## Summer Student Research Program
### Project List 2018

**List updated:** January 30, 2018

***Please keep checking the website as this list may be added to until the deadline***

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Supervisors: Drs. Fawziah Lalji and Gina Ogilvie

Project Title: Epidemiology of Genital Warts in British Columbia

Background: HPV is a large family of viruses and approximately 40 of these are transmitted sexually. Of these forty HPV subtypes, 15 are considered high-risk and can lead to the development of cervical cancer. The other subtypes of HPV are considered low-risk and include types 6 and 11 which cause condyloma acuminatum or anogenital warts (AGWs). Genital warts remain one of the most commonly reported sexually transmitted infections worldwide. Recurrence is common and many patients receive several rounds of treatment. Two vaccines have been developed to protect against HPV disease: Gardasil® (Merck Frost) and Cervarix® (GlaxoSmithKline). Both vaccines contain HPV types 16 and 18, the high-risk serotypes associated with cervical cancer, but Gardasil® provides additional protection against genital warts as it also protects against HPV types 6 and 11. We had previously evaluated the incidence of genital wart infections back in 2003 prior to the introduction of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine as part of the grade 6 immunization program.

Rationale: We would like to take a look at the incidence of this infection since the introduction of the vaccine program in British Columbia. Many of the girls who would have been vaccinated are now young adults fully engaged in sexually activity. Of note, the vaccine has been privately available to adult women with variable uptake through pharmacies. We can evaluate its uptake and impact on incidence of AGW.

Objectives: We will use administrative data to report on trends in incidence of AGW from 1998 to 2016, by age, gender and anatomical area in the pre-vaccine and during vaccine-availability time period.

Study Design and Cohort: A retrospective cohort analysis with the cohort being patients with AGW infections between January 1, 1998 to December 31, 2016. The cohort will include all patients in BC diagnosed with an AGW infection from 1998 to 2016. Individuals will be eligible for inclusion in the cohort if they have a record in MSP with ICD-9 code of 078.1 or DAD with an ICD-10 code for ICD9: 078.1 or ICD-10: A63, B07.


Student Qualifications: Student should be familiar with epidemiological methods and to be able to use/understand R or SAS for data analysis, with the assistance of epidemiologists and biostatistician.
Summer Student Research Program Project Description
SSRP-Lynd-01

**Supervisor:** Dr. Larry Lynd (Director, Collaboration for Outcomes Research and Evaluation; Professor, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences)

**Project Title:** Forecasting the Utilization of Genomic Sequencing in Healthcare by 2030

**Project Description:** Together with researchers at UBC’s Faculty of Medicine and BC Children’s and Women’s Hospitals, we are conducting a needs assessment for genetic counselling services and evaluating innovative service delivery models that can scale up to accommodate the expected increase in the utilization of genome-wide sequencing over the next 10 years. To inform this project, we are conducting an *environmental scan of the medical genetics landscape*, which will help us to forecast future utilization of genome-wide sequencing in healthcare and the associated demand for genetic counselling, as well as to estimate the health system’s capacity to deliver appropriate genetic counselling services.

**Project Objectives:** The starting point for this project is to conduct *scoping reviews* that will identify and synthesize peer-reviewed articles, reports, and relevant data sources that provide information on: 1) the composition and evolution of the medical genetics workforce, 2) the therapeutic areas and indications for which genetics services are currently offered, 3) trends in the utilization of genetics services, and 4) forecasts of how the medical genetics landscape is likely to change in the next 10 years.

**Project Activities:** The project will involve: 1) conducting background research to identify appropriate literature and data sources; 2) developing a search and synthesis strategy for the scoping reviews; 3) designing the search terms used in queries; 4) evaluating individual documents and data sources for relevance; 5) summarizing and abstracting relevant documents and data; 5) documenting the methodology used to conduct the reviews; and 6) drafting reports summarizing the key trends and statistics identified by the reviews. The student will provide input at all stages of the project, and will work closely with the study team to design a search and evaluation strategy. Once the methodological approach for the reviews is established, the student should be able to work with minimal direct supervision under these guidelines while exercising sound judgment on when to refer problems to the supervisor. The student will be offered co-authorship on the publications that report the results of the scoping reviews.
Summer Student Research Program Project Description
SSRP-Pachev-01

Supervisors: George S Pachev¹, Neelam Dhaliwal², Natalie E LeBlanc¹, Simon P Albon³
¹Office of Educational Assessment
²Office of Experiential Education
³Office of Educational Support and Development

Project Title: Learning Opportunities in Pharmacy Practicum Settings

Project Description

Goal: The goal of this study is to identify, through individual and group interviews with students, the situations and conditions conductive to learning (“learning moments”) in outpatient and inpatient direct patient care, as well as non-direct patient care practice settings.

Background: The Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) has more than doubled the time requirements for experiential education within the entry-to-practice (E2P) curricula (1). The UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences’ E2PPharmD curriculum, implemented in September 2015, involves 42 weeks of experiential education in various pharmacy practice settings. The experiential education practicums are included in all four years of the program, and progress from introductory to advanced learning opportunities from the first to the final year. The practicums involve both direct patient care in outpatient and inpatient settings, as well as non-direct patient care in a variety of settings.

Given that the vast majority of students entering the program have no relevant practice education experience, it is important to provide support for student learning in practicum settings. Learning how to learn in the practice-based environment is a central topic in preparing students for experiential learning. Identifying the opportunities for learning, is a first step in building necessary supports.

Research questions: What are the situations and assigned activities within the daily routines of the practicum placement that are most conductive to learning? What are the associated conditions necessary for learning to occur? What are the preparation and/or follow-up activities needed to consolidate learning, if any?

Project activities: This project will involve the student in the following activities:
1. Literature review: searching the scholarly literature in health sciences on learning in experiential education settings to identify relevant theoretical models, empirical approaches and examples of learning opportunities in practicum placements. Complete a written review of the literature.
2. Data collection: design data collection protocols, including developing and piloting the data collection instruments. The successful candidate will gain experience in the development and administration of questionnaires, interviews and focus group questions.
3. Ethics approval: preparing documentation for submission to the Institutional Research Ethics Board, including letters of initial contact and consent forms.
4. Dissemination of results: creating and developing a poster and seminar for presentation to the Faculty and other audiences, and participating in the preparation of a manuscript suitable for publication.

The student undertaking this project will be expected to work effectively within general guidelines but with minimal direct supervision and to have excellent verbal and written communication skills.

(1) Accreditation Standards for the first Professional Degree in Pharmacy Programs, The Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP), 2018.