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LMP Chair's Report - October 2026

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Laboratory Medicine & Pathology

Chair's Report October 2026

Dear Colleagues, Learners & Friends!

Welcome to the Fall 2026 Chair's report. I hope you all had a great end to the summer and start to the academic year.

In this report, we are highlighting a **Spotlight on Research** from **Dr. David Beyer**, who is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology, and a General Pathologist and Digital Pathology Lead for Alberta Precision Laboratories. Dr. Beyer's research is focused on applying translational machine learning and digital pathology to routine clinical laboratory data, creating practical AI tools that improve diagnostic accuracy, workflow efficiency, and patient care. By leveraging existing health data, such as predicting hemoglobinopathies from routine blood counts and automating cancer biomarker assessments, his work aims to bridge the gap between AI research and everyday clinical practice. This innovative and impactful work provides an inspiring example of modern pathology research – I would encourage everyone to read further about it below.

With the new academic year, I wish to extend a warm welcome to the new cohort of students across our educational programs, including MLS, graduate studies, and residency and fellowship programs. We have also had several new clinical faculty members and academic teaching staff join the department over the last few months and I look forward to working with you all. Welcome!

I encourage you to review the ever-impressive list of academic contributions and achievements from LMP members over the last few months, including numerous

presentations, publications, grants, and recognitions. In particular, I would like to highlight the many awards received by our MLS and grad students. Congratulations to all!

Looking to the future, please mark your calendars for the **2027 DRiVE Days** on April 23-24, 2027, at Lister Centre. In addition to the usual high-quality research, innovation, professional development and education updates, we have two internationally renowned speakers lined up to give our named lectures. For those interested in Anatomical Pathology, please also mark your calendars for the next **Banff Pathology Course (Dermatopathology and Soft Tissue Pathology)** on September 30 – October 2, 2027. Please see below for more details on these events.

In closing, I wish you all the best for the remainder of the semester and thank you for your ongoing dedication and contributions to the Department.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Adam, MD, FRCPC

Associate Professor and Chair

Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology

Spotlight on Research

From Laboratory Data to Clinical Impact: Making Homegrown AI Work for Laboratory Medicine

Dr. David Beyer, MD, FRCPC

Assistant Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, University of Alberta

General Pathologist and Digital Pathology Lead, Alberta Precision Laboratories

Clinical laboratories generate enormous amounts of data every day, but much of its potential remains untapped. Dr. David Beyer's research focuses on finding practical ways to use artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning to improve laboratory efficiency, optimize test utilization, reduce healthcare costs, and ultimately improve patient care.

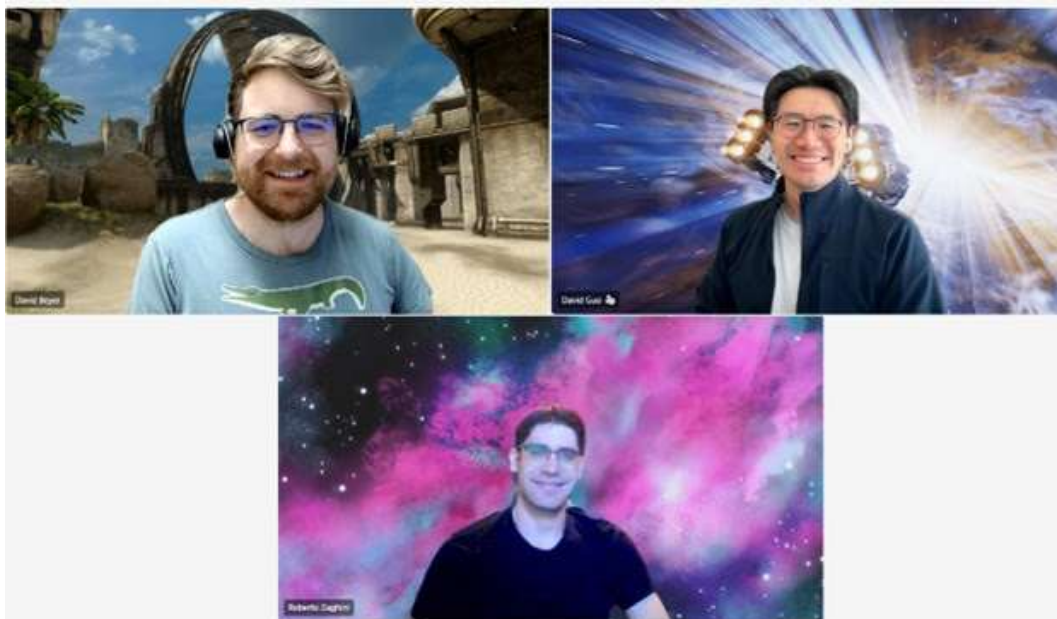
As both a practicing pathologist and lab informaticist with Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), Dr. Beyer has a particular interest in translational machine learning...taking promising research ideas and turning them into practical tools that can be incorporated into everyday clinical workflows. His focus is on solving real-world problems, supporting laboratory professionals, and making better use of limited healthcare resources.

One example is an ongoing project exploring whether hemoglobinopathies, including thalassemias, can be predicted using routinely collected complete blood count (CBC) data. Working with David Guo, an MSc student in the University of Alberta's Department of Computing Science whom he co-supervises, and the chemistry team at Base Lab, Dr. Beyer has helped develop machine-learning models using data from over 50,000 patients, achieving excellent predictive performance (AUC approaching 0.99 for certain endpoints). The goal is to use information already available from inexpensive blood tests to better identify patients who would benefit from specialized confirmatory molecular testing, potentially reducing unnecessary investigations and improving access to timely diagnosis. This work was presented at the University of Alberta's DRIVE 2026 research event.

Another major research interest is digital pathology. Dr. Beyer helps lead APL's provincial digital pathology initiative, which aims to transition surgical pathology from glass slides to digital images. Beyond improving access to pathology expertise across Alberta, digitization creates exciting opportunities for AI applications, especially fostering in house / homegrown tools trained on APL's own data and labeled by our own pathologists; this includes automated assessment of breast cancer biomarkers, prediction of cancer prognostic markers, and identification of common pathological diagnoses for better triage of cases and improved pathologist efficiency. The possibilities are truly endless.

Dr. Beyer works closely with the APL data and analytics team, as well as academic researchers, students, and clinical colleagues. Alberta's unified provincial laboratory information system provides a unique opportunity to develop and validate these tools using large-scale, real-world clinical data.

Ultimately, Dr. Beyer's research is driven by a simple idea: some of the biggest opportunities for AI in healthcare may come from making smarter use of the data we already have. By focusing on practical applications and measurable clinical benefits, he hopes to help bring AI out of the research environment and into everyday laboratory practice.



The members of Dr. Beyer's "virtual lab", informally known as 'IceBreaker Labs': David Beyer (top left), David Guo (top right), Roberto Zaghini (bottom)

New Appointments

The Department welcomes:

- Ms. Richelle Edwards, Clinical Lecturer, Pathologists' Assistant, Multiple hospital sites in Edmonton
- Dr. Rebecca Brassington, Clinical Lecturer, Anatomic Pathologist, Misericordia Community Hospital
- Dr. Rebecca Phillips, Clinical Lecturer, Anatomic Pathologist, UAH & Misericordia Community Hospital

Save the Date!

DRIVE Days

Discovery, Research, InnoVation and Education

April 23-24, 2027

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. John W. Macgregor Memorial Lecture

Dr. Dawn Bowdish, PhD

Professor, Department of Medicine

McMaster University

Dr. RE Bell Memorial Lecture

Dr. Ubaka Ogbogu, LLB, BL, LLM, SJD
 Professor and Katz Group Chair in Health Law
 University of Alberta

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banffpathologycourse.com

2027 Banff Pathology Course: Dermatopathology and Soft Tissue Pathology
Sept 30 - Oct 2, 2027, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity



Andrew L. Folpe, MD
 Mayo Clinic



Jennifer M. McNiff, MD
 Yale University



Victor G. Prieto, MD, PhD
 MD Anderson

Graduate Studies

Awards

Congratulations to the following individuals who received awards acknowledging their research and/or supporting their graduate programs:

University of Alberta Graduate Recruitment Scholarship

- Parinika Pal
- Senthuran Muralitharan

Bell McLeod Education Fund Entrance Scholarship

- Senthuran Muralitharan
- Parinika Pal
- Milan Shah
- Ella Baker
- Avery Keen
- Hyemi Kim
- Raina Stewart
- Shelby Sherlock

Updates:

The LMP grad studies program welcomed 9 new students for 2026-27: 3 MSc (thesis) students, 2 MSc PA students, 2 MSc TS students, and 2 MSc Mol Dx students. Orientation

was held September 11.

ADMISSIONS:

Applications opened October 1 for the course-based MSc programs, for Fall 2027 intake.

ACCREDITATION:

The NAACLS accreditation site visit for the PA program took place October 19 and 20. The two-day visit included hosting two NAACLS reviewers and one observer for 2 days of interviews and document review.

The Equal accreditation team determined that the submitted Molecular Diagnostic MSc Program Readiness Assessment Report has met the criteria for the inaugural accreditation visit, planned for January 2027.

MILESTONES:

Congratulations to Weijun Zhu (MSc Pathologists' Assistant), Emmanuel Thomas (MSc Pathologists' Assistant) and Sarah McMahon (MSc Transfusion Science, first program graduate!) who have completed their programs and will be convocating in November.

Medical Laboratory Science (MLS)

New Appointments

- Dr. Amy Koskela - Assistant Lecturer, Medical Laboratory Science
- Ms. Dyana Sayong - New Laboratory Assistant for the MLS program

Awards**Year 3**

- University Hospital Medical Staff Prize: Evan Mulder
- Hematology Bonnie Ohashi award: Nadia Duesling
- Perseverance award: Hope Parsons



The Medical Laboratory Students' Association held a bake sale on October 7, 2026.

Community Outreach

Dr. Laura Schmitt and her family participated in the Brain Tumour Walk Fundraiser on June 20, 2026, which helps fund brain tumour research and educational and support initiatives for survivors and caregivers across the country.



Scholarly Achievements June 1, 2026 to September 30, 2026

Awards & Recognitions

Ms. Yvonne Rees

- August 31, 2026, APL - Critical Value Award (Outstanding teamwork, collaboration, and dedication throughout the bulk Sysmex Hematology equipment validation project.)

Grants

Dr. Ben Adam

- Improving lung cancer diagnosis through systematic evaluation of immunostain performance and emerging markers, UHF Kaye Competition, 09/2026-08/2027, \$35,000 (Co-PI with Sebastiao Martins)

Dr. Michael Mengel

- Multicenter Analytical and Clinical Validation of the Banff Human Organ Transplant (B-HOT) panel for biopsy based molecular diagnostics, CareDx Inc., \$325,000.00, Aug 2026 – Dec 2028

Dr. Judy Qiu

- Wastewater-Based Surveillance of Measles in Alberta – Quantification and Differentiation of Wild-Type and Vaccine Strains, MSI foundation, \$99,880, Sep 2026 – Aug 2028

Recent Presentations

Dr. Thambirajah Balachandra:

1. Poster: Arumugam Thambirajah Balachandra. "What Happens After Death Investigations in Canada". 24th Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria, May 25-30, 2026
2. Platform presentation: Arumugam Thambirajah Balachandra. "What Happens After Death Investigations in Canada". 24th Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria, May 25-30, 2026

Dr. Matthew Croxen:

1. Zhao F, Immaraj L, Bhavanam S, Jiang Q, Qui J, Gao T, Croxen M, Parkins MD, Hubert CRJ, Lee B, Pang X. "Metagenomic Characterization of Influenza A Genotypes in Alberta Wastewater, 2023–2025". The Canadian Society of Microbiologists 75th Annual Conference, June 2026, Edmonton, Alberta
2. Immaraj L, Jiang Q, Zhao F, Qui J, Gao T, Croxen M, Parkins M, Hubert C, Lee B, Pang X. "One Panel, Many Pathogens: Pan-Viral Wastewater Genomics Across Alberta Communities". The Canadian Society of Microbiologists 75th Annual Conference, June 2026, Edmonton, Alberta

Ms. Sharanya Das:

1. Ethan McNally, Sharanya Das, Alton Russel, Carmen Charlton, "Health Condition Representativeness in SARS-CoV-2 Serosurveillance in Alberta, 2020 – 2021", ImmuNet Research Day, Edmonton, AB; June 19, 2026

Dr. Steven Drews

Presentations:

1. "Overview of Infectious Disease Monitoring and Risk Mitigation Measures at Canadian Blood Services." Captive insurance company/subsidiary (CBSI) board, Online to Bermuda. June 2, 2026
2. "Emerging pathogens and Parasitology" with E. Bloch, ISBT EPP update, ISBT 2026 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia, June 20, 2026
3. "Research update to Roche global" with Sandra Ramirez, ISBT 2026, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, June 21, 2026
4. "Global landscape of HEV in blood donors: surveillance and epidemiology." ISBT 2026, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, June 21, 2026
5. "Implementing a Plasmodium nucleic acid test as a donor testing tool." ISBT 2026, Kuala Lumpur,

Malaysia, June 22, 2026.

6. "Emerging pathogens and how blood systems need to be preparing themselves in these challenging times." Plenary, ISBT 2026, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, June 22, 2026
7. "Preparing for pathogen X: Emerging threats and strategic preparedness for the safety and sufficiency of the blood supply." 17th Latin America Transfusion Medicine Summit, Santiago, Chile, July 30, 2026
8. "Implementing a Plasmodium nucleic acid test as a donor testing tool" Roche Medical leadership, Virtual June 1, 2026
9. "Chagas disease in Canadian blood donors: 15 years of selective testing (Vox Sanguinis)" EBA EID, Online, July 20, 2026
10. "A survey of the European Blood Alliance Emerging Infectious Diseases Monitor group on the use of B-cell depleting agents in blood donors." AABB Thursday Forum, September 17, 2026
11. "Current HIV vigilance activities at Canadian Blood Services and other blood operator settings." Canadian TasP Summit, Vancouver, BC, June 11, 2026
12. "Patient engagement forum: Updates on Babesia screening from Manitoba and Nova Scotia blood donors and hepatitis E virus study approaches." Canadian Blood Services, Patient Engagement Forum - Blood Community, Virtual, June 15, 2026
13. "Alpha-gal and other tickborne diseases." Medical Officer Face-to-Face meeting, Ottawa, ON September 16, 2026
14. "Antiviral medications and impact on diagnostic assays, Donor Selection Criteria Working Group. Canadian Blood Services and Hema-Quebec, Ottawa, ON, Canada. Virtual, September 28, 2026
15. "A summary from Medical Microbiology and the Surveillance and Discovery Laboratory, Canadian Blood Services", Canadian Blood Services Transmissible Diseases Laboratory Staff Brampton, ON, August 25, 2026
16. "A summary from Medical Microbiology and the Surveillance and Discovery Laboratory, Canadian Blood Services", Canadian Blood Services Transmissible Diseases Laboratory Staff Calgary, AB Brampton, August 31, 2026.

Dr. Janet Elliott:

1. MingHan Yu, Janet A. W. Elliott, "Cryomicroscopy quantification of intracellular ice formation during slow cooling of endothelial monolayers". Oral presentation at CRYO2026, Society of Cryobiology Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, USA, July 17, 2026
2. Leah A. Marquez-Curtis, Loredana S. Dorobantu, Dominic Sauvageau, Janet A. W. Elliott, "Cryopreserved MSC-like cells from swine colostrum maintain viability, osteogenic differentiation, and antimicrobial activity". Poster presentation at the JAX-NYSCF conference, The Rockefeller University, New York City, New York, USA, September 23, 2026

Dr. Natalie Marshall

Abstracts:

1. "Pandemic-proofing clinical microbiology education: A flipped curriculum and clinical reasoning framework for medical lab trainees", Natalie C. Marshall, Jelena Holovati, Canadian Society of Microbiologists (CSM) Annual Conference, June 17, Edmonton, AB
2. "Responding to a syphilis outbreak: Building capacity with automated RPR testing", Brian MacPhee, Krupa Zora, Navkiran Randhawa, Emily McCullough, Sali Sidig, Hong Yuan Zhou, Natalie C. Marshall, Canadian Society of Microbiologists (CSM) Annual Conference, June 18, Edmonton, AB

Dr. Michael Mengel

Invited presentations:

1. American Society of Transplantation Fellows Symposium on Transplant Medicine (September 25 – September 27) 2026 Chicago, IL, USA: "Biopsy Based Transplant Diagnostics"
2. American Society of Transplantation Fellows Symposium on Transplant Medicine (September 25 –

September 27) 2026 Chicago, IL, USA: "Interactive Break out session: How to read, write and review a paper"

Dr. Susan Nahirniak

Invited speaker presentations:

1. September 29, 2026 (virtual) – "Breakthroughs in Blood Seminar: 2025 Platelet Guideline". Presenters: Ryan Metcalf, Katerina Pavenski, Neil Adhikaria, Susan Nahirniak, Jeannie Callum
2. September 9, 2026 (virtual) – "International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) Webinar: Blood Contingency Planning – Learnings from a 20-year-old National Plan". Presenter: Susan Nahirniak
3. August 20, 2026 (virtual) – "Canadian Transfusion Trials Group (CTTG) Education Series: Knowledge Translation". Presenter: Susan Nahirniak
4. June 24, 2026 (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) 39th International ISBT Scientific Congress. Title of educational session: "Blood and Immunoglobulin Contingency Planning in Canada". Presenter: Susan Nahirniak
5. June 4, 2026 (Hamilton, Ontario) Canadian Society of Transfusion Medicine Annual Conference. "Guideline Implementation Workshop". Presenters: Jeannie Callum, Andrew Shih, Susan Nahirniak

Abstract Presentations:

1. Kurach J, Simpson E, Brandon-Coatham M, Hemmatibardehshahi S, Nahirniak S, Clarke G, Acker J. "TA-GvHD Safe Transfusion: Irradiation vs. Hypothermic Storage and The Impacts of Each on White Blood Cells and Red Blood Cell Quality". Poster presentation. CSTM Annual Conference. June 5, 2026, Hamilton, Ontario
2. Samadi-Kochaksaraei G, Drews S, Coffin CS, Nahirniak S, Obrien S." Epidemiology of Occult Hepatitis B Infection Among First-Time Blood Donors in Canada: A Population-Based Study". Poster Presentation. CSTM Annual Conference. June 5, 2026, Hamilton, Ontario

Dr. Judy Qiu

Abstracts:

1. Jiang R, Brand L, Immaraj L, Tyagi V, Pang XL, Cervera C, Kabbani D, Qiu JY. "Assessing within-host genetic evolution of norovirus in solid organ transplant (SOT) recipients". FoMD Summer Students' Research Day, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, Aug 2026
2. Xu SZ, Acosta N, Waddell B, Lee J, Weyant RB, Barkema H, Nobrega D, Pitout J, Lee B, Qiu JY, Pang XL, O'Grady C, Clark R, Hubert CRJ, Conly JM1, Parkins MD. "Longitudinal wastewater-based surveillance reveals elevated antimicrobial resistance burden in urban shelters relative to general population". 8th Environmental Dimension of Antimicrobial Resistance conference, Brisbane, Australia, Aug 2026
3. Zhao F, Immaraj L, Bhavanam S, Jiang Q, Qiu JY, Gao TJ, Croxen M, Parkins M, Hubert C, Lee B, Pang XL. "Metagenomic Characterization of Influenza A Genotypes in Alberta Wastewater, 2023–2025". 75th Annual Conference of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists, Edmonton, Canada, June 2026
4. Kamaliddin C, Acosta N, Lee J, Waddell BJ, Bautista MA, Papparis C, Espinoza D, Au E, Du K, Dingle T, Carson J, O'Grady C, Clark RG, Lee B, Qiu JY, Pang XL, Conly JM, Hubert CRJ, Parkins MD. "Flushing Out the Mycobiome: Wastewater reveals distinct hospital and community fungal colonization patterns". 75th Annual Conference of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists, Edmonton, Canada, June 2026
5. Immaraj L, Jiang Q, Zhao F, Qiu JY, Gao TJ, Croxen M, Parkins M, Hubert C, Lee B, Pang XL. "One Panel, Many Pathogens: Pan-Viral Wastewater Genomics Across Alberta Communities". 75th Annual Conference of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists, Edmonton, Canada, June 2026
6. Crowley DE, Acosta N, Bautista MA, Westlund P, Lo S, Papparis C, Waddell BJ, Espinoza D, McCaLder J, Beaudet AB, Southern DA, Williamson T, Clark RG, Dai X, Lu X, Hu J, Weyant RB, Cabaj JL, Kanji JN, Frankowski K, O'Grady C, Lee B, Qiu JY, Pang XL, Conly JM, Hubert CRJ, Parkins MD. "Beyond clinical surveillance: wastewater-based detection of sustained respiratory virus activity in unhoused populations". 75th Annual Conference of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists, Edmonton, Canada, June 2026

Recent Publications

Dr. Ben Adam

Peer-reviewed papers:

1. Calabrese F, Levine DJ, Adam BA, Agbor-Enoh S, Benden C, Budev MM, Cochrane AB, Cozzi E, Darley DR, Fishbein GA, Gelman AE, Glanville AR, Greenland JR, Hickey MJ, Ius F, Jaksch P, Jackson AM, Joerns JO, Lor H, Lowery EM, Mangiola M, Morlacchi LC, Murray MA, Nair A, Ocagli H, Parmar JS, Pavlisko EN, Perch M, Rahaghi FF, Roden AC, Roux A, Snyder L, Sweet S, Verleden SE, Visner GA, Vos R, Wikenheiser-Brokamp KA, Zeevi A, Hachem RR. "International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation Scientific Statement on pulmonary antibody-mediated rejection and proposed graft, antibody, and pathology (GAP) definition". J Heart Lung Transplant. 2026 Sep;45(9):1357-1374. PMID: 42274447

Dr. Thambirajah Balachandra:

1. von Both, I., Chatterton, C.N., Balachandra, T. (2026). "Fatal cannabis-associated cardiovascular toxicity following high-potency cannabis use: An integrated clinicopathologic investigation". Am. J. Forensic Med. Pathol. (Published online ahead of print: 28 September 2026) doi.org/10.1097/PAF.0000000000001178

Dr. Carmen Charlton:

1. Drews SJ, Charlton CL, Trecker MA, Bigham M, Bloch EM, Bruneau L, Coatsworth H, Conrod V, Cranney C, Goldman M, Hatchette TF, Kumaran D, McIsaac KE, Ndao M, Osmond L, Patriquin G, Ramirez-Arcos S, Todd L, Cram J, O'Brien SF, Pambrun C. "Emergence of Babesiosis in Nova Scotia, Canada". NEJM Evid. 2026 Aug;5(8):EVIDpha2600131. doi: 10.1056/EVIDpha2600131. Epub 2026 Jul 28. PMID: 42517708
2. Rajendra P, Faddy HM, Candotti D, Bub CB, Kutner JM, Drews SJ, Charlton CL, O'Brien SF, Tsoi WC, Garcia-Otalora MA, Reynolds C, Palukka T, Lehtisalo R, Offergeld R, Seltsam A, Weber-Schehl M, Chenarsabz N, Goto N, Park SC, Kwon SY, Lieshout-Krikke R, Kopacz A, Sulkowska E, Şerban OA, Ruta S, Zhiburt E, Badawi M, Mitchel J, Jentsch U, Herraiz ÁLP, Gujosa AL, Şahin GÖ, Niederhauser C, Lanteri MC, Custer B, Conti G, Cheng A, Secret S, Simmonds P, Harvala H; Virology subgroup of the ISBT WP-TTID. "An international study on emerging arboviral infections and blood safety". Transfusion. 2026 Sep;66(9):1786-1799. doi: 10.1111/trf.70306. Epub 2026 Jun 18. PMID: 42313434; PMCID: PMC13569194.
3. Joshua C, Charlton C, Kasongo J, Tinga B, Haw J. "Public perspectives on potential changes to malaria deferral criteria in Canada". Vox Sang. 2026 Aug 3. doi: 10.1111/vox.70338. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42544721
4. Yu Y, Chen J, Knight MJ, O'Brien SF, Buckeridge DL, Charlton CL, Russell WA. "Comparability of Canadian SARS-CoV-2 seroprevalence estimates with statistical adjustment for socio-demographic representation". Can J Public Health. 2026 Aug;117(4):634-646. doi: 10.17269/s41997-025-01128-z. Epub 2025 Nov 10. PMID: 41214282; PMCID: PMC13536523
5. Charlton CL, Conrod V, Kumaran D, Jenkins C, Shokoples S, Turnbull L, Kariyawasam R, Pambrun C, Drews SJ. "Donor management implications for high-sensitivity detection of low-level malaria parasitemia in blood donor screening". Transfusion. 2026 Jun 22. doi: 10.1111/trf.70295. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42333662
6. Kumaran D, Charlton C, Pambrun C, Drews SJ, Ramirez-Arcos S. "An in-house nucleic acid test for detection of Anaplasma phagocytophilum in whole blood donor samples". Transfusion. 2026 Jun;66(6):1122-1129. doi: 10.1111/trf.70194. Epub 2026 Apr 13. PMID: 41968968; PMCID: PMC13250363
7. Kasongo NJ, Haw J, Joshua C, Tinga B, Charlton CL. "Public awareness and knowledge of blood

donation eligibility and deferral criteria: Fostering a culture of donation and advancing equity".

Transfusion. 2026 Jul 23. doi: 10.1111/trf.70336. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42493835

8. Bruneau L, Charlton CL, Ramirez-Arcos S, Kumaran D, Allan D, Norman O, Seftel M, Bloch EM, Pambrun C, O'Brien SF, Cranney C, Drews SJ. "How does a national blood operator detect early infectious disease signals affecting blood and cellular therapy product safety and sufficiency?"

Transfusion. 2026 Sep 19. doi: 10.1111/trf.70388. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42762172

Dr. Linda Chui

Peer-reviewed publications:

1. L Honish, J Keenlside, S Essendoubi, L Chui, N Hislop, S Stephen, K Hill, C Kopko, G Gensler, V Mah, T Kershaw "[Outbreak of *Escherichia coli* O157 associated with pork products linked to colonized swine in Alberta, 2018](#)" CCDC Volume 52-9, September 2026: Foodborne Infections
2. Byron M Berenger, Thomas Griener, Linda Chui, "[Improving isolate recovery and identification of the Shiga toxin type in Shiga toxin nucleic acid test-positive feces](#)", J Clin Microbiol. 2026 Sep 9;64(9)

Dr. Matthew Croxen:

1. Boehm C, Dingle TC, Croxen MA, Lynch T, Church D. "Emergence of a novel NDM-4-producing *Citrobacter freundii* complex species in a complicated urinary tract infection treated with cefiderocol". IDCases. 2026 Aug 19;45:e02724. doi: 10.1016/j.idcr.2026.e02724. PMID: 42668689; PMCID:PMC13524756
2. Hunt M, Torres MDT, Alikhan NF, Anderson D, Andreani ML, Blom J, Bouras G, Brinkman FSL, Carroll LM, Croxen MA, Floto RA, Hall MB, Hawkey J, Horsfield ST, Jia B, Lacey JA, Lee HS, Lima L, MacAlasdair N, Mallawaarachchi S, Matlock W, Moustafa AM, Petit R 3rd, Ramnath V, Raghuram V, Russell MJ, Sanderson T, Saratto T, Schwengers O, Seemann T, Shaw LP, Shen W, Thomson N, Tonkin-Hill G, Toussaint J, Viet TL, von Wachsmann J, Wan F, Weimann A, Wheatley RM, Wiatrak M, Xie O, de la Fuente-Nunez C, Lees JA, Iqbal Z. "AllTheBacteria: a community resource empowers biology and discovers novel peptide antibiotics". bioRxiv [Preprint]. 2026 Jul 7:2024.03.08.584059. doi: 10.1101/2024.03.08.584059. PMID:42465405; PMCID: PMC13370402

Dr. Steven Drews

Manuscripts:

1. O'Brien SF, Goldman M, Lewin A, Uzicanin S, Fan W, Drews SJ. "Chagas disease in Canadian blood donors: 15 years of selective testing". Vox Sang. 2026 Jun 1. doi: 10.1111/vox.70299. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42225986
2. Rajendra P, Faddy HM, Candotti D, Bub CB, Kutner JM, Drews SJ, Charlton CL, O'Brien SF, Tsoi WC, Garcia-Otalora MA, Reynolds C, Palukka T, Lehtisalo R, Offergeld R, Seltsam A, Weber-Schehl M, Chenarsabz N, Goto N, Park SC, Kwon SY, Lieshout-Krikke R, Kopacz A, Sulkowska E, Şerban OA, Ruta S, Zhiburt E, Badawi M, Mitchel J, Jentsch U, Herraiz ÁLP, Gujosa AL, Şahin GÖ, Niederhauser C, Lanteri MC, Custer B, Conti G, Cheng A, Secret S, Simmonds P, Harvala H; Virology subgroup of the ISBT WP-TTID. "An international study on emerging arboviral infections and blood safety". Transfusion. 2026 Jun 18. doi: 10.1111/trf.70306. Epub ahead of print
3. Charlton CL, Conrod V, Kumaran D, Jenkins C, Shokoples S, Turnbull L, Kariyawasam R, Pambrun C, Drews SJ. "Donor management implications for high-sensitivity detection of low-level malaria parasitemia in blood donor screening". Transfusion. 2026 Jun 22. doi: 10.1111/trf.70295. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42333662
4. Bruneau L, L Charlton C, Bigham M, Hawes G, Tang E, Drews SJ. "A decision-making process to guide the potential application of a hepatitis A virus and parvovirus B19 nucleic acid test for qualifying plasma for fractionation". J Assoc Med Microbiol Infect Dis Can. 2026 May 11;11(2):155-164. doi: 10.3138/jammi-2025-0013. PMID: 42403488; PMCID: PMC13331620
5. Drews SJ, Charlton CL, Trecker MA, Bigham M, Bloch EM, Bruneau L, Coatsworth H, Conrod V, Cranney C, Goldman M, Hatchette TF, Kumaran D, McIsaac KE, Ndao M, Osmond L, Patriquin G,

Ramirez-Arcos S, Todd L, Cram J, O'Brien SF, Pambrun C. "Emergence of Babesiosis in Nova Scotia, Canada". NEJM Evid. 2026 Aug;5(8):EVIDpha2600131. doi: 10.1056/EVIDpha2600131. Epub 2026 Jul 28. PMID: 42517708

6. Bloch EM, Drews SJ, Jacobs JW. "Infectious risks of transfusion: a 10-year look back and perspectives". Transfus Clin Biol. 2026 Sep 16:S1246-7820(26)00129-1. doi: 10.1016/j.traccli.2026.09.004. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42749151

7. Bruneau L, Charlton CL, Ramirez-Arcos S, Kumaran D, Allan D, Norman O, Seftel M, Bloch EM, Pambrun C, O'Brien SF, Cranney C, Drews SJ. "How does a national blood operator detect early infectious disease signals affecting blood and cellular therapy product safety and sufficiency"? Transfusion. 2026 Sep 19. doi: 10.1111/trf.70388. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42762172

8. Yiep M, Drews SJ, Battaglia L, Seftel M, Estrada M, Kawamura S, Leto D, Skakle M, Resz I. "Enabling a cord blood donor testing plan by comparing the test characteristics of two anti-cytomegalovirus tests". Transfusion. 2026 Sep 21. doi: 10.1111/trf.70406. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42764817

9. Jacobs JW, Drews SJ, Bloch EM. "Reassessing cytomegalovirus as a relevant transfusion-transmitted infection". Transfus Clin Biol. 2026 Sep 26:S1246-7820(26)00146-1. doi: 10.1016/j.traccli.2026.09.007. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42800694

Other Communications:

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