The Centre for International Child Health (CICH)  
Quarterly e-Update  
Issue 1: September 2016

Centre Updates

Centre for International Child Health Vacancy

The CICH is hiring! We are looking for an experienced Program Coordinator to support current and upcoming Centre activity. Please feel free to share this exciting opportunity across your networks.

Centre for International Child Health Website

The CICH website was recently updated and has a new web address: www.bcchildrens.ca/international

We are also in the process of featuring global health activity across campus so that staff and affiliates can stay informed about the projects and initiatives their colleagues are involved with. If you have an active global health project that you would like to see featured on the CICH website, please send the following information to cichinfo@cw.bc.ca

- Project Name
- Project Title
- Project Timelines
- Project Partners
- Primary Contact at BC Children’s or BC Women’s

Centre for International Child Health Strategic Planning

Based on feedback from the CICH Retreat in May, the CICH Team and Committee members have been working on the CICH Strategic Plan (2016-2020), that focuses on five strategic priorities. Sub-committees are currently being organized to help execute and drive the strategic priorities, and the Strategic Plan will be circulated once it is finalized at the upcoming CICH Committee Meeting in

Coalition for Centres in Global Child Health Meetings

On August 17 the Coalition of Centres in Global Child Health (CCGCH) held several meetings as part of the IPA Congress in Vancouver. A Steering Committee Meeting, Coalition Business Meeting, and General Information Session took place, with Tex Kissoon, Mark Ansermino and Katie Johnson participating. The topics and strategic directions discussed will be of great interest to
Project Updates

International Bone Health and Mobility Collaborative

The Pediatric Orthopedic Global Surgery Team comprised of Kishore Mulpuri, Dr. Anthony Cooper, Jennifer Farr, Wendy Krishnaswamy, and Damian Duffy conducted a site visit to the Balaji Institute of Surgery, Research, and Rehabilitation for the Disabled (BIRRD) from August 8-12 in Tirupati, India with the following objectives:

- Collaborate with BIRRD colleagues on key teaching cases in limb reconstruction, complex hip and cerebral palsy surgery
- Discuss and advance shared goals for sub-specialty pediatric orthopedic surgery
- Plan for potential bilateral educational exchanges and collaborations for students, residents, and fellows
- Explore opportunities for clinical outcome research collaborations
- Explore the potential for an interdisciplinary partnership including nursing, anesthesia, general surgery
- Explore India’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative to promote global surgery

The BIRRD provides free surgical care to low-income families across India. It is a tertiary referral centre with 300 in-patient beds, and serves as a postgraduate teaching institute. The site visit was supported by International Bone Health and Mobility Collaborative.

A new, innovative way to manage acute childhood diarrheal disease

Dr. David Goldfarb is working with a group of Canadian and Botswana innovators to develop a potentially transformative way to manage childhood diarrhea in low-resource settings. With new funding from Grand Challenges Canada, the researchers will develop and test a ‘test and treat’ method of addressing childhood diarrhea. The new management algorithm has the potential to displace existing guidelines for the testing and treatment of childhood diarrhea, which recommend antimicrobial therapy if blood is found in a child’s stool. This research team will test the new management algorithm through a randomized control trial. Results from the trial, to be carried out over 12 months across four hospitals in Botswana, could have a significant long-term impact on the way childhood diarrhea is tested and treated in low-resource settings. Read the Grand Challenges news release to learn more.

News and Upcoming Events
Congrats Dr. Jennifer Smitten!

CICH Committee member Dr. Jennifer Smitten was selected this summer as one of the first Hudson Scholars in Pediatric Medicine.

The Hudson Scholars in Pediatric Medicine program is a mentored career development initiative that grants two years of funding to the selected physicians at BC Children’s for dedicated time for research, further training and education while they build capacity in exciting new fields of pediatric medicine, focusing on quality improvement. Dr. Smitten’s research focus is on “Choosing Wisely” – a movement aimed at avoiding unnecessary medical tests, treatments and procedures.

The Department of Pediatrics Welcomed Dr. Loeto Mazhani

As part of the IPA Congress in Vancouver, and the new exchange initiatives between Botswana and the Pediatric Residency Program, the Department welcomed Dr. Mazhani for a week of collaboration and conversations focused on global child health. Dr. Mazhani is the head of the Department of Pediatrics at Princess Marina Hospital in Gaborone.

During his visit Dr. Loeto Mazhani presented on Establishing the Medical School in Botswana - Challenges, Successes and Opportunities, and took part in several meet-and-greet opportunities with faculty residents on August 16 and 17.

World Sepsis Congress

On September 8-9 the first World Sepsis Congress (WSC) will be held online as a prelude to the 5th World Sepsis Day on September 13.

The WSC brings together 70 world-leading experts on sepsis, infectious diseases and public health, alongside policymakers, high-ranked representatives from healthcare authorities, as well as sepsis victims and their families.

Dr. Tex Kissoon, Vice-President Medical Affairs, will be presenting on the Burden of Sepsis in Children and chairing a session on the Global Health Threat of Sepsis.

More information on the congress can be found on the First World Sepsis Congress website.

Dr. Evelyn Eisenstein, Brazil

On September 16 Dr. Evelyn Eisenstein, University Hospital of Brazil, will be presenting on the Global Challenges and Social Determinants of Health for Adolescents at Pediatric Grand Rounds.

Dr. Eisenstein is the 2016 Roger Tonkin Visiting Professor in Adolescent Health and has extensive experience in helping to improve the health and well-being of children and youth in low-income areas of Rio de Janeiro. Her presentation will take place from 8:30-9:30am in the Chan Centre Auditorium.

Following Grand Rounds Dr. Eisenstein will present on Empowering Adolescents in Low Income Communities to Promote Positive Health Outcomes. The presentation will take place in the Clinical Support Building (V2.222) from 10:00-12:00pm. Visit the CICH website for more info.

Funding Opportunities

Northern Health Collaboration Seed Grant

Application Deadline: October 10, 2016

PHSA, Northern Health (NH) and the University of Northern BC (UNBC) have released a Request for Applications for their Seed Grant Program.

The goal of the program is to enable researchers and knowledge users at PHSA, NH and UNBC to work in partnership and initiate new research projects that focus on improving the quality of health services and improving population health in northern BC.
Funding term: 6 months (November 14, 2016 - May 14, 2017)
Amount of award: $10,000 per grant (up to 10 grants available)

More information on the PHSA-NH-UNBC Partnership and the Seed Grant application details are available on the UNBC HeathResearch Institute website.

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Have questions, suggestions or information to share?
Email us at cichinfo@cw.bc.ca so we can include it in our next quarterly e-Update.