



**UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA**

**DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE
FACULTY OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY**

ME2 MAJUMDAR RESEARCH & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT DAY



RESEARCH

& QI DAY

MAY 14, 2026. 08:00 AM



NARMIN KASSAM

*Professor and Chair,
Department of Medicine
Clinical Head, Medicine,
Edmonton Zone*

Welcome to the 2026 Me2 Majumdar Research and Quality Improvement (QI) Day.

It is a pleasure to come together once again to recognize and celebrate the scholarly work taking place across our 14 divisions in the Department of Medicine, in partnership with the Edmonton Zone Medicine Quality Council. This day continues to highlight the strength of our collective efforts in research and quality improvement, and the meaningful ways this work translates into better care for our patients and communities.

At its core, this event is a showcase of our learners. The projects presented today reflect not only scientific curiosity, but also a clear commitment to improving the way we deliver care. Whether through research discoveries or practical QI initiatives embedded in clinical environments, the work on display demonstrates how evidence and innovation are being applied in real and impactful ways.

We are pleased to welcome two distinguished keynote speakers whose work exemplifies excellence across both research and quality improvement.

Our Scientific Keynote speaker, Dr. Philip Wells, is an internationally recognized clinician-scientist whose work has fundamentally shaped the diagnosis and management of venous thromboembolism. His development of the widely used Wells clinical prediction models has transformed how physicians assess and manage patients with suspected thrombosis, improving accuracy while reducing unnecessary testing and strain on health system resources. His work continues to influence modern care through ongoing research in thrombosis, cancer-associated clotting, and risk prediction, bridging clinical insight with evolving tools such as machine learning.

Our QI Keynote speaker, Dr. Mayur Brahmania, is a recognized leader in advancing quality of care in hepatology and beyond. Through his work with Choosing Wisely Canada and national quality initiatives, he has contributed to reducing unnecessary care and improving system performance across Canadian hospitals. His leadership in quality analytics, along with his commitment to education and mentorship, reflects the growing integration of quality improvement into everyday clinical practice and training environments.

Events like this are made possible through the generosity of those who share our commitment to advancing research and improving care. The Department of Medicine is grateful to the Seneratne Charitable Trust for their support, which helps create opportunities for learners to showcase their work and continue pushing the boundaries of innovation in both research and QI.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Drs. Wells and Brahmania for sharing their expertise, and to all of our participants, organizers, adjudicators, and supporters who have contributed to this event. Your work continues to strengthen our Department and shape the future of medicine through both discovery and continuous improvement.

Thank you for being part of this important day.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



DR. PHILIP WELLS

Keynote Speaker

*Full Professor
DoM/FoM Distinguished Research
Chair in Thrombosis
Department of Medicine
University of Ottawa*

Dr. Philip Wells is an internationally recognized clinician-scientist and a leading authority in the diagnosis and management of venous thromboembolism, including deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism. Over a distinguished career, he has published more than 460 peer-reviewed papers, secured over \$12 million in research funding, and achieved an H-index of 115 with more than 75,000 citations. He is best known for developing the “Wells Models” for DVT and PE—clinical prediction tools that transformed how physicians assess patients with suspected blood clots. These widely adopted scoring systems, along with his work on D-dimer testing and outpatient treatment strategies, have streamlined diagnosis, reduced unnecessary imaging, lowered healthcare costs, and improved patient care worldwide.

Beyond research, Dr. Wells has demonstrated exceptional leadership and innovation in clinical practice and academic medicine. As Chief and Chair of the Department of Medicine at The Ottawa Hospital and the University of Ottawa for over a decade, he expanded faculty, strengthened research infrastructure, and advanced education and mentorship programs. He also founded a globally unique thrombosis program that operates year-round and pioneered outpatient management pathways and same-day diagnostic services. Internationally respected, he has held prominent roles in organizations such as the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis and received numerous honors recognizing his contributions, including national career achievement awards and a Distinguished Research Chair in AI and thromboembolic diseases.

Dr. Mayur Brahmania is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Calgary, specializing in hepatology and transplant hepatology. He completed his clinical training in general and transplant hepatology at the Toronto Centre for Liver Disease, followed by a research fellowship and a Master of Public Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston. He also holds advanced certification in quality improvement and patient safety. His academic and clinical work focuses on improving care for patients with liver disease through evidence-based practices and system-level innovation.

Dr. Brahmania is a recognized leader in quality improvement and resource stewardship in Canada. As a key contributor to the Choosing Wisely Canada campaign, he led the development of national “Top 5” recommendations in hepatology and continues to advance initiatives aimed at benchmarking and standardizing liver disease care across the country. He also plays a central role in educational and institutional leadership, serving as Chair of the Health Analytics and Quality Committee at the University of Calgary and supporting national programs such as the Royal College’s STARS initiative. Through his research, teaching, and mentorship, he actively promotes quality improvement, patient safety, and interdisciplinary education across healthcare settings.



DR. MAYUR BRAHMANIA

Keynote Speaker

*Associate Professor
Division of Gastroenterology &
Transplant Medicine
University of Calgary*

ABOUT THE EZMQC - SCIC

Edmonton Zone Medicine Quality Council - Strategic Clinical Improvement Committee

The University of Alberta Department of Medicine and Alberta Health Services Zone Medicine Program had overlapping strategic priorities to develop a strong clinical quality improvement agenda and improve outcomes for Medicine patients in the Edmonton Zone.

As a result, the Edmonton Zone Medicine Quality Council - Strategic Clinical Improvement Committee was formed in alignment with the DoM strategic plan and the AHS quality management framework supported by a DoM funded strategic clinical improvement consultant co-located with the AHS administrative lead for Edmonton Zone Medicine.

This council working closely with both academia and frontline care providers provides the platform for strategic quality improvement interventions to be developed, tested and shared with the Edmonton Zone Medicine divisions, hospital sites and community partners. Ensuring communication and collaboration as this pertains to the areas of clinical activity and clinical administration.

To serve as a resource for regular evaluation of clinical needs and priorities, initiatives and processes to build a dynamic cycle of continuous improvement in the in-patient and ambulatory patient experience.

ABOUT THE EZMQC - SCIC

Jennifer Woods is Executive Director of University of Alberta/Stollery Emergency and the University of Alberta Hospital/EZ Medicine Programs.

As part of one of Canada's clinical research and teaching hospitals, her portfolio consists of approximately 259 medicine beds, 88 Emergency beds (Adults and Pediatrics) with a range of Medical services including pulmonary, nephrology, Inpatient TB, Hematology, Geriatrics, Geriatrics Neurology, Family Medicine and General Internal Medicine. She has strategic responsibility for medicine programs across the Edmonton zone.

The UAH/Stollery Emergency treats more than 115,000 patients annually. It is a quaternary, Level 1 trauma centre that serves as a major referral centre and hub for patients in the Edmonton Zone, northern Alberta (i.e., north of Red Deer), north-eastern British Columbia, north-western Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

Together we focus on patient flow, quality improvement and implementation of new evidenced based initiatives while ensuring our patients, families and staff have an exceptional experience.

Previous to this role Jennifer has held several leadership roles in the Edmonton Zone during her 24+ years in health care delivery. Her administrative leadership contributions include quality improvement, and implementation of patient and family-centered care initiatives. In addition to her passion for exceptional care and innovation, Jennifer enjoys spending time with her son and daughter, and the outdoors.

Dr. Pamela Mathura is an improvement leader/scientist and an assistant professor for the University of Alberta Department of Medicine and Alberta Health Services-Edmonton zone Medicine. Her role as a quality leader for the Edmonton zone medicine quality council-Strategic Clinical Improvement Committee includes leading quality improvement (QI) teams and providing foundational QI training. Pamela has published several articles in the area of improvement science and has a PhD in Healthcare Quality from Queens University.

Previous to this role Pamela has worked as a clinical quality improvement manager within Alberta Health Services. She has been involved in many large-multi-hospital QI projects which have been shared locally and provincially. Involved in healthcare delivery for the last 30 years; her clinical background is in Laboratory Medicine where she held a leadership role in Anatomical Pathology at the University of Alberta Hospital.

FACULTY PRESENTERS



GILLIAN RAMSAY
CLINICAL PROFESSOR
GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE
GREY NUNS HOSPITAL

Dr. Gillian Ramsay, MD FRCPC FACP, is a Clinical Professor at the University of Alberta and General Internist with 19 years of practice at the Grey Nuns Hospital, with a primary focus in Obstetrical Internal Medicine. Alongside clinical work, she has a strong interest in physician wellness and has completed training as an ACP wellness champion. Dr. Ramsay has been an active leader in physician wellness initiatives, including serving on the physician wellness committee at the Grey Nuns Hospital and as Physician Wellness Representative to the Medical Staff Association for eight years. Her current work includes quality improvement initiatives aimed at enhancing physician well-being and patient care.



ROSE YEUNG
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
ENDOCRINOLOGY & METABOLISM
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Dr. Roseanne Yeung MD MPH FRCPC is an Associate Professor and endocrinologist at the University of Alberta whose research work focuses on bridging the gap between clinical evidence and real-world practice, particularly through the development of resources and tools that enhance patient outcomes in diabetes and metabolic health. As a Medical Director for the Alberta Physician Learning Program (PLP), she believes that innovations and healthcare improvements must be driven by patient and clinician perspectives that provide deep understanding of the problem space. She has led co-created innovations with patients and clinicians that include a Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) guide for patients and clinicians and an adrenal insufficiency toolkit to make specialized expertise more accessible throughout the healthcare continuum.

She will be speaking on the REshape T1D project, a co-designed initiative aimed at improving the health system experience for individuals living with Type 1 Diabetes. By integrating patient perspectives with QI methodology, the REshape T1D team has created a framework that addresses the complex, longitudinal needs of the T1D community. Her leadership in this project reflects a broader commitment to participatory research and intercultural healthcare, ensuring that clinical pathways are not only medically robust but also equitable and patient-centered.

Program at a Glance

7:30 AM	Registration/ Refreshments
8:00 AM	Welcome Address
8:05 AM	Keynote Speaker <i>(Scientific)</i>
8:40 AM	Welcome Remarks
8:45 AM	Oral Presentations
10:09 AM	Break
10:24 AM	Ballermann Translational Research Fellowship Award
10:36 AM	Three-Minute Talk Oral Presentations
11:00 AM	Poster Presentations
1:00 PM	Keynote Speaker <i>(Quality Improvement)</i>
1:35 PM	Oral Presentations
2:35 PM	Faculty Presentations
3:00 PM	Award Ceremony and Closing Remarks

Research Awards

**BEST RESEARCH ORAL
PRESENTATION WINNER
\$1000**

**BEST RESEARCH ORAL
PRESENTATION RUNNER UP
\$500**

**BEST RESEARCH POSTER
PRESENTATION WINNER
\$1000**

**BEST RESEARCH POSTER
PRESENTATION RUNNER UP
\$500**

**BEST THREE-MINUTE
THESIS RESEARCH ORAL
PRESENTATION WINNER
\$1000**

**BEST THREE-MINUTE
THESIS RESEARCH ORAL
PRESENTATION RUNNER UP
\$500**

**PAUL MAN AWARD
WINNER
\$500**

**BEST CLINICAL QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT ORAL
PRESENTATION WINNER
\$1000**

**BEST CLINICAL QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT POSTER
PRESENTATION WINNER
\$500**

**BALLERMANN TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
AWARD WINNER
\$24,500**

Abstracts have been adjudicated in a blinded fashion by 3 reviewers. The top 10 highest scoring abstracts in research and top 5 highest abstracts in quality improvement were invited to present an oral presentation

BALLERMANN TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AWARD

PAST RECIPIENTS

SAYMON TEJAY (2025)

SUPERVISOR: GOPINATH SUTENDRA

TRIM35 Monoubiquitinates H2B in Cardiac Cells, Implications for Heart Failure

LAMIA KHAN (2024)

SUPERVISOR: MOHAMMED OSMAN

The cancer-associated glycan polysialic acid is dysregulated in systemic sclerosis and is associated with fibrosis

KARTHIVASHAN GOVINDARAJAN (2023)

SUPERVISOR: SATYABRATA KAR

Significance of native PLGA nanoparticles in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease pathology

GINA SYKES (2022)

SUPERVISOR: GLEN JICKLING

The aging immune system in acute ischemic stroke: A transcriptomic analysis

JOSEPH KAMTCHUM-TATUENE (2021)

SUPERVISOR: GLEN JICKLING

Prevalence of High-Risk Plaques and Risk of Stroke in Patients with Asymptomatic Carotid Stenosis: A Meta-analysis

ANDREW MASOUD (2020)

SUPERVISOR: ALLAN MURRAY

Apelin directs endothelial cell differentiation and vascular repair following immune-mediated injury

BRUNO SALEME (2019)

SUPERVISOR: GOPINATH SUTENDRA

Tissue-specific regulation of p53 by PKM2 is redox dependent and provides a therapeutic target for anthracycline-induced cardiotoxicity

BALLERMANN TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AWARD

PAST RECIPIENTS

Maryam Abadi (2019)

SUPERVISOR: ALDO MONTANO-LOZA

Poor performance of psoas muscle index for identification of patients with higher waitlist mortality risk in cirrhosis

ABDUL KALAM AZAD (2018)

SUPERVISOR: ALLAN MURRAY

FGD5 Regulates VEGF Receptor-2 Coupling to PI3 Kinase and Receptor Recycling

RANIA SOUDY (2017)

SUPERVISOR: JACK JHAMANDAS

Cyclic AC253, a novel amylin receptor antagonist, improves cognitive deficits in a mouse model of Alzheimer's disease

ROXANNE PAULIN (2015)

SUPERVISOR: EVANGELOS MICHELAKIS

Sirtuin 3 Deficiency Is Associated with Inhibited Mitochondrial Function and Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension in Rodents and Humans

BRANDON MILLAN & HEEKAK PARK (2016)

SUPERVISOR: KAREN MADSEN

Fecal Microbial Transplants Reduce Antibiotic-Resistant Genes in Patients with Recurrent Clostridium Difficile Infection

STACEY REINKE (2014)

SUPERVISOR: CHRIS POWER

Implementation of metabolomics strategies in multiple sclerosis

PETER DROMPARIS (2013)

SUPERVISOR: EVANGELOS MICHELAKIS

Pioglitazone reduces angiogenesis by altering mitochondrial function and reducing hypoxia inducible factor-1 activation

MSC IN MEDICINE WITH SPECIALIZATION IN TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE

The Department of Medicine (DoM) has made **Translational Medicine (TM)** a top priority. TM facilitates the “translation” of molecular discoveries to actual patients and populations. It requires a different way of thinking at all stages of the journey from a discovery in an animal lab to the point that, following successful clinical trials, the government approves the discovered therapy for humans. TM is a critical component of **Precision Medicine**, a new discipline that aims for “custom-made” therapies for patients, as opposed to the traditional “one treatment fits all model”. This is because in order to apply an optimal therapy to a patient, one needs to understand the molecular and genetic differences that distinguish all patients from one another. Precision Medicine is now a top priority for the FOMD.

The need: To optimize the development of new “precision” therapies and diagnostic tests, a researcher studying molecules and animals needs to learn how to think as a clinician; and a clinical researcher needs to understand the principles of molecular research. This is challenging because traditional teaching models focus on one or the other, with the learners following either an exclusive molecular or clinical research career track. Although all recognize the importance of TM, there are surprisingly few examples of training programs worldwide aiming to teach this new discipline to future medical researchers and leaders.

The action: IN 2013, the DoM launched and since then supports a novel training program, teaching the attitudes and skills required to excel in TM. This is the first training program of its kind in Canada and one of few in the world.

The innovations: The MSc in Medicine with specialization in translational medicine program attracts trainees from very diverse backgrounds and levels of training. Rather than teaching principles of basic or clinical research of specific diseases, the program teaches integrative and overarching concepts and skills to address the many challenges of bringing a molecular discovery to patients with diverse diseases. Since nothing needs to be “memorized”, the final exams are “open book”. Teaching objectives include, among others, new ways to design animal experiments or clinical trials compatible with PM, strategies to attract funding including grant writing skills, effective ways to communicate cross-disciplinary research findings, understanding of regulatory rules and “quality control” principles in preclinical and clinical research. Most of these principles are not taught in traditionally structured training programs. The trainees can either get credits towards their PhD or towards a novel Masters Program with “specialization in TM”, the first of its kind in Canada.

ORAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

7:30 AM **Registration/Refreshments**

8:00 AM **Welcome Remarks**

Dr. Narmin Kassam, Professor and Chair, Department of Medicine (DoM)
Dr. Gopinath Sutendra, Co-Associate Chair (Research) Department of Medicine

8:05 AM **Keynote Speaker (Scientific Talk)**

Introductions by Dr. Narmin Kassam, Professor and Chair, DoM
Dr. Philip Wells, Full Professor, University of Ottawa

ORAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

8:45 AM

Shagani Thisairajah

Supervisor: Drs. Ellina Lytvyak & Aldo Montano-Loza

The coexistence of sarcopenia and myosteatosis is associated with adverse clinical outcomes following liver transplantation

8:57 AM

Ali Nabavi Rad

Supervisors: Dr. Dina Kao

An exploratory analysis of Glycome, Microbiome, and Immune Changes in Patients with Recurrent Clostridioides Difficile Infection (rCDI) Treated with Donor Stool-Based Therapies

9:09 AM

Shivani Mandal

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Forsythe

Chronic airway inflammation is associated with sex-specific changes in behaviour, neuroinflammation and gut microbiota

9:21 AM

Marina Beshara

Supervisor: Drs. Terra Arnason & Troy Harkness

A Novel Progeria Disease Model: Identifying Critical Genetic Targets Against Human Aging and Aging-Related Diseases

9:33 AM

Sina Kazemi

Supervisor: Dr. Vivian Mushahwar

From Simulation to Rehabilitation: A Real-Time Digital Twin for Personalized Exoskeleton Therapys

9:45 AM

Jiyuan Piao

Supervisor: Dr. Evangelos Michelakis

From snails to mammals: a novel inducer of snail hibernation promotes quiescence in fibroblasts and cardioprotection in mouse hearts under ischemia reperfusion stress

ORAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

9:57 AM Andrew Masoud
Supervisor: Dr. Allan Murray
Sacubitril suppresses allograft vasculopathy in aged-donor heart allografts by expanding reparative endothelial progenitor cells

10:09 AM **BREAK**

BALLERMANN TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AWARD

10:24 AM Ballermann Translational Research Fellowship Award Announcement

ORAL PRESENTATION

10:26 AM Ballermann Translational Research Fellowship Award Winner Presentation

ORAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

10:36 AM Leen Alzebdeh
Supervisor: Dr. Anna Lam
Forecasting long-range blood glucose in hospitalised type 2 diabetes patients: a comparative study of predictive modelling techniques

10:41 AM Prosper Asaana
Supervisor: Dr. Adrian Wagg
Understanding the beliefs, management practices, and barriers associated with the management of non-fistulous urinary incontinence among older women in rural Ghana: results from a feasibility study

10:46 AM Joseph Nanao
Supervisor: Dr. Gopinath Sutendra
Targeting Triose Phosphate Isomerase Function to Preserve Ex-Situ Heart Performance, Implications for Cardiac Transplantation

10:51 AM Rachel Mackay
Supervisor: Dr. Sergio Zepeda-Gomez
Double-balloon ERCP in patients with altered anatomy: experience and outcomes in a single Canadian Centre

ORAL QI PRESENTATIONS

1:05 PM

Keynote Speaker (Quality Improvement Talk)

Introductions by Dr. Nancy Zhu, Deputy Zone Clinical Department Head, Medicine, Edmonton Zone

Dr. Mayur Brahmania, Associate Professor, Division of Gastroenterology and Transplant Medicine, University of Calgary

ORAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PRESENTATIONS

1:35 PM

Kevin Li

Supervisor: Dr. Marlene Dytoc

Effectiveness of Psychodermatologic Educational Modules on Atopic Dermatitis Patient Outcomes: A Randomized Controlled Trial

1:50 PM

Arshdeep Rattol

Supervisor: Dr. Ellina Lytvyak

Cervical cancer screening adequacy in patients with autoimmune liver conditions and post-liver transplantation

2:05 PM

Yasaman Mashayekhi

Supervisor: Dr. Adalberto Loyola-Sanchez

Integrating Lived Experience into Research Recruitment: A Peer-Clinician Collaboration Model in Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation

2:20 PM

Soraiya Lalani

Supervisor: Drs. Pamela Mathura & Jennifer Ringrose

Piloting a General Internal Medicine On-Call Physician to Improve Zone-Wide Care Coordination

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

2:35 PM

Dr. Gillian Ramsay, Clinical Professor, Division of General Internal Medicine

2:47 PM

Dr. Roseanne Yeung, Associate Professor, Division of Endocrinology

2:59 PM

Awards Ceremony and Closing Remarks

Dr. Narmin Kassam, Professor and Chair, Department of Medicine

Dr. Gopinath Sutendra, Associate Chair, Research, Medicine

Dr. Nancy Zhu, Deputy Zone Clinical Department Head, Medicine, Edmonton Zone

SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

FULL ABSTRACTS ENCLOSED

Abbasi Habashi, Sima (Postdoctoral Fellow)

Integrative imaging and transcriptomics implicate neutrophils in microvascular no-reflow after stroke

Supervisor: Dr. Glen Jickling (Neurology)

Abolghasemi Taree, Nazanin (Graduate Student)

Disparities in Ferritin Testing and Identification of Iron Deficiency Anemia Among Reproductive-Age Women with Venous Thromboembolism: A Retrospective Population-based Matched Cohort Study

Supervisor: Drs. Linda Sun & Cynthia Wu (Hematology)

Almas, Sarah (Resident)

Chronic Rhinosinusitis - How are Alarmin Cytokines Involved?

Supervisor: Dr. Paige Lacy (Pulmonary Medicine)

Alzebdeh, Leen (Graduate Student)

Forecasting long-range blood glucose in hospitalised type 2 diabetes patients: a comparative study of predictive modelling techniques

Supervisor: Dr. Anna Lam (Endocrinology & Metabolism)

Arbabzada, Naik (Resident)

Validation of the Saurin Classification in a North American Patient Cohort Undergoing Video Capsule and Enteroscopy for Obscure Bleeding

Supervisor: Dr. Brendan Halloran (Gastroenterology)

Armbruster, Marie (Graduate Student)

Limited nesting stress in mice as a model to study neuroimmune relationships in postpartum depression

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Forsythe (Pulmonary Medicine)

Asaana, Prosper (Graduate Student)

Understanding the beliefs, management practices, and barriers associated with the management of non-fistulous urinary incontinence among older women in rural Ghana: results from a feasibility study

Supervisor: Dr. Adrian Wagg (Geriatric Medicine)

Asaana, Prosper (Graduate Student)

The management of urinary incontinence in rural Ghana: the perspectives of primary health care workers operating rural CHPS compounds

Supervisor: Dr. Adrian Wagg (Geriatric Medicine)

Beshara, Marina (Graduate Student)

A Novel Progeria Disease Model: Identifying Critical Genetic Targets Against Human Aging and Aging-Related Diseases

Supervisor: Dr. Terra Arnason (Endocrinology & Metabolism) & Dr. Troy Harkness (Geriatric Medicine)

SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

FULL ABSTRACTS ENCLOSED

Bunko, Dylan (Graduate Student)

Novel Pathways for Apc10 Degradation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*
Supervisor: Dr. Troy Harkness (Geriatric Medicine)

Burger, Jordyn (Graduate Student)

Pharmacist-Physiotherapist Collaborative Care for Knee OA: Comprehensive Review of Recruitment Efforts for a Community-Based Pragmatic RCT
Supervisor: Dr. Ross Tsuyuki (Cardiology)

Charlton, Maddison (Graduate Student)

An Analysis of Patient Recovery and Opinions on Driving Post Transcatheter Aortic Valve Insertion (TAVI): The TAVI-D Study
Supervisor: Dr. Valerie Sim (Neurology)

Corrick, Shaina (Graduate Student)

Disparities for Tremor and Dystonia Patients Accessing Deep Brain Stimulation: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed Methods Study
Supervisor: Dr. Fang Ba (Neurology)

Crentsil, Alex (Graduate Student)

Impact of Cor Pulmonale in Patients Hospitalized for Acute Exacerbations of COPD: A Population-Based Retrospective Cohort Study in Alberta
Supervisor: Dr. Grace Lam (Pulmonary Medicine)

Dhanoa, Avnit (Graduate Student)

Family Members' Perspectives Towards Alberta's Compassionate Intervention Act
Supervisor: Dr. Monty Ghosh (General Internal Medicine)

Dhingra, Poshika (Resident)

Combination treatment more effective than single agent for Eosinophilic Esophagitis: long term Histologic, Endoscopic and Quality of life outcomes from a prospective cohort in Alberta
Supervisor: Dr. Milli Gupta (Gastroenterology)

Dhingra, Poshika (Resident)

Predictors of Inadequate Protein Intake and Malnutrition in patients with Cirrhosis
Supervisor: Dr. Punita Tandon (Gastroenterology)

Dodia, Kuldeep (Graduate Student)

Accurate Determination of Drug Binding Affinities and Binding Kinetics in NMR-Based Titrations
Supervisor: Dr. Peter Hwang (General Internal Medicine)

Grossi, Michael (Resident)

Beyond Frailty Screening: An Integrated Acute Geriatric Medicine Model to Improve Hospital Flow
Supervisor: Dr. Naheed Rajabali (Geriatric Medicine)

SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

FULL ABSTRACTS ENCLOSED

Gupta, Aanchel (Resident)

Ketone-Based Therapies in Adults Heart Failure: A Systematic Review and Quantitative Analysis

Supervisor: Dr. Justin Ezekowitz (Cardiology)

Kazemi, Sina (Graduate Student)

From Simulation to Rehabilitation: A Real-Time Digital Twin for Personalized Exoskeleton Therapy

Supervisor: Dr. Vivian Mushahwar (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

Lee, Kyra (Resident)

Urban vs Rural Disparities in the Treatment and Outcomes of Metastatic Melanoma

Supervisor: Dr. Matthew Anaka (General Internal Medicine)

Lee, Sunghoon (Daniel) (Senior Subspecialty Resident)

Local patterns and clinical characteristics of carbapenemase-producing organisms from 2017 to 2024

Supervisor: Dr. Stephanie Smith (Infectious Diseases)

Lubachowski, Mathew (Graduate Student)

Small Peptide Activator, C43-4, Restores APC Function In Aging and Cancer

Supervisor: Dr. Troy Harkness (Geriatric Medicine)

Lucciantonio, Robin (Graduate Student)

Freedom and Flexibility After Islet Cell Transplantation: Experiences of People Living with Type 1 Diabetes

Supervisor: Dr. Peter Senior (Endocrinology & Metabolism)

Mackay, Scott (Senior Subspecialty Resident)

A Novel Founder Mutation in Hemojuvelin Identified in an Indigenous Northern Albertan Population leading to Type 2A Juvenile Hemochromatosis

Supervisor: Dr. Malcolm Wells (Gastroenterology)

Mackay, Rachel (Resident)

Double-balloon ERCP in patients with altered anatomy: experience and outcomes in a single Canadian Centre

Supervisor: Dr. Sergio Zepeda-Gomez (Gastroenterology)

Maltz, Aubrey (Resident)

Pegloticase With Concomitant Immunomodulation in Patients With Gout and Chronic Kidney Disease: A Systematic Review

Supervisor: Dr. Priyanka Chandratre (Rheumatology)

SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

FULL ABSTRACTS ENCLOSED

Mandal, Shivani (Graduate Student)

Chronic airway inflammation is associated with sex-specific changes in behaviour, neuroinflammation and gut microbiota

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Forsythe (Pulmonary Medicine)

Mann-Nüttel, Ritu (Postdoctoral Fellow)

Untargeted Metabolomics of Human Airway Epithelium Reveals Neuroactive Signatures Linked to Pulmonary Neuroendocrine Cell Enrichment and Allergen Exposure

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Forsythe (Pulmonary Medicine)

Masoud, Andrew (Postdoctoral Fellow)

Sacubitril suppresses allograft vasculopathy in aged-donor heart allografts by expanding reparative endothelial progenitor cells

Supervisor: Dr. Allan Murray (Nephrology)

Nabavi Rad, Ali (Graduate Student)

An exploratory analysis of Glycome, Microbiome, and Immune Changes in Patients with Recurrent Clostridioides Difficile Infection (rCDI) Treated with Donor Stool-Based Therapies

Supervisor: Dr. Dina Kao (Gastroenterology)

Nanoa, Joseph (Graduate Student)

Targeting Triose Phosphate Isomerase Function to Preserve Ex-Situ Heart Performance, Implications for Cardiac Transplantation

Supervisor: Dr. Gopinath Sutendra (Cardiology)

Oguro, Kunihiro (Research Fellow)

Analysis of Long Term Outcomes in Crohn's Patients Post- Balloon Assisted Endoscopic Stricture Dilation: Factors Associated with Surgery and a New Predictive Model

Supervisor: Dr. Brendan Halloran (Gastroenterology)

Olagundoye, Olawunmi (Graduate Student)

Prioritizing Modifiable Risk Factors for Self-Management of Urinary Incontinence in Older Men: Integrating Expert Consensus with Patient Readiness

Supervisor: Dr. Adrian Wagg (Geriatric Medicine)

Omkar, Ayushi (Graduate Student)

Behaviour change techniques in eHealth interventions for older, frail, or sarcopenic adults: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Supervisor: Dr. Puneeta Tandon (Gastroenterology)

Panteluk, Andrew (Resident)

Advanced therapy experienced patients admitted for UC flare have a two-fold risk of colectomy compared to their advanced therapy naïve counterparts

Supervisors: Dr. Karen Kroeker (Gastroenterology)

SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

FULL ABSTRACTS ENCLOSED

Paio, Jiyuan (Postdoctoral Fellow)

Restoration of Oxidized PHLPP1 Activity by a Snail Hibernation Including Factor Reverses Age-Related Metabolic Rewiring in Mammalian Cells

Supervisor: Dr. Evangelos Michelakis (Cardiology)

Paio, Jiyuan (Postdoctoral Fellow)

From Snails to Mammals: A Novel Inducer of Snail Hibernation Promotes Quiescence in Fibroblasts and Cardioprotection in Mouse Hearts Under Ischemia Reperfusion Stress

Supervisor: Dr. Evangelos Michelakis (Cardiology)

Picard, Danielle (Graduate Student)

Accuracy of Dietitian-Estimated Dietary Intake in Patients with Cirrhosis Undergoing Liver Transplant Assessment

Supervisor: Dr. Puneeta Tandon (Gastroenterology)

Picard, Danielle (Graduate Student)

Dietary patterns and diet quality in adults with cirrhosis: a scoping review of clinical and nutritional outcomes

Supervisor: Dr. Puneeta Tandon (Gastroenterology)

Popof, Cassandra (Graduate Student)

Heightened Vulnerability: Frailty and Aging Effects on the Ulcerative Colitis Mucosal Gut Microbiome

Supervisor: Dr. Farhad Peerani (Gastroenterology)

Rahman, Md (Postdoctoral Fellow)

Cell cortex proteins CLICs and taperin interact directly, but not at the cortex

Supervisor: Dr. Peter Hwang (General Internal Medicine)

Seyyedi, Noorossadat (Graduate Student)

The role of mutant p53R175H in de novo activation of von Willebrand factor expression in tumor cells

Supervisor: Dr. Nadia Jahroudi (Hematology)

Son, Hae-Won (Medical Student)

Assessing the Southend GCA Probability Score in patients referred to a University Rheumatology practice for suspected giant cell arteritis (GCA)

Supervisor: Dr. Alison Clifford (Rheumatology)

Tam, Matthew (Graduate Student)

Validation of diabetes-dependent differences in FIB-4 predictions of fibrosis in patients with MASLD referred from primary care

Supervisor: Dr. Juan Gonzalez Abraldes (Gastroenterology)

SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

FULL ABSTRACTS ENCLOSED

Tam, Matthew (Graduate Student)

Magnitude of hepatic venous pressure gradient reduction predicts clinical events in portal hypertension: Meta-regression analysis of randomized-controlled trials
Supervisors: Dr. Juan Gonzalez Abraldes (Gastroenterology)

Teja, Shabnum (Resident)

The Representation Gap: Demographic Disparities in Contemporary Systemic Sclerosis Clinical Trials
Supervisor: Dr. Janet Pope (Rheumatology)

Thai, JoAnn (Resident)

Do Follow-Up 18F-FDG PET/CT Findings Reflect Clinical Improvement in Large-Vessel GCA? A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis
Supervisor: Dr. Alison Clifford (Rheumatology)

Thisairajah, Shagani (Graduate Student)

The coexistence of sarcopenia and myosteatosis is associated with adverse clinical outcomes following liver transplantation
Supervisor: Drs. Ellina Lytvyak & Aldo Montano-Loza (Gastroenterology)

Thisairajah, Shagani (Graduate Student)

Impact of MASLD on treatment response, clinical outcomes and prognosis in PBC: findings from a multicenter longitudinal GLOBAL PBC registry
Supervisor: Drs. Ellina Lytvyak & Aldo Montano-Loza (Gastroenterology)

Thisairajah, Shagani (Graduate Student)

Prognostic value of dynamic liver stiffness measurement in autoimmune hepatitis
Supervisor: Drs. Ellina Lytvyak & Aldo Montano-Loza (Gastroenterology)

Umar, Narmeen (Resident)

Point-of-care liver stiffness measurement predicts liver-related events in autoimmune hepatitis: results from a large nationwide multicenter longitudinal CaNAL study
Supervisor: Dr. Aldo Montano-Loza (Gastroenterology)

Wang, Junqin (Graduate Student)

Genomic instability in systemic sclerosis is promoted by a PERK/FOXO1-dependent axis
Supervisor: Dr. Robert Gniadecki (Dermatology)

Yim, Su Jin (Resident)

Evaluating the Feasibility and Impact of a Tailored, Multidisciplinary Preoperative Assessment with Multiple Risk Stratifications in Complex Surgical and Pre-Transplant Patients
Supervisor: Dr. Naheed Rajabali (Geriatric Medicine)

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ABSTRACTS

FULL ABSTRACTS ENCLOSED

Ahluwalia, Amrit (Resident)

Implementation and Evaluation of a Patient-Centered Adrenal Insufficiency Toolkit: A Quality Improvement Study
Supervisor: Dr. Roseanne Yeung (Endocrinology & Metabolism)

Ahluwalia, Nanki (Senior Subspecialty Resident)

Re-skill CVC: A Randomized Controlled Trial of 360° Virtual Reality vs Video-Based Just-in-Time Training for Central Line Re-skilling
Supervisor: Dr. Brian Buchanan (Critical Care Medicine)

Greidanus, Paul (Resident)

Quality-of-care indicator adherence for Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia has improved over time
Supervisor: Dr. Justin Chen (Infectious Diseases)

Soraiya, Lalani (Medical Student)

Piloting a General Internal Medicine On-Call Physician to Improve Zone-Wide Care Coordination
Supervisor: Drs. Pamela Mathura & Jennifer Ringrose (General Internal Medicine)

Soraiya, Lalani (Medical Student)

Patient and Healthcare Provider Voices – Listening to Improve: Evaluating a Multidisciplinary Coordination of Care Pathway for Pancreaticobiliary Cancer
Supervisor: Dr. Pamela Mathura (General Internal Medicine)

Li, Kevin (Medical Student)

Effectiveness of Psychodermatologic Educational Modules on Atopic Dermatitis Patient Outcomes: A Randomized Controlled Trial
Supervisor: Dr. Marlene Dytoc (Dermatology)

Li, Kevin (Medical Student)

Psychodermatologic Patient Education for Atopic Dermatitis Management: A Scoping Review and Evidence Map
Supervisor: Dr. Marlene Dytoc (Dermatology)

Li, Kevin (Medical Student)

Mind-Skin Health Index (MSHI): A Novel Transdiagnostic Psychodermatology Screening Tool
Supervisor: Dr. Marlene Dytoc (Dermatology)

Li, Kevin (Medical Student)

Atopic Dermatitis in Indigenous Communities: Barriers to Care and Teledermatology Solutions
Supervisor: Dr. Marlene Dytoc (Dermatology)

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ABSTRACTS

FULL ABSTRACTS ENCLOSED

Mackay, Scott (Senior Subspecialty Resident)

Over 25% of Inflammatory Bowel Disease Advanced Therapy Dose Escalations are based on Symptoms Alone: A Quality Improvement Opportunity
Supervisor: Dr. Karen Kroeker (Gastroenterology)

Mashayekhi, Yasaman (Graduate Student)

Integrating Lived Experience into Research Recruitment: A Peer–Clinician Collaboration Model in Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation
Supervisor: Dr. Adalberto Loyola-Sanchez (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

Omotunde, Muiybat (Graduate Student)

Examining Care Aides' Perspectives and Attitudes toward the Adoption and Sustainment of Technology in Care Delivery: A Scoping Review
Supervisor: Dr. Adrian Wagg (Geriatric Medicine)

Rattol, Arshdeep (Medical Student)

Cervical cancer screening adequacy in patients with autoimmune liver conditions and post-liver transplantation
Supervisor: Dr. Ellina Lytvyak (Preventive Medicine)

Robertson, Alexandra (Resident)

Percutaneous Transhepatic Biliary Drainage for Malignant Hilar Biliary Obstruction is Associated with Poor Outcomes – Is It Time to Reassess Its Clinical Utility?
Supervisors: Dr. Gurpal Sandha (Gastroenterology)

Shi, Amy Xinyu (Graduate Student)

From Patient to Planet: Integrating Climate Impact into a Hospital Medicine Initiative Reducing Blood Urea Nitrogen Testing
Supervisor: Dr. Narmin Kassam (General Internal Medicine)

Son, Hae-Won (Medical Student)

Providers' Perspectives on Diagnostic Testing for Giant Cell Arteritis
Supervisor: Dr. Alison Clifford (Rheumatology)