



The Canadian Neonatal Network™

Newsletter

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New Members' 2
At-A-Glance
Profiles

International 2
Networks

CNN 3
Members—In
Focus

CNN Website 3

Int'l Training 4
Program

CNN Manual 4

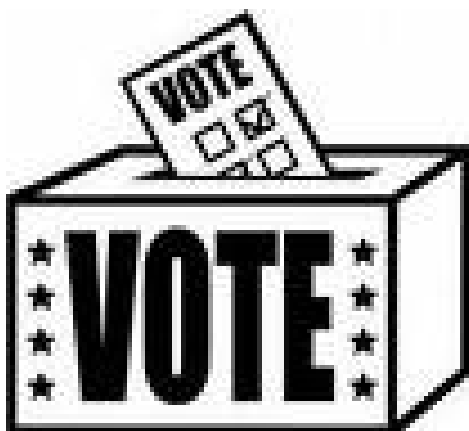
Abstractors' 5
Corner

CNN Annual 5
Report

Contact Info 6

CNN Steering Committee Elections

An election will be held this month to fill two vacant CNN Steering Committee positions. The Steering Committee sets network policies, oversees network activities and advises the Coordinator. At least one member of the Steering Committee must be from Western Canada and at least one member must be able to speak French. The vacant positions are for three-year terms. The current Steering Committee members who will remain on the panel are Drs. Aaron Chiu, Molly Seshia, Kim Dow, Keith Barrington, Jonathan Hellmann, Bruno Piedboeuf, in addition to the Chair, Dr. Shoo Lee. Any member of the Network may nominate her/himself or another member for election. Nominations are open until **September 30, 2009**. Once all nominations are in, each nominee's bio will be posted on the website and voting will be enabled at that time. Members will receive an email from the CNN Coordinator to let them know that the voting is enabled (the voting period will last one week). This is your chance to showcase strong leaders at your institution so submit your nominees today!



New CNN Members - In Focus

Mrs. Moni Snell: I have worked in the NICU in the Regina General Hospital for the past 29 years. The first 18 years as a staff nurse, followed by the next 12 years as the clinical educator for the unit and have just completed the MSN program from Stony Brook University in New York to graduate as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner. Will soon be joining our neonatologists in a collaborative/supervised practice as an NNP. I have been an NRP Instructor and STABLE Instructor for the past 11 years. Have taught numerous courses for our Perinatal Outreach Education Program all over Saskatchewan and parts of Manitoba. I am involved in many groups and committees within our health region to collaborate on newborn and family-centered care. For the past three years and for the next two am elected and serving as Director at Large for the National Neonatal Nurses Association (NANN) in the US and also as a member of the National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners which is a division under NANN. Lifelong learning is one of my core values and being a part of EPIQ II allows me another opportunity to share and expand my knowledge.

Dr. Manoj Kumar: I am an assistant clinical professor in the Neonatal division of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Alberta since 2005. Besides working as a full-time neonatologist in the region, I have an MSc degree in Clinical Epidemiology from the McMaster University in Hamilton and further training in Health Economics. I am actively involved in teaching clinical fellows and residents about research methodology, conduct EBM journal clubs, and guide them in their research projects. In my spare time, I enjoy playing tennis and swimming, in addition to spending time with my two year old twins, Ananya & Arushi. My areas of academic Interest include systematic reviews of neonatal-perinatal interventions, International disparities in Maternal and Child Health, Health services and Population health research, and Economic Evaluation of healthcare services

Dr. Shabih Hasan is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Calgary and Staff Neonatologist with the Alberta Health Services (Calgary Zone). He has held independent salary support awards from the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. Furthermore, his research has been funded by a number of peer-reviewed granting agencies including Alberta Lung Association, The Hospital for Sick Children's Research Foundation, Christie Foundation, Alberta Children's Hospital Research Foundation, SIDS Foundations and Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Dr. Hasan has supervised or co-supervised a number of Masters and Doctoral-level graduate students and post-doctoral fellows, many of whom have embarked on successful academic and professional careers. His current research interests include investigation of the effects of prenatal cigarette smoke exposure on fetal and neonatal development. His studies showed that prenatal cigarette smoke exposure decreases the ability of preterm infants to recover from hypoxemic challenge and these responses were not dependent on behavioral state of the infants. He has served as a strong community spokesperson on a regular basis towards decreasing the cigarette smoke exposure during pregnancy and childhood. Dr. Hasan's other research interests include the role of afferent volume feedback on cardio-respiratory adaptation, pulmonary mechanics, sequential pulmonary blood flow and pulmonary surfactant system during transition from fetal to neonatal period.

CNN Website

We are finally set to revamp the CNN website, and apologize to all those who have looked to the website for updated information regarding CNN events. The architecture of the site had to be changed entirely and now superficial updates can be made to the content, format, etc. If you have any questions about the site or any comments on how to improve it, please feel free to send an email to Sandy Maksimowska at smaksimowska@mtsinai.on.ca. We are always looking to improve and welcome your feedback!



Profiles at a Glance: New CNN Members

Dr. Hilary Whyte is a Staff Neonatologist and the Medical Director of Acute Care Transport Services at the Hospital for Sick Children, as well as an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Toronto and a Clinical Epidemiologist with the Faculty of Health Administration. Dr. Whyte has been working in the field of transport medicine for over 25 years and is planning to create a transport network to build a database and metrics for the unique needs of this patient population.

Dr. Michael Sgro is the Director of Research at St. Michael's Hospital with a major interest in neonatal hyperbilirubinemia and its long-term neurologic effects, currently conducting a national surveillance study on kernicterus in Canada through the Canadian Pediatric Surveillance Program.

Dr. Moni Snell is an RN and an MS/NNP student at Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region and NICU Clinical Development Educator at the site.

Dr. Bakul Deb is a staff member of the NICU at Regina General Hospital and a former fellow of the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine program at the University of Western Ontario.

Dr. Rajesh Ramachandranair joined the division of pediatric neurology at McMaster in 2006 after completing a two-year clinical fellowship training program in pediatric epilepsy at Sick Kids Hospital.

Dr. Shabih Hasan is a neo at the University of Calgary whose research interests include neonatal respiratory control, care of the newborn and effects of tobacco on fetal and neonatal development.

Dr. Manoj Kumar is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Neonatology at the University of Alberta and a Member of the Women and Children's Health Research Institute.

International Networks

INC

The International Neonatal Collaboration (INC) is a group of multi-disciplinary researchers who collaborate on research issues related to neonatal care. INC includes members from District 8 of the American Academy of Pediatrics and from Latin-American countries. Recently, agreements were signed between The Shands Jacksonville Medical Centre and Wolfson Children's Hospital in Florida and INC, and select delegates of the INC will be meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on October 22, 2009 to discuss next steps.

SIBEN

The Sociedad Iberoamericana de Neonatología (SIBEN) is a non-profit organization aimed at improving quality of life of newborns and their families in the Iberoamerican population, currently with representation from 17 countries. SIBEN and INC have recently executed an agreement to establish their collaborative relationship. Dr. Shoo Lee and various members of the SIBEN team recently met in Cusco, Perú, to discuss the unit's statistics, presented by Dr. Tania Paredes. Programmer Juan Fajardo from Toronto was able to join the team in Peru and introduce to them the EPIQ 2 project currently underway in Canada. Stay tuned for information regarding EPIQ 2 international progress!



International Neonatal Training Program



Neonatal Training Program

The Neonatal Training Program in Shanghai offers both students of the program and teachers from North America a rare chance to benefit tremendously from this unique experience. Students are given a rare opportunity to learn from the best neonatal health care professionals in North America and teachers have the opportunity to showcase their knowledge in Neonatal care and are indirectly involved in impacting the delivery of neonatal care in all of China. The students in the program are selected from all of China and are the future leaders of tomorrow—the cream of the crop medical doctors who have immeasurable potential, drive, and ability to bring about positive change in their home country.

For the 2009-2011 teaching cycle, we are planning on sending 22 Neonatologists/other, 6 Respiratory Therapists, 4 English teachers, 1 Dietician, 1 Nurse Practitioner, 1 Registered Nurse, and 1 Resident. We are open to receiving applications from health care professionals from any discipline as long as you have NICU experience! Please visit our website at <http://www.canadianneonatalnetwork.org/shanghai.shtml> to learn more about the program. Hope that you will consider joining us on this great endeavour! Thanks.

Diana An

Program Coordinator

The International Training Program in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine in Shanghai

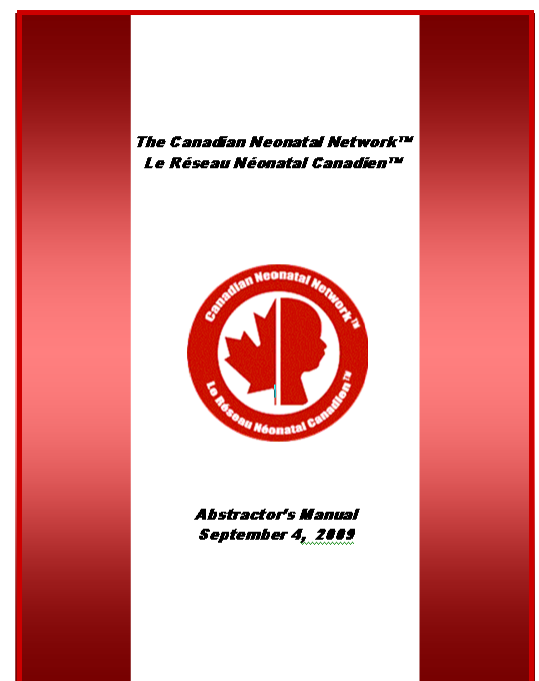
dan@mtsina.on.ca

CNN Manual

To accompany the rollout of the new CNN application in early 2010, a corresponding manual is slowly being drafted. Dr. Prakesh Shah, Janet Narciso and Sandy Maksimowska have been editing entries meticulously to allow for a logically flowing, easy-to-understand manual to appease abstractors nationwide. Also, because we are revamping the new application, we are revamping our new look. **Check out the latest format** on the right and let us know what you think!

Thank you to our team members Juan Fajardo, Sonny Yeh, Wilhelmus William and Charles Ah Knit for the countless hours that they have spent tweaking this application and fixing bugs, adjusting esthetics and fielding questions. Go team!

Testing of the new application is ongoing. If you would like to participate, contact MiCare today!



Abstractors' Corner



Welcome to the Abstractor's Corner! This section is devoted to questions, answers and comments from abstractors in recent months. Our goal is to build a unified abstractors team across Canada by maintaining open lines of communication and support. **Please note that issues presented from now on pertain to the NEW CNN Application rolling out in 2010, and hence you may want to retain these pages for future reference.**

QUESTION I: Baby is born in *hospital A* on 8 Sep 2009 and goes *home* on 9 Sep 2009. Suddenly baby gets sick and goes to *hospital B* on the 10 Sep 2009. The case gets worse and baby needs to be admitted in *NICU at hospital B*. The NICU admission in the above case is *out-born*. The birth hospital would be *hospital A*. What will the "Transferred From" place be?

- a) Children Emergency - Hospital B
- b) Hospital B
- c) Home
- d) Hospital A

ANSWER I: Home

CNN 2008 Annual Report

The CNN Annual Report is in the final stages of completion. Dr. Prakesh Shah has been working closely with statistician Woojin Yoon to create a comprehensive and informative report, and the Review Committee met for three two-hour sessions in September to critique the report with a fine-toothed comb. Final revisions will be made based on the committee's feedback and the report should be available for dissemination shortly. As per the previous years of the CNN, five reports will be sent to each participating site, and additional copies will be available for purchase through the Coordinating Centre. Special thanks go out to the Review Committee for their valuable time in reviewing this lengthy document: Dr. Michael Dunn, Dr. Arne Ohlsson, Dr. Molly Seshia, Dr. Nalini Singhal, Dr. Nicole Rouvinez-Bouali, Dr. Orlando Da Silva, Dr. Alex Allen, Dr. Keith Barrington and of course Ms. Janet Narciso !

New CNN Application

Internal testing of the new CNN application has started. With the help of the MiCare team, Janet Narciso, Dr Prakesh Shah and Robin Knighton, our programming team has been actively solving bugs and improving the application.

The external user testing will begin soon and so far four CNN sites have volunteered. More sites are welcomed to join the testing to familiarise themselves with the new screens and provide feedback. Please contact MiCare if you are interested.

We would like to remind all sites that the deadline for updated system requirement installation for the new CNN application is the end of November 2009.



CNN NICU Resources Survey

Many of you have had a hand in updating and submitting information to the Coordinating Centre pertaining to the NICU Resources Survey, a comprehensive questionnaire about the details of the services, equipment, personnel and functioning of your NICUs. Please note that effective immediately all matters of the survey will be handled by the MiCare Research Nurse, Diana An, who can be contacted at dan@mtsinai.on.ca.

Please note that this survey is one of few that is not available for completion electronically. If you have not received a hard or printable soft copy of the survey, please contact Diana immediately so that she may pass one to you. So far, nine sites have not provided us with information — those outstanding are CHEO, SJRH, RVH, RAH, FMC, HSC, HSCC, HSJ and HMR. NICU Directors are asked to complete all necessary parts as soon as possible.

Maternal-Infant Care Research Centre

Updated Contact Information

Maternal-Infant Care Research Centre (MiCare)
Mount Sinai Hospital
700 University Avenue, Room 8-500
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1X6
Fax: 416-586-8546

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