Message from the Chair

This month’s motto is the same as last month’s: “the clinic is the curriculum.” The metaphor is much grander though: plate tectonics. The strains have been building for years, earthquakes are now happening, and a new map will be the result!

As many of you know already, we have been working to build a new clinic, replacing the current Royal Alex Family Medicine Centre, on the Medical Home model. Our existing clinics, linked to and administered by acute care hospitals, have become increasingly mismatched to the changing world of primary care training. The new clinic will be a major change in our map. Creating it is an earthquake, but the continents are moving in the right direction.

The reassessment of our clinic space at the Misericordia and Grey Nuns Family Medicine Centres was the most recent earthquake. We have now set out to do for them what we have done for the RAFMC: find space, arrange renovations, and create one or more new community based Medical Home clinics. Another major change in our map, but again one that helps bring us up to the current state of the art in Family Medicine practice and teaching - and prepares us for the future.

These seismic shifts will make it much easier for our clinics to support our curriculum. There will be a whole lot of shaking going on, as always with change of this scale, but it’s an exciting adventure, the kind of growth opportunity that happens to a department only once in a generation. We’re up to it!

- Dr. Lee Green

NEW STAFF

BedMed Welcomes Three New Team Members

Welcome to the new BedMed Team members: Farah Visram, Kaylin Bechard, and Jeff Cheng! They will be joining Jessica MacDonald, Nicole Olivier and Dr. Scott Garrison on the BedMed research project, working out of University Terrace. Want to know more about BedMed? Click here!

MARD Welcomes New Research Assistant

Emily Hussey is MARD’s new Research Assistant, and will be working on many of the different MARD’s projects. Emily is a new graduate with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Psychology from the University of Alberta and her understanding of aging and the older adult populations will be an asset to the team. Welcome Emily!
UNDERGRADUATE UPDATE

The undergraduate family medicine program is pleased to announce that effective February 1, Dr. Ann Lee has joined the team as Assistant Program Director—Clerkship.

Tell us a bit about yourself.
I am originally from BC. I came to Edmonton after being matched with the University of Alberta family medicine residency program through CaRMS. I started my program in 2006 and have been here ever since! I also completed a Master of Education in Health Sciences Education here at the U of A as part of that program’s first cohort, which I finished in 2014. It was a great way to learn more about teaching and interact with and get different perspectives from other faculty within the university.

Which clinic do you practice in?
I trained at the Misericordia Family Medicine Centre and I still practice there.

Is this your first experience with the undergraduate program?
I was with the undergraduate program about six years ago in a maternity leave coverage position. I worked with Dr. Amy Tan and the undergraduate team for about a year. Then I went on maternity leave to have the youngest of my three children. Now that my youngest is starting kindergarten in September, this is a great time for me to focus on teaching.

What are you looking forward to in your new role?
I’m really excited to be involved at the undergraduate level. I do a lot of residency-level teaching as a preceptor, but it will be interesting to see how I can help better prepare learners at the undergraduate level and witness their progression through to residency. I am also excited to be working with a great team. I previously worked with Erika, Elylea and Kerri and I look forward to working with them again.

Is there anything else you would like people to know?
I’m looking forward to being involved in the full continuum of medical education: it’s exciting to be involved in preparing medical students for postgraduate education. I really believe that the Family Medicine Undergraduate Clerkship is the one of the best clerkship rotations because it is the perfect rotation to consolidate all the learning from years one and two and because no matter which specialty a student eventually decides to commit to, they can find relevance to their future career.

Welcome Dr. Lee!

CaRMS UPDATE

A huge personal thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this year’s CaRMS. Starting in October each year, there is tremendous behind-the-scenes effort and dedication to setting up the process, reviewing files, inviting interviewees and interviewers, scheduling the interviews, and preparing those involved on the day of. One the actual day of CaRMS, managing the logistics of the event itself is a huge undertaking.

I can’t say enough about how lucky we are to have such a great team of people to work with. This speaks to our admin staff, our residents and our faculty: all of you who have given your time freely and shown passion and dedication to our family medicine family. We look forward to sharing the result of our work on Match Day 2017. Special thanks to Amy Swearingen and Judy Grace who joined us as volunteers. Once again, thank you and keep up the great efforts!

- Dr. John Chmelicek, Director, Postgraduate Medical Education

Family Medicine -Emergency Medicine CaRMS update

The Family Medicine-Emergency Medicine (FM-EM) Enhanced Skills program has complete their CaRMS process, and is pleased to announce that six new FM-EM residents will begin their program July 1, 2017. The new residents join the department from the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, Queen’s University and Dalhousie.
FAMILY MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS RECAP

Our January Grand Rounds topic was “We Have All This Data – Now What?” Thanks to Mirella Chiodo and Lee Green for sharing their knowledge about how data can help clinics provide the best healthcare for their clinic populations and healthcare planning.

Key points from the presentation are:

1. Know your panel! The more familiar you are with your clinic’s patient population, the more effectively you can predict and respond to your patients’ healthcare needs.
2. Clinic improvement is a continuum. We must first improve access and promote continuity, then work on office efficiency by streamlining processes. Then you can focus on what really matters: improving clinical care delivery and the outcomes of that care.
3. Don’t get lost in the perfect. This is not a report card and you are not being graded. This is all about “How are we doing?” and “Where can we do better?” It’s about measurement for improvement.
4. Measurement is nothing without evaluation. Measure it, analyze it, share it, and discuss it as a team.

There are a number of system supports in place to help you in your improvement journey:
The Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network (CPCSSN)
Alberta Access Improvement Measures (AIM)
Primary Care Networks (PCNs)
Towards Optimized Practice (TOP)

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

The schedule and booking link for the 2017 Faculty and Resident Education Extravaganza and Retreat are now available.

The FREzER brochure with schedule of activities can now be downloaded from the Family Medicine Faculty Development Conference webpage. Don’t miss out! Faculty can now book rooms at Jasper Park Lodge using this link: https://resweb.passkey.com/go/uofafrezer

Lifelong Learning (L3) Website and App Now Available

Lifelong Learning at the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has a newly updated website with many resources for healthcare professionals to access: uab.ca/L3. L3 now offers a mobile App available on Apple iTunes (iPhone/iPad) and Google Play (Android) platforms. The App can be accessed at these links:

iPhone/iPad: https://appsto.re/ca/0UzDhb.i
Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.appsheet.whitelabel.guid_8a51122f_d0db_43e7_b87c_30228658e198

A new Lifelong Learning Management System (L3MS) Platform is currently being developed. This new platform, developed with the Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) team as part of the ‘Integrated Knowledge Translation Network’, will allow people to request personalized training specific to their needs. Keep checking the L3 website for updates on this exciting development!
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Wilderness Grand Rounds Special Guest Speaker

The University of Alberta Wilderness Medicine Seminar Series is hosting special guest speaker Dr. Peter Barsch on February 13 & 14, 2017. Dr. Bartsch is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Heidelberg. His research focus has been on high altitude pulmonary edema and acute mountain sickness as well as high altitude training and hemostasis in exercise and hypoxia.

Session 1: High Altitude Pulmonary Edema, February 13, 5 p.m., Classroom D, University Hospital
Session 2: High Altitude Cerebral Edema, February 14 at 7 a.m. in Classroom D, University Hospital (2nd floor above the main entrance).

CancerControl Workshop

Mark Your Calendars: Alberta Health Services CancerControl will be hosting the seventh annual in-person and telehealth Family Physicians and CancerControl: Strengthening Linkages Workshop on Saturday, April 22, 2017. The purpose of this workshop is to provide family physicians the opportunity to build linkages between oncology and primary care communities of practice as well as improve integration of care by promoting knowledge exchange and relationship building.

Topics will include case studies, palliative care, clinical genetics, immunotherapy overview, updates screening. Registration forms will be available in a few weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Fabbroni at 780-643-7140 or anna.fabbroni@ahs.ca.

Gairdner Symposium

In partnership with the Gairdner Foundation, the Cancer Research Institute of Northern Alberta (CRINA) is proud to host a two-day Canada Gairdner Symposium titled Cancer Discoveries: Molecules to Man that will take place on May 24-26 in Edmonton. In addition to 20 world-renowned cancer researchers, experts speaking about topics such as immunotherapy, targeted therapies, cancer metabolism, genomics and prevention, there will also be a public lecture featuring Dr. Dennis Slamon whose pioneering work lead to the use of Herceptin for the treatment of breast cancer.

RSVP is required for May 24-26. Please register here for the public lecture and register here for the scientific talks.
May 17, 6:30pm - 9:00pm -- Science in the Cinema, Living Proof (movie based on Dennis Slamon’s life)
May 24, 7:00pm - 8:00pm -- Gairdner Public Lecture, Dr. Dennis Slamon, Novel Approaches to Breast Cancer
May 25, 8:00am - 5:00pm -- Gairdner Scientific Talks, Day 1
May 26, 8:30am - 4:30pm -- Gairdner Scientific Talks, Day 2

Pediatrics Survey

The Department of Pediatrics invites family physicians and residents who work with pediatric populations to submit their top three clinical issues they would like to see covered in presentations at the annual Pediatric Update conference to be held November 2-4, 2017 in Edmonton.

What topics are your bug bears, the questions always asked by families, the questions you would like more information about? For example, the topics this past year included a musculoskeletal examination refresher, emergent situation management simulation and skills workshop, fracture management in the office, sports medicine, diagnosis and management of cerebral palsy, nutrition and formulas, food allergy, insomnia, anxiety and self-harm, ADHD, advanced life support updates, caring for immigrant children, anemia, fever in the returning traveller, and urinary tract infections.

Submit your top three topics to: Pediatric Update Topic Survey.

Email pediatrics@ualberta.ca if you have additional questions about Pediatric Update 2017.
Funding News

The Optimization of Hospital - Primary Care Continuity for an Inner-City Patient Population project has received a Quality Improvement grant in the amount of $39,000 from the Edmonton Zone Medical Staff Association (EZMSA). This ARCH-Boyle McCauley Health Centre QI project will focus on improving hospital-community care continuity for populations with socially and medically complex needs through the review of current processes and implementation of best practices. Dr. Ginetta Salvalaggio is the Principle Investigator on this project.

Research Forum: Family Physician’s Perspectives on Factors Influencing Interprofessional Teamwork

Date: Thursday, February 243
Location: 6-10D University Terrace
Presenter: Jacqueline Torti, MPHED, MA
PhD Candidate, School of Public Health, Research Assistant, Department of Family Medicine

Please RSVP to peggy.lewis@ualberta.ca

Research Publications


Research Publications Continued...


RESEARCH AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Mitacs Research Opportunities

The Mitacs Globalink Research Award supports research collaborations between Canada and select partner countries. The award is open to graduate students. Select destinations are also open to senior undergraduates. Funding and eligible disciplines vary by destination. The call for applications for this initiative is now open — the deadline to apply is March 31, at 5 p.m. PST. A call for proposals occurs twice a year, typically in January and September. Applications are awarded competitively and subject to available funding.

The Globalink Partnership Award is available for graduate students in Canada. This award supports research projects abroad with industry partners in any country except the United States.. Applications for this award are accepted any time, though applicants are encouraged to apply prior to July 9, 2017 for travel in Fall 2017.

Mitacs is a national not-for-profit organization that builds partnerships that support industrial and social innovation in Canada. Visit the Globalink web page or contact Mitacs International at international@mitacs.ca for more information.

Research Administration Day

Mark your calendars for Research Services Office's upcoming Research Administration Day (RAD) on May 31, 2017. Whether you are new to research administration or you want to learn more, come to RAD. Past topics included challenges of multi-sponsor partnership projects and unboxing research finance. This year's theme is Today's Research, Our Future and will align with University of Alberta's strategic plan, For the Public Good.

Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2017
Time: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Location: L1-490, L1-420, & L1-430, Edmonton Clinic Health Academy (ECHA)

Clinical Research Seminar Series

Alberta’s Tomorrow Project (ATP) is Alberta’s largest longitudinal health research study, with 55,000 participants enrolled to date. Dr. Paula Robson (Scientific Director, ATP) will introduce the ATP and how it can support researchers in the areas of cancer and chronic disease etiology; Dr. Sambasivarao Damaraju (Professor, FoMD) will present highlights from his Cancer Genomics projects and how ATP data contributed to novel discoveries.

Friday, February 24th 2017
3:00 – 4:00pm
ECHA 2-150
FACULTY AND STAFF INFORMATION

Alberta Innovates Graduate Studentships
Alberta Innovates is now accepting applications for Graduate Studentships. Applicants must be currently enrolled in a graduate program at an Alberta university undertaking health-related training leading to a thesis-based graduate degree. Applicants must have completed their first year of graduate training, at the time of award implementation. The Graduate Studentship is tenable only at an Alberta university.

Application deadline is April 3, 2017. For more information, visit the [Al Graduate Studentships](#) website.

2017 Rich Man, Poor Man Dinner
The annual Rich Man Poor Man Dinner will be held Saturday, March 4, 2017 at St. Basil’s Cultural Centre
Cocktails at 6:00, Dinner at 7:00
For more information or to reserve a seat or table, contact Cheryl Knowles at 780-492-8928 or cknowles@ualberta.ca

The Faculty of Native Studies has announced the that Indigenous Canada has opened effective February 6, 2017. Indigenous Canada is a a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) that explores Indigenous histories and contemporary issues in Canada. This non-credit version is available online for free on Coursera to anyone anywhere in the world. Class starts March 20. Learn more and register online today at [uab.ca/nsmooc](#)

Security reminder
There has been a high rate of trespassing in North Campus buildings and offices. Wallets. purses, laptops, cellphones, small electronics such as tablets and building/office keys have been stolen. To prevent further thefts, please ensure doors to corridors, offices and rooms are locked when you step out and at the end of the day. Report any malfunctioning doors to Facilities and Operations (780-492-4833) and do not give keys entrusted to you to others to prevent duplicate keys being made. Please also secure confidential /sensitive information stored electronically by using password protection and encryption software and lock your computer’s home-screen if you leave it unattended and at the end of the day.

Immediately report unauthorized entries, thefts, of suspicious persons to University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS) at 780-492-5050.

ABOUT FAMILY MATTERS
Family Matters is the monthly Department of Family Medicine newsletter highlighting the work of department faculty, staff and researchers. If you have news or information for Family Matters, please send it to danica.erickson@ualberta.ca.