populations

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is issuing a Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) to improve access by American Indians and Alaska Natives to treatment for substance use disorders that is scientifically sound and culturally informed.

TIP 61 "Behavioral Health Services for American Indians and Alaska Natives" furthers SAMHSA's mission to advance the behavioral health of the nation and improve the lives of individuals living with mental and substance use disorders, and their families. The guidance provided through TIP 61 offers the behavioral health field practical and culturally relevant approaches for delivering effective behavioral health services to American Indian and Alaska Native clients.

[Access the full document here.](#)

Winnipeg Safer Consumption Spaces Consultation

The Safer Consumption Spaces Working Group in Winnipeg is a voluntary collective of people from organizations who came together with a common interest in learning from people who use drugs about the spaces of everyday drug use, and the spaces they envision and value.

The Working Group has completed a report on the findings of their consultation and needs assessment in Winnipeg. Please access the report directly on their [website](#).

Consolidating Perspectives on Saskatoon's Opioid Crisis Final Project Report Released

Led by Principle Investigator Dr. Lori Hanson and Co-Investigator Dr. Peter Butt at the University of Saskatchewan, the aim of the *Consolidating Perspectives* study was to bring information and perspectives together regarding the evolving opioid crisis in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

The project summary report is now [available for download](#) on the CRISM Prairies website.

CIHR Team Grant: Cannabis Research In Priority Areas



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projects to catalyze future research related to the health impacts of cannabis legalization. That catalyst grant funding opportunity had a specific focus on population health intervention research related to the legalization and regulation of non-medical cannabis in Canada. Further, in July 2018, CIHR and partners invested \$3 million to support an additional 24 projects designed to address urgent priority areas identified through a research priorities workshop held in September 2017. Identified research areas included both the potential therapeutic benefit for specific indications and the potential risks/harms of cannabis use in different populations. However, there still remain many unknowns about the health and safety effects of cannabis, as well as the behavioural, social, ethical and economic implications of legalization.

To address these issues, CIHR and partner agencies have developed an [Integrated Cannabis Research Strategy \(ICRS\)](#). The overarching vision of ICRS is to provide a well-coordinated series of activities to position Canada as a leader in developing the research capacity and amassing the research evidence needed on the effects of cannabis. This includes validating the potential therapeutic benefits of cannabis, as well as understanding risks and harms, and supporting policy and regulatory models for studying cannabis use (including development of common data standards). This Team Grant funding opportunity represents the first targeted funding opportunity launched under ICRS, with additional opportunities planned in the coming years.

The purpose of the current Team Grant is to explore in more detail the potential therapeutic benefits and harms associated with cannabis use in a number of targeted areas identified through previous consultations. In particular, these Team Grants will address stakeholder priorities by supporting specific defined priority areas in targeted pools, to strengthen the evidence base and to build cannabis-related research capacity.

Letter of intent is due May 15 2019.

You can learn more about this funding opportunity by visiting [ResearchNet](#).

Did you miss it? Items from our previous issues...

AUDEAMUS Node Development Project Video Available

The Saskatchewan Centre for Patient Oriented Research (SCPOR) has released a new video highlighting the work of Prairie Node co-PI Dr. Colleen Dell in their Research Spotlight series.

The goal of this study is to learn from veterans living with PTSD paired with an AUDEAMUS Inc. service dog about how the dog assists them with addressing their problematic use of substances, and specifically opiates. You can read more about the study by visiting the [CRISM Prairies website](#).

You can watch the video on [YouTube here](#) or visit the [SCPOR website](#) to learn more anytime!

Moms Stop The Harm
Petra Schultz

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Petra Schulz (faculty member, health and community studies at MacEwan University) never planned to be a harm reduction advocate, but her life changed forever on April 30, 2014 when she and her husband discovered their son Danny's body on the bathroom floor of his apartment. When faced with what to say in his eulogy, they decided to tell the truth.

In this heart-wrenching talk, Petra shares Danny's story and the idea that people who use drugs are just like everyone else: people who deserve a chance to be safe and healthy, and to live without judgment or shame.

Watch the TedX talk [My son Danny: The truth about substance use, stigma and overdose](#)

Questions? Comments? Contributions?
Please be in touch using the information provided below!

News For the Node?

If you have news for the node please send the information that you would like included in our next issue to barb.fornssler@usask.ca. If something is happening in our region we are happy to share!

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

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