



Canadian MSK Rehab Research Network Newsletter

Winter 2020

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Co-PIs:

- Dr. Joy MacDermid (NPI)
- Dr. Catherin Backman
- Dr. Trevor Birmingham
- Dr. Laurent Bouyer
- Dr. Deborah Marshall
- Dr. Rebecca Moyer
- Dr. Janet Ronsky
- Dr. Jean Sebastien Roy
- Dr. Aliko Thomas

Network Coordinator:

- Ryan Power
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CIHR IMHA Network Catalyst Grant Success

Canadian MSK Rehab Research Network Extended through 2025

Launched in 2016, the Canadian MSK Rehab Research Network brought together 80 researchers and collaborators, and 20 partner groups to mitigate the MSK burden in Canada. Through coordinated national efforts, our members work together to develop new rehab solutions for those living with MSK problems and test these in high-quality research environments.

We have created innovative funding and learning opportunities for trainees and research platforms that allow us to share clinical and biomechanical data nationally. We are leveraging new wearable and web technologies to create novel, accessible rehab applications and test their effectiveness to achieve pain-free mobility and work participation.

In January the Canadian MSK Rehab Research Network was awarded a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant of 2-million dollars to extend and greatly expand our operations for the next five years.

The successful grant application included 95 researchers and 32 trainees from 24 institutions, 27 collaborators and 22 partner organizations. With infrastructure, research priorities and administrative function already in place, we are now positioned for long-term success that can provide a meaningful impact on the research community in Canada.

Over the next five years we will build on the capacities and partnerships that we have created to conduct high impact, national studies on MSK research to enhance mobility, reduce pain, and improve quality of life. We are linking MSK research centres and patient groups across Canada to make the best use of the capacity and expertise that exists in the research community.

Network values that are integrated in our work include: patient engagement, equity, working across disciplines and regions of Canada, and meaningful training opportunities.

Thank you to all of our Network members and valued partners for your work over the past three years, and thank you to everyone who contributed to the successful application. We look forward to continue working with all of you for the next five years!

Network Grant Funding Success

Numerous Network researchers were successful in The Arthritis Society's annual grant competitions:

- Dr. Jackie Whittaker, University of British Columbia – Stars Career Development Award: Early Career
 - Project: Preventing Osteoarthritis after a sport-related knee injury
 - Amount: \$374,889 over 3 years
- Dr. Monica Maly, University of Waterloo – Stars Career Development Award: Mid-Career
 - Project: Move Well Live Well: Using the science of movement to tailor exercise and rehabilitation for osteoarthritis to promote better living
 - Amount: \$450,000 over 3 years
- Dr. Cheryl Segiun, Western University – Stars Career Development Award: Mid-Career
 - Project: Investigating the pathogenesis of common spine disorders: Discovery-based approaches to identify therapeutic targets
 - Amount: \$450,000 over 3 years
- Dr. Cheryl Seguin, Western University – Strategic Operating Grant
 - Project: Obesity, disc degeneration and back pain: Nuclear receptors as therapeutic targets
 - Amount: \$360,000 over 3 years
- Christina Le, University of Alberta – PhD Salary Award
 - Project: Health-related quality of life following a youth sport-related knee injury: Implications for preventing post-traumatic osteoarthritis and promoting lifelong well-being
 - Amount: \$21,000 over 2 years

CIHR funding success:

- Dr. Catherine Arnold, University of Saskatchewan – Planning & Dissemination Grant
 - Project: Staying Strong, Balance and FAST: Together, Let's Prevent Fall Injuries
 - Amount: \$14,985
- Dr. Brenna Bath (NPA), University of Saskatchewan - Patient-Oriented Research Catalyst Grant
 - Project: Mobilizing Rural, Remote and Urban Patient Perspectives to Enhance Access to Chronic Back Pain Care
 - Amount: \$99,993 over 2 years
- Dr. Kadija Perrault, Université Laval – Planning & Dissemination Grant

- Project: Bringing together the ACCESS TO REHAB TEAM to improve access to rehabilitation services for persons experiencing musculoskeletal pain
 - Amount: \$19,953
 - Dr. Julie Richardson, McMaster University – Project Grant
 - Project: Stepping-Up: Partnering with the Community to Prevent Early Mobility Decline
 - Amount: \$573,752
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Anne Lyddiatt Receives Qualman-Davies Award

Congratulations to MSK Network patient partner Anne Lyddiatt on receiving the prestigious “Qualman-Davies Arthritis Consumer Community Leadership Award” for 2019! Anne has been an active member of the arthritis community for over 20 years after being diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis more than 30 years ago.

Anne has been the long time trainer of the national Patient Partners in Arthritis program where patients with arthritis demonstrate a standardized MSK exam to medical students and other health care professionals. She is a founding member of the Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance, and a tireless advocate for the Arthritis Society, leading an Arthritis Self Management Program for many years in the London area.



She has recently retired from the steering committee of SPOR (Strategy for Patient Oriented Research) and serves as Chair for the Ontario SPOR Support Unit’s Patient Partner Advisory Committee. She also recently finished her tenure as the Chair of the Patient Executive of Cochrane and a consumer representative of the Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group. Anne was a research ambassador for IMHA (Institute for Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis).

Anne currently sits as a consumer representative on the Bone and Joint Institute’s Governing Board at Western University and is still an active Patient Research Partner with OMERACT (Outcome Measures in Rheumatology). Anne has previously been awarded both the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee medal in 2002 and the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

2019 Meeting Highlights & Upcoming Conferences

[MSK Network Conferences & Meeting Wrap-up 2019](#)

The Canadian MSK Rehab Research Network was proud to support numerous conferences across Canada in 2019. Partnering with existing conferences and events allowed us to connect with far more current and prospective Network members than ever before. Here is a quick recap of a busy year:

- May 16-17: 3rd Quebec Congress in Adaptation-Rehabilitation Research – Montreal, Quebec
- May 23-24: 21st Annual Rehabilitation Research Colloquium Conference Planning Committee - Queen's University, Kingston Ontario
- July 3-6: International Forum for Back and Neck Pain Research in Primary Care – Quebec City, Quebec
- August 12-16: University of British Columbia's OBDAF Summer School on Wearable Sensors for Balance and Movement - Vancouver, BC
- October 4-5: Sport Physical Therapy Conference 2019 - Vancouver, BC

Upcoming Conferences & Meetings in 2020

- February 25-26: Canadian Arthritis Research Conference – Victoria, BC
- August 11-14: Canadian Society for Biomechanics – Montreal, Quebec

We are currently finalizing our conference partnerships in 2020. If you have any recommendations for upcoming collaborative rehabilitation conferences and events, please forward any info to rehabnet@uwo.ca

Opportunities & Availability

Current Opportunities

Dr. Dylan Kobsar, Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology at McMaster University, is seeking a highly motivated graduate student interested in pursuing a master's or doctoral degree in the area of biomechanics, human movement, wearable sensors, and data science. Please submit a letter of interest, CV, and transcripts, to Dr. Dylan Kobsar at kobsard@mcmaster.ca

We are happy to circulate any job postings, collaboration opportunities (e.g. seeking additional researchers for a project), or strong candidates seeking a position. Check back on this section in future newsletters for opportunities and availability across Canada!

Upcoming Opportunities

In early 2019 a grant competition was run specifically for projects utilizing wearable, web or mobile technology in rehab applications. The next

competition will be open to MSK rehab pilot studies for randomized controlled trials (RCTs).

This competition will be launched in conjunction with the Network's Clinical Trials Network and the associated outcome measures database that has been developed in partnership with Western University's emPower Lab. Projects will be required to use this new platform (at no cost to the researchers) to host a pilot RCT, or utilize a similar platform available to them.

Up to four grants will be available at \$10,000 each. The competition will open in the spring of 2020 – stay tuned!

New Members

Since launching in late 2016, the Canadian MSK Rehab Research Network has grown by more than 40%. We are always accepting new memberships from researchers, partners, patients and trainees who are involved in MSK health research. See the link below for details and the application form:

www.mskrehabnet.com/people/membership.html

We encourage our current Network Members to invite colleagues, partners or Pilot Grant team members who may be interested in joining the Network.

Membership is open to researchers, collaborators, partners, students/trainees, or anyone with an interest in MSK rehab research.

Inquiries or applications can be forwarded to Ryan Power (rehabnet@uwo.ca)

Network Members

Co-Principal Investigators

Joy MacDermid (NPI)
Catherine Backman
Trevor Birmingham
Laurent Bouyer
Deborah Marshall

Rebecca Moyer
Janet Ronsky
Jean-Sebastien Roy
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Co-Investigators

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Kathrine Lippel
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Monica Maly
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Daniel Benoit
Lauren Benson
Krista Best
Jason Bouffard
Steve Boyd
Dianne Bryant
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Alexandre Campeau-Lecours
Lisa Carlesso
Manon Choinière
Eda Cinar
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Carol Fortin
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Martha Funabashi
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Lora Giangregorio
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Monique Gignac
Kristine Godziuk
Anita Gross
Douglas Gross
Christine Guptill
Jill Hayden
Liz Harrison
Jeffrey Hebert
Wendy Hill
Michael Anthony Hunt
Tara Kajaks
Graham King
Dylan Kobsar
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Nancy Mayo
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Catherine Mercier
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Suzanne Morin
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Rajni Patel
Kadija Perreault
Rob Petrella
Mathieu Piché
Carla Prado
Julie Richardson
Stephen Robinovitch
Shawn Robbins
Dominique Rouleau
Derek Rutherford
Joanna Sale
Paulo Sanzo
Cyril Schneider
Alex Scott
Martin Simoneau
Kathryn Sinden
Stephane Sobczak
Susan Stock
Mike Szekeres
Matthew Teeter
Jane Thornton
Yannick Tousignant-Laflamme
Ana Luisa Trejos
Katia Turcot
Nathan Urquhart
David Walton
Hope Weiler
Marie Westby
Jackie Whittaker
Timonthy Wideman
Ryan Willing
Gregory Wohl
Linda Woodhouse
Audrey Zucker Levin

Knowledge Users

Catherine Hofstetter (Principal
Knowledge User)
Corrie Billedeau
Lynn Cooper

Fabio Feldman
Anne Lyddiatt
Linda Wilhelm
Hazel Wilson

Collaborators

Jacque Gibson
Joe Godges
Genevieve Hladysch
Paul Hodges
Daniel Imbeau
Jacques Laliberté
Charissa Levy

Sue Mawson
Erinn McQueen
Jann Paquette-Warren
Jean Francois Esculier
Cathie Sherrington
Linda Wilhelm

Trainees

Talia Alenabi
Lauren Benson
Eda Cinar
Jesse Charlton
Elysia Davis
Simon Decary
Simon Deslauriers
Andreas Ejupi
Jean Francois Esculier
Maryam Farzad
Martha Funabashi
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