

ARCC

Canadian Centre for Applied Research in Cancer Control

Advancing Health Economics, Services, Policy and Ethics

Issue 1 – June, 2010

Welcome to the first issue of the ARCC Newsletter! The Canadian Centre for Applied Research in Cancer Control (ARCC) was launched on July 1, 2009 as the first pan-Canadian research centre specializing in health economics, services, policy and ethics in cancer control. Over the past year ARCC has focused on establishing its administrative core, with completion of a business plan and development of Centre policies. ARCC has also made strides in developing its research and networking agendas.

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Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hoch and Stuart Peacock

Co-Directors, ARCC

ARCC Research

ARCC's research agenda consists of five program areas:

- Health Technology Assessment
- Societal Values and Public Engagement
- Health Systems, Services and Policy
- Patients and Families
- Knowledge Translation Research

In 2009-10, ARCC provided seed funding for five pilot projects across these program areas.

[Health Technology Assessment](#)

Program Co-Leads Jeffrey Hoch and Murray Krahn

Creation of a reference set of the health preference values in oncology: A pilot study using the Cancer Care Ontario electronic kiosk system (Investigators: Nicole Mittmann, Lisa Barbera, Murray Krahn, Stuart Peacock, Natasha Leigh, Jeffrey Hoch, Craig Earle)

The objective of this project is to create a reference set of health preference values by using direct and indirect measurements of health utilities in different types of cancers, specifically breast cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, colorectal cancer and Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. This pilot study will determine whether the Cancer Care

Ontario's existing electronic kiosk system can be used to collect health preference data from oncology patients.

Societal Values and Public Engagement

Program Co-Leads Jennifer Gibson and Stuart Peacock

Canadian network on public engagement & cancer control (Investigators: Jennifer Gibson, Stuart Peacock)

The objective of this project is to conduct an environmental scan of Canadian public engagement research activity, to identify potential collaborators and to conduct a literature survey related to public engagement and cancer control. The second step will convene a meeting of interested researchers, policymakers and community members in Canada to explore opportunities for collaboration and to identify research priorities.

Health Services, Systems and Policy

Program Co-Leads Mark Dobrow and Mary McBride

Cancer control geomapping (Investigators: Mary McBride, Mark Dobrow, Morris Barer)

This project will generate maps of geographic variation in prevalence and utilization of health services for two cancer groups, childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancer survivors, and female breast cancer survivors. This pilot project will use currently-available data for British Columbia and is expected to expand into a multi-province study of important cancers that utilize significant health services, in collaboration with research and decision-maker partners in Ontario and eventually other provinces.

Dynamic case studies in cancer (Investigators: Mark Dobrow)

The overall objective of this study is to bring together cancer program/service evaluations conducted by various cancer organizations and to facilitate improvements to the rigour of these evaluations while still maintaining (or improving) timeliness needed for decision-making. The specific aims are 1) to assess the feasibility of dynamic case studies as part of ARCC; 2) to develop multiple dynamic case study templates/options for collecting, summarizing and managing evaluations; and 3) to prepare a proposal for external funding to extend this initial work, develop the dynamic case study plan and evaluate it.

Patients and Families

Program Co-Leads Richard Doll and Jolie Ringash

Patients and families research program development (Investigators: Richard Doll, Jolie Ringash)

This project will 1) develop a research plan for the patients and families program based on a review of international literature identifying key research priorities; and 2) investigate the methods and measurement tools pertaining to supportive psychosocial interventions for head and neck cancer patients, leading to a CIHR grant application.

For further details about ARCC's research programs please visit: www.cc-arcc.ca/research

ARCC Network

The ARCC Network is a virtual community of researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers with interest or expertise in applied cancer control research. Network members have access to

- Researchers, decision-makers and clinicians across Canada who are involved in health economics, services,

policy and ethics research related to cancer

- A database of on-going research projects and profiles of researchers
- Canada-wide knowledge dissemination and translation tools and support
- Specialized ARCC conferences and workshops tailored for researchers and decision-makers
- ARCC newsletters

To join the network please email: arcc@cancercare.on.ca

For further details about the ARCC Network please visit: www.cc-arcc.ca/network

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Translating research into better decisions for cancer patients: the role of research, guidelines and decision-making tools – October 23rd, 2010

Symposium held in conjunction with the Society for Medical Decision Making (SMDM) conference in Toronto, Ontario.

More details to come!

ARCC Mentorship Program

Are you a graduate student looking for career advice from a senior researcher? ARCC is connecting students with senior academics who have similar research interests and can provide insight from their experience. Email arcc@cancercare.on.ca if you are interested in pursuing this opportunity or if you would like more information on the program.

Did you know?

ARCC is on the web! To find out more about us, please see www.cc-arcc.ca

