NURSE PRACTITIONERS’ ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO
Annual Conference

Shifting Perspectives in NP Practice: A Way Forward

September 21-23, 2017
Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto
Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to join your colleagues in Toronto for the 2017 NPAO Annual Conference *Shifting Perspectives in NP Practice: A Way Forward*. Not only is Toronto Canada’s largest city, the fourth largest in North America, and home to a diverse population of about 2.8 million people but it’s the ideal setting for NPs to gather and discuss ways that can revolutionize the delivery of health care for patients of Ontario. The conference will also meet your continuing education needs by providing evidence-based educational sessions, hands-on workshops, and skill-building forums that deliver comprehensive, results-oriented patient care strategies.

You have come to expect the best from NPAO conferences and this one continues that tradition. With approximately 48 sessions, updates on provincial legislation, expert speakers who will both educate and entertain you with their presentations, an exhibit hall filled with the latest goods and services for NPs and students, and plenty of networking opportunities, this conference is a must-attend event!

Be sure to take advantage of the hands-on pre-conference workshops! We’re offering our most popular workshops once again as well as a selection of new workshops. Register early to lock in your spot—these workshops are a BIG reason why many of you attend and they almost always sell out!

Our keynote speakers will provide you with unique perspectives on health care and give you much to think about as we look at the many ways that NPs can revolutionize health care today and in the future. Make plans now to attend NPAO’s 2017 Annual Conference — this is one conference you won’t want to miss!

We think you’ll agree that the NPAO Annual Conference is the best choice for your continuing education needs. You’ll enjoy a terrific setting, an evidence-based approach to learning and best of all, the opportunity to exchange ideas with your peers.

Sincerely,

*Donna Kearney*

Presidential

NPAO

Sincerely,

*Vanessa Mooney*

Chair

NPAO Conference Planning Committee
Conference Planning Committee Chair
Vanessa Mooney

Members
Shari Comerford
Claudia Mariano
Shannon Nixon
Joanne Opsteen

Abstract Review Committee
Kelsang Choeden
Sandy Fawcett
Gillian Graham
Diane Gwartz
Eileen McMahon
Maria Timofeeva

Awards Committee
Claudia Mariano – Lead
Donna Andrade
Shirlee O’Connor
Peggy Rice
Sandra Tully

Register for the NPAO Award and Celebration Dinner on
Friday, September 22, 2017
Thank you to our Sponsors and Exhibitors

Silver Sponsor

**PURDUE**

*Innovation In Pain Care*

Bronze Sponsor

**JOHNSON**

**DCAC**

**novo nordisk**

**Symposium Sponsors**

**Shire**

**MERCK**

**Aphria**

**CannTrust**

**NFH**

**gsk**

**Purdue**

**Valeant**

*Innovation In Pain Care*

Pre-Conference Workshop Sponsor

**THE LUNG ASSOCIATION™**

**SIGVARIS**

Concurrent Session Sponsor

**Gilead**

**Pfizer**

**3M**

*Science. Applied to Life.™*
Exhibitors

An exhibit hall filled with the latest goods and services for NPs and students

3M
ADLER Graduate Professional School
Advanced Innovations Inc.
Aphria
Boiron Laboratories
Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing
Canadian Pharmacists Association
CannTrust Inc.
Centre for Effective Practice
College of Nurses of Ontario
Concession Medical Pharmacy Ltd.
Dairy Farmers of Canada
Disability Claims Advocacy Clinic
EatRight Ontario
Gilead Sciences
GlaxoSmithKline Inc.
Grifols Canada Ltd.
Health Quality Ontario
Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan
Johnson Insurance
Login Canada
Medreleaf
Mental Health Commission of Canada
Merck Canada
Natural Health Services
Novo Nordisk Canada Inc.
Ontario Chiropractic Association
Ontario Society of Chiropodists
Ontario Wound Care Interest Group
Osteoporosis Canada
Pfizer Canada
Pfizer Consumer Health Care
Philips Lifeline
Pri-Med Canada
Project ECHO Ontario
Purdue Pharma Canada
Rxfiles
Shire
Southern Network of Specialized Care
THMA Consulting Inc.
The Lung Association
The Michener Institute of Education
Tweed
Tyros Biopharma
Valeant Canada inc.
VitalAire Canada Inc.
Conference Venue and Official Hotel

Sheraton Centre Hotel Downtown

123 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2M9
Telephone: 1.888.627.7175 (Reservations)

Room Rates

Traditional Room: $236.00 (single or double occupancy)

Reservations:

Click on the hotel reservation link:

https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/NL17AA

to be redirected to the hotel's reservation site.

Or call 1 888 627 7175.

If making your reservation by telephone be sure to reference NPAO 2017 Conference to receive the conference room rate.

Please note that all unreserved rooms will be released August 21, 2017. Any booking after this date is subject to availability and may be at a higher rate. Rates quoted are subject to applicable taxes.
#npaoconference2017

Thursday  September 21, 2017

**Pre-Conference Workshops**

*Lunch will be provided for those attending both morning and afternoon sessions*

07:30 - 09:00  
Registration and Coffee and Muffins

10:00 - 10:15  
Nutritional Break

09:00 - 16:00  
All Day Workshop

**Joint Assessment Made Easy**

This is a hands-on interactive musculoskeletal skills workshop which will provide the participants with an efficient and comprehensive approach to the assessment of the (shoulder/back/hip/knee and ankle). The history-taking and assessment skills will be demonstrated to the participants, followed by a hands-on practice session. Pearls and management tips will be provided with time for questions/discussion.

*Participants are reminded to bring shorts + tank top for this workshop. Lunch is included.*

Janice Harvey  
Michelle Acorn

09:00 - 12:00  
Half Day Morning Workshops

**Suturing/Joint Injections - 2 Part Session**

**Suturing Workshop (Part 1)**

Participants at this workshop will gain knowledge in:

- Understanding the principles of wound management for a simple laceration
- Demonstrating wound closure with tissue adhesives, staples and sutures.
- Demonstrating proper technique in performing punch biopsies.

Joanne Opsteen  
Kelly Van Camp

**Joint Injections Made Easy (Part 2)**

In this session the participant will learn how to inject common joints and bursa:

Knees, Shoulder (rotator cuff tendonitis). The participant will also learn about indications for joint injections and what medications to use.

Natasha Gakhal

**Provider Education Program COPD vs Asthma**

With the recently established 2012 Asthma Guideline Updates as well as the COPD 2008 Update, participants will be able to identify, differentially diagnose, manage and treat both COPD and asthma. This program will provide health care providers with the necessary resources and fundamental tools to achieve this in their primary care workplace in accordance with evidence-based clinical practice guidelines.

*Learning Objectives:*

By the end of this presentation, the participant will be able to:

- Identify symptoms of COPD & Asthma.
- Differentiate COPD from Asthma by applying the Diagnostic Flow Diagrams for obstruction and restriction.
- Provide management according to correct diagnosis.
- Correctly complete two case studies by applying the Canadian Asthma Consensus Guidelines (CACG) and the CTS COPD Guidelines.

*Sponsored by The Lung Association*

Alan Bell

**Lower Extremity Wounds: What the Nurse Practitioner Needs to Know**

This half-day course is designed to provide the nurse practitioner with an awareness and appreciation for the key concepts from the literature as they relate to leg and foot lesions related to venous and arterial disease etiologies. The course will focus on a review of the pathophysiology of lower extremity wounds, clinical features, differential diagnosis, diagnostic reasoning, key diagnostic tests including an ankle brachial index practical lab. This course will include
slide presentations, demonstration, open discussion and hands on practical sessions.

Course Objectives
At the end of this course the nurse practitioner will be able to:

1. Review the effects of leg and foot wounds related to venous, arterial and diabetic disease etiologies.
2. Present a framework for the assessment, treatment and management of lower extremity wounds.
3. To describe the potential complications of lower extremity wounds, with focus on impaired venous and/or arterial system, and infection.
4. Differentiate the different types of compression garment systems to appreciate their significance in the treatment of venous leg ulcers.
5. Translate new knowledge through hands on practical sessions and case studies.

Laura Teague

Adult Based NPs - 3 Part Session
*NOTE: This session starts at 8:30 am

ABCs of the CBC: Understanding Blood Counts (Part 1)

Learning Objectives:
• Understand the key components of the CBC
• Knowing helpful tests that are underutilized in primary care
• Further tests that assist in clinical reasoning

Anemia is a common finding in primary care. The first tool used in evaluating overall health in primary care is Complete Blood Count(CBC). This session will explore is some depth the key components of the CBC and the role of this test in evaluating overall health, but most importantly anemias. We will also be looking at additional tests that can easily be utilized in primary care to aid in the diagnosis and management of anemias which are sometimes underutilized. Furthermore, as we continue to receive refugees in Ontario - it is important that patients from Middle Eastern countries such as Syria who present with anemias be screened for Hemoglobin disorders such as Sickle Cell and Thalassemia. In these patients, the use of iron supplementation which is a common practice for managing anemias can lead to significant morbidity.

Kate Uchendu

Anemia in the Elderly (Part 2)
Objectives:
• Understand the Prevalence and Common Causes of Anemia in the Elderly
• Develop a Basic Approach to the Anemia Work-Up in the Older Person
• Appreciate the Appropriate Treatment Options Available for Managing Anemia and When Best to Involve a Specialist

This session will describe the physiologic changes in hemoglobin as people age, an approach to working up common causes of anemia in the patients and provide some treatment approaches for the general health practitioner.

Anca Prica

Transfusion Medicine 101 (Part 3)
Objectives:
• To introduce blood components including indications and administration
• To introduce a concept of special requirements for blood components
• To discuss risks of transfusions
• To describe an approach to common transfusion reactions

This talk will describe how to appropriately use blood components (red blood cells, platelets, plasma and cryoprecipitate) and when components may need to be specially selected or modified for your patients. This will be followed by a brief discussion of transfusion risks and how some of these may be reduced/mitigated. The talk will conclude with description of common transfusion reactions and how to manage them.

Dr. Katarina Pavenski

Pediatric NPs- 2 part session

Neonatal Jaundice (Part 1)

At this session, participants will learn to;
• Understand the clinical significance of hyperbilirubinemia
• Describe the risk factors, clinical manifestations and laboratory tests used in the evaluation of neonatal jaundice
The ABC’s of Anxiety and Depression in Adolescents. (Part 2)

Anxiety and depression are among the most prevalent psychiatric conditions in adolescents today, yet approximately 60-80% of youth do not receive appropriate care. Nurse Practitioners can play a pivotal role in providing timely and comprehensive psychiatric care to adolescents with depression and/or anxiety. This concurrent session will provide an overview of the diagnosis and treatment of anxiety and depression in adolescents. Topics covered will include: clinical presentation, effective screening instruments, evidence based treatments (both medication and therapy) and maintenance.

Carole Gionet
Bridget Doan-Perera

10:30 am – 10:45 am
Nutritional Break

12:00 – 12:45 am
Lunch Break

12:45 – 16:00
Half Day Afternoon Workshops

Syncope

This workshop will focus on:
- The practical approach to syncope
- ECG in syncope

Vu Kiet-Tran

Adult Based NPs (3 Part Session)

Fifty Shades of Grey: But What does it mean on an x-ray (Part 1)
The intention of this workshop is to enable practicing clinicians to successfully interpret chest x-rays. This skills workshop will include a step-by-step methodology of the assessment of a routine chest x-ray with an understanding of normal and abnormal findings, common patterns of disease, specific radiographic changes and patterns of injury that may be encountered in the clinical setting.

At the conclusion of the workshop, participating clinicians will be able to:
1. Competently perform a systematic review of a plain chest x-ray
2. Describe abnormalities seen on an x-ray film using appropriate descriptives of pathology.
3. Identify features in keeping with Emphysema and Interstitial Lung diseases
4. Recognize various pathologic abnormalities as can be seen on a chest x-ray such as pneumothoraces, pleural effusions, pneumonia, pulmonary nodules and others.

Susan Chernenko

Plain Film Imaging of the Abdomen for Acute and Chronic Abdominal Symptoms- Interactive Session (Part 2)

Objectives of the plain film imaging of the abdomen workshop:
- Discuss current limited role of abdominal plain films in diagnosing disease.
- How to interpret abdominal plain films in patient with an acute abdomen to ensure prompt referral for management films in diagnosing disease.
- Provide an interactive session with cases
- Emphasise your role
  - In providing adequate clinical information for proper diagnosis
  - Requesting the right imaging studies for your patient
  - Provide feedback to the reporting radiologists of the outcome of their imaging report (diagnosis)

Nasir Jaffer

Musculoskeletal X-Ray Interpretation for Fractures (Part 3)

This workshop will review many of the common orthopedic injuries involving upper and lower extremities, including common findings seen on x-ray.
Objectives:

• Identify common extremity mechanisms of injury
• Key assessment principles of fractures
  • Identify & describe relevant components regarding x-ray interpretation
• Fracture management & +/- consultation

Mary Dimeo
Michael Postic

**Pediatric NPs**

**The ins and outs of foreign bodies in children: A practical approach**

Foreign bodies are a common problem in the paediatric population and can be challenging to manage particularly in younger children. While many are not harmful and can be managed in the office or urgent care setting, it is critical to identify emergent causes that require prompt referral. In this workshop participants will be able to develop an approach to the identification and management of foreign bodies including those affecting skin, nose, ears, eyes and aerodigestive tract. Participants will have an opportunity to practice a variety of techniques for foreign body removal.

*Learning Objectives*

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

• Discuss challenges and solutions to management of foreign bodies in children
• Identify foreign bodies that require prompt referral to the emergency department
• Develop an approach to the identification and management of foreign bodies including those affecting skin, nose, ears, eyes and aerodigestive tract
• Practice effective techniques for removal of foreign bodies

Suzan Schneeweiss

**Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA): an introduction into the basics**

In this workshop we will review the latest evidence on the use of CGA on patient’s outcomes and the Nurse Practitioners’ role in the CGA. We will do an introduction on how to do a CGA and review the tools to facilitate the process. Taking a case-based approach, we will discuss using the findings of the CGA in delivering the care to the older adults

Objectives:

• Review the current evidence with regards to the use of Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA) and the role Nurse Practitioners (NP) can play in the process of conducting CGA
• Review the domains of Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment
• Identify how to use the findings of a CGA in delivering care to frail older adults

Martine Puts
Shirin Vellani

**Three clinical applications of botulinum toxin**

*Learning Outcomes:*

• To understand botulinum toxin and it’s mechanism of action.
• To use botulinum toxin as a modality to treat chronic migraine, hyperhydrosis and bruxism

Julia Peart
17:00 – 19:00  SHIRE Dinner Symposium

Exploring the Connection between Mood and Attention

Learning Objectives:
• Review the prevalence of ADHD and MDD
• Examine the spectrum of clinical presentations of ADHD
• Consider the impact of ADHD on treatment choices for MDD

Tom Janzen

17:00 – 19:00  MERCK Dinner Symposium

Essential Role of Nurse Practitioner in Adult Immunization

Objectives:
• Maintaining and improving adult immunization rates
• Incorporating new and mandated vaccines into your practice

Albert Schumacher

17:00 – 19:00  CannTrust Inc. Dinner Symposium

Medical cannabis as a non-opioid pharmacotherapy for management of chronic pain.

This session is intended to offer evidence based data on potential of utilizing medical cannabis as a non-opioid therapy for chronic pain. Participants are expected to learn about the basic principle of medical cannabis and its application in chronic pain based on the latest guidelines. Participants will also learn about Canadian regulations and how to provide legal access to their patients.

Topics to be Discussed:
• Cannabis history
• Statistical information
• Scientific evidence
• Mode of action
• Potential indications
• Contraindications and precautions
• Drug interactions
• Opioid guideline, CFPC guidance document and cannabis role in chronic pain
• How to legally access medical cannabis Dosage and titration protocol Case scenarios Q&A

Kevin Rod

17:00 – 19:00  GSK Dinner Symposium

GSK Asthma Portfolio Information Session

GSK is pleased to offer a session delivered by GSK Medical on BREO ELLIPTA and ARNUITY ELLIPTA, two asthma medications available in Canada. The session will cover key scientific data that support the appropriate use of these medications, and will also provide an opportunity to ask questions to GSK Medical.

Topics to be Discussed:
• Efficacy and safety profiles of BREO ELLIPTA and ARNUITY ELLIPTA for asthma as evaluated in international clinical studies
• The ELLIPTA Inhaler

Adrian Gunaratne
Friday, September 22, 2017

07:15 – 08:15
Registration and Continental Breakfast

*Aphria & Natural Health Services*

Breakfast Symposium

**Medical Cannabis 101**
Presentation will cover basics of Cannabis 101, including Endocannabinoid system, CB1 & CB2 Receptors, Phytocannabinoids, drug interactions and the basic prescribing principles.

Mark Hamish Kimmins

**Sponsored Breakfast**

*Purdue* Breakfast Symposium

**Evolution of Opioids and Responsible Prescribing**
Description to follow.

Howard Burke

08:30 – 08:45
Welcome and Opening Remarks

Greeting from *Purdue*

Greeting from *Johnson Insurance*

08:45 – 10:00
Keynote Panel – Things That Keep the Prescriber Awake at Night: Mitigating Risk

Mona Sawhny

Mae Katt

Donna May

Suzanne Singh

10:00 – 10:45
Nutritional Break/Exhibit Hall/View Poster Presentations

10:45 – 11:45

**Bullying and Horizontal Violence in the Workplace: The Reality of the Healthcare Profession**

Theresa Boyle (TBC)
Claire Mallett

11:45 – 12:45

**Networking Lunch/Exhibit Hall/View Poster Presentations**

13:00 – 13:30

**Concurrent Session A – Abstract Presentations**

A-1  **Choosing Wisely Canada - Pearls for Nurse Practitioners**

Choosing Wisely Canada is a campaign to help clinicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests and treatments and make smart and effective choices to ensure high-quality care. Nurse Practitioners have a unique and important role in implementing CW initiatives in their practice. This takes time and intention! We have both for most visits and as such we can champion this evidence based practice changes in our settings - primary care or acute care.

Jennifer McDonald

**Choosing Wisely: A Collaboration for Clinical Excellence**

The Canadian Association of Advanced Practice Nurses has partnered with Choosing Wisely Canada to develop an evidence based list of clinical tests and procedures that could be questioned based on current evidence. The changes could lead to fewer risks and complications for our patients, excellent care and cost savings across the system.

Jennifer Fournier

A-2  **Primary Care of Refugee Women in Pregnancy: Facilitating Maternal Newborn Health**

At the end of the session the participants will under-
A-3 Panel Discussion Comparing 3 Models of Nurse Practitioner: Most Responsible Provider in Ontario hospitals

This talk will have representatives from 3 Ontario hospitals that have successfully implemented NP-MRPs. Each panelist will describe their organization’s model of care by comparing and contrasting how care is delivered, successes and challenges. Panelists will also explore future opportunities to expand NP-MRP roles in hospitals.

Vanessa Helleur
Michelle Acorn
Sharon Mulsant

A-4 Strengthening Perinatal Bereavement Care in Ontario: Results of a Provincial Needs Assessment

By the end of this session, Nurse Practitioners will:
1. Gain greater knowledge about the unique care needs of families experiencing pregnancy loss or the loss of an infant.
2. Be able to describe the process of implementing a provincial needs assessment and the results of this assessment.
3. Recognize adaptable, innovative strategies for implementing family-centred supports for bereaved families into their practice.

Jo Watson
Michelle Lafontaine

Eenie, Meeny, Miney, Mo... Birth Control and Menstrual Flow

There are many oral contraceptive options. Randomly selecting one is not always effective and can be frustrating for patients. NPs are well placed to apply evidence to individual patients. Discussion will include: review of estrogen and progesterone; common presentations requiring treatment with contraceptives; and an NP approach to therapeutic management.

Erin Lamphier

A-5 Operationalizing the nurse practitioner (NP) : most responsible provider (MRP) in Ontario public hospitals

To our knowledge, the Montfort Hospital is one of only 3 hospitals in the province that have successfully operationalized NP-MRPs. This is an innovative model for care delivery that represents a shift in how NPs are viewed by organizations, health care professionals and themselves. The objective of this presentation is to disseminate the process used for operationalizing a NP in the role of MRP in an Ontario public hospital through a case study. This presentation will also provide an opportunity for NPs to explore the perspectives of administrators and consider how this model could be replicated in their own hospital.

Janie Desroches

Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator Deactivation at the End-of-Life in Advanced Heart Failure: Enhancing NP Practice

This presentation provides knowledge and clinical pearls for NPs practicing in any settings with HF patients who have an ICD. Many patients experience distressing ICD shocks at end-of-life that may not be consistent with their wishes and preferences. Facilitating goals of care discussion is an important aspect of NP practice.

Karen Lock
Karen Jing-Wei Yu
Wendy Cheung
A-6  Learning from research within a First Nations Community: A Nurse Practitioner’s Experience

To further the potential for Nurse Practitioner’s to engage in research within First Nation communities. To develop innovative research methodologies that are consistent with First Nation’s ways of being and knowing. To foster active participation conducive to improved health outcomes through a Nurse Practitioner research initiative.

Mary Smith

Cultural Humility and Transgender Clients: A Survey Examining Critical Reflection and Attitudes of NPs

This presentation will review the preliminary results of a study to develop an understanding of Ontario Nurse Practitioners' (NPs) care of transgender clients. A cross-sectional, descriptive survey to Ontario NPs explored the relationship between critical self-reflection, a key attribute of cultural humility, with attitudes and knowledge of transgender clients.

Jennifer Carroll

A-7  Virtual Gaming Simulation: Prescribing Controlled Substances

Participate in a virtual gaming simulation related the prescribing of a controlled substance. Discuss innovative ways to apply learned concepts to a clinical scenario

Margaret Verkuyl

Advances in Mental Health: Telepsychiatry Care

This presentation depicts how the use of telemedicine collaborative care sessions have increased access to psychiatric management in a rural FHT. This includes timely patient management, greater patient satisfaction, increased continuity of care and improved provider confidence/capacity.

Jodi Colwill

13:45 – 14:45  Session B - Communities of Practice

Please select a “Communities of Practice” session of interest to you.

Each “Communities of Practice” session will be led by a member of the NPAO Board of Directors and will provide an opportunity for discussion of relevant issues as well as networking with colleagues with similar interests.

B-1  Primary Health Care
B-2  Hospital-Based NPs
B-3  Geriatric/Long-Term Care
B-4  Students
B-5  Palliative Care/Pain Management
B-6  Pediatric Care

14:45 – 15:15am  Networking Break/Exhibit Hall/View Poster Presentations

15:15 – 16:15  Concurrent Session C – General Sessions

C-1  So.....You Want to be an Independently Employed Nurse Practitioner?

Many Nurse Practitioners are interested in becoming independently employed through various business models. The following topics will be presented: - Explore ‘the Why’ reasons to become an Independent Practitioner - explore the personality types that are best suited to become Independently employed - developing a business plan - marketing your service and skills - Quality Assurance and compliance with CNO, HQO, LHIN and MOH regulations - Negotiating a contract - Specialist services required - CPA, Legal, CNPS Plus

Donna Kearney
Urine Drug Testing: An overview for Nurse Practitioners

Urine drug testing is recommended when initiating and monitoring patients who are prescribed controlled drugs and substances, including opioids. This presentation will provide an overview of topic of urine drug screening and discuss what Nurse Practitioners should do with the results. The objectives of this presentation are to review, in the context of prescribing opioids:
1. When to use urine drug testing
2. How to conduct urine drug testing
3. How to interpret UDT results and how to manage unexpected results

Mona Sawhney

Falls Prevention in the community, nursing home, and hospital

Objectives:
1. understand the frequency, risk factors, and sequelae of falls
2. Demonstrate awareness of the effectiveness of assessments and interventions in preventing falls in the elderly in 3 distinct settings (home, hospital, nursing home)

Chris Brymer

Medical Assistance in Dying in Ontario: Are you Ready?

The objectives are:
1. Define the terminology
2. Review the recent historical context and legal status of MAID in Canada
3. Demonstrate a new provincial clinical tool to assist with handling requests for MAID
4. Discuss how to explore suffering and the wish to hasten death
5. Address some of the challenges that physicians face when assessing eligibility for MAID
6. Outline the principles for suggested process for handling requests for MAID

Sandy Buchman
Meredith Muscat

Atrial Fibrillation in Primary Health Care: Optimizing Use of DOACs

Atrial Fibrillation is the most common arrhythmia seen in clinical practice and is an independent risk factor for stroke. These strokes can be effectively prevented with oral anticoagulant therapy [Vitamin K antagonists (VKA) or direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs)]. DOAC therapy is associated with similar efficacy of stroke prevention yet a reduced risk of intracranial hemorrhage when compared to traditional VKA therapy in the non-valvular atrial fibrillation (NVAF) population. This session will attempt to optimize anticoagulant therapy in the NVAF population.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:
1. Identify prevalence and risks associated with NVAF in Canada
2. Identify role of DOACs in NVAF stroke prevention
3. Use of CASES Framework for optimal DOAC selection

Laurie Sardo

Introducing the CORE Neck Tool for Primary Care Providers

Mechanical Neck Pain is a common musculoskeletal condition that affects 50-60% of adults and can become persistent leading to decreased quality of life and work disability. The CORE Neck tool provides a clinical decision making approach to neck pain and it’s management designed for primary care providers.

Participants will be able to:
1. Identify red flags associated with neck pain that require investigation and referral
2. Interpret physical examination findings that support or refute the diagnosis of neck dominant or arm dominant mechanical pain
3. Manage patient with neck symptoms using non-pharmacological and pharmacological interventions.

Julia Alleyne
C-7 Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) Detection and Treatment - Part I

It is estimated that one third of the world’s population is infected with tuberculosis. LTBI is a hidden global epidemic. Identification and treatment of LTBI is a key global eradication strategy. About 10% of those infected with TB will progress to active disease and potentially spread the infection to others. The tuberculin skin test and the Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) are two tests to identify LTBI. The TB vaccine BCG can be a confounding factor for the TST. Once the infection has been identified it is of paramount importance to rule out active TB. This presentation will review who is more likely to be infected with TB and the management of LTBI once found.

Objectives:
1. To learn how to use an online tool to identify the likelihood that your patient’s TST or IGRA test is a true positive test and the likelihood of progression to TB disease.
2. To learn who should be treated for TB infection.
3. What are the standard treatments and required monitoring for LTBI.
4. Learn who should be referred to a TB specialist.

Jane McNamee

Hepatitis C: It is in your practice! Part 2

Description: This session will give a brief overview of Hepatitis C, the burden of disease, who to screen, how to screen and briefly discuss new treatment modalities

Objectives:
• To identify patients who should be screened for Hepatitis C;
• To increase knowledge as to the rationale for screening for Hepatitis C and the impact on the health care system;
• to increase knowledge about the treatments available further supporting the need for screening and early diagnosis of the disease.

Sponsored by Gilead

Stephanie Nickerson
09:00 – 09:30

Health Quality Ontario Quality Standards: Guiding Evidence Based, High Quality Care

This presentation will provide an introduction to the new quality standards program at Health Quality Ontario. Developed in collaboration with patients, physicians, nurses, other clinicians, caregivers, and organizations across the province, quality standards are intended to achieve four main aims. They will help:

• Patients, residents, families and caregivers know what to discuss about their care with their health care professionals;
• Health care professionals offer the highest quality care based on the best available evidence;
• Health care organizations and professionals measure, reflect on their practice and improve the quality of their care;
• Health system planners create the environment for health care professionals and organizations to deliver quality care.

Objectives:
• To introduce the audience to the process for developing quality standards, including:
  • The clinical guide for health care professionals clearly outlining, via concise easy-to-understand statements, what quality care looks like for that condition based on the evidence;
  • the patient guide for patients, families and caregivers so they know what to discuss about their care with their health care professionals;
• Quality indicators for health care professionals and organizations to help them with their improvement efforts;
• To review the process being developed to support implementation and adoption of quality standards, including an overview of the elements of the topic specific quality standard implementation plans with recommendations about system-wide and regional requirements to help health care professionals and organizations meet the standards.

Terri Irwin
Arielle Baltman-Cordle

Dermatology Update: Acne & Atopic Dermatitis

Learning objectives:
• Discuss common presentations of acne
• Review different acne treatment options in mild to moderate acne patients
• Review the role of antibiotics in the management of acne
• Review of diagnosis and management of atopic dermatitis
• Atopic Dermatitis case

TBA
10:30 – 11:00
Nutritional Break/Exhibit Hall/View Presentations

11:00 – 11:30
College of Nurses of Ontario Update
Rola Moghabghab
Advanced Practice Consultant
Erin Tilley
Strategy Consultant

11:30 – 12:00
Nurse Practitioners: How to Mitigate Risk in Your Practice
Joanna Noble

12:00 – 13:00
Lunch Break/Exhibit Hall/View Presentations

13:15 – 14:15 Concurrent Session D

D-1 Sexually Transmitted Infections: Trends, Technologies, Testing, and Treatment. A Primer for Clinical Practice in Primary Care

Over the past five years, the rates of most bacterial sexually transmitted infections (STIs) have increased in Ontario and across Canada. Concurrently, antibiotic resistance and novel testing, treatment, and prevention initiatives have reshaped the clinical management of these infections. These frontline changes have included, among other items, the advent of a nonovalent HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine, gonorrhea resistance to third generation oral cephalosporins, a surge of invasive chlamydia trachomatis (lymphogranuloma venereum), increased awareness of the role of extragenital chlamydia and gonorrhea infections in ongoing transmission, and the use of HIV medications for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) among HIV-negative persons.

Accordingly, in this presentation, Dr. O’Byrne RN-EC will discuss the following items: HPV diagnosis, treatment, and vaccination strategies; gonorrhea and chlamydia epidemiology, testing, treatment (including antimicrobial resistance considerations), and symptom and partner management post-treatment; and syphilis trends, diagnosis, and treatment. Lastly, PrEP—as a new and highly efficacious HIV prevention strategy—will be briefly introduced.

This session will be a presentation of abstracts submitted by your colleagues. Topics to be confirmed.

Patrick O’Byrne

13:15 – 14:15 Concurrent Session D

D-2 Good Life with osteoArthritis in Denmark (GLA:D®)

Have you heard about GLA:D®?
Good Life with osteoArthritis in Denmark (GLA:D®) is an 8-week education and exercise program for people with symptoms or diagnosed with hip or knee osteoarthritis (OA). Research from nearly 10,000 participants in Denmark has shown a reduction in pain symptoms by 32%, decreased us of pain killers, fewer days on sick leave and increased physical activity levels. The program educates patients on OA, how to self-manage their symptoms, current treatment options, and the importance of exercise and how to exercise safely with their symptoms. The individually tailored neuromuscular exercises focus on increasing muscle strength around the joint to improve stability. The program teaches functional exercises
that can be applied to everyday movements and sustained long term.

Rhona McGlasson
Mariel Ang

D-3  Approach to Psychotherapy as Nurse Practitioners

25%-35% of patient visits to primary care may involve predominantly psychological issues. Due to their longitudinal relationship with their patients, nurse practitioners have lots of opportunities to do meaningful psychotherapy with their patients.

In this workshop, we present two different types of psychotherapy, those being “supportive” therapy and “change” therapy. We discuss how to choose the appropriate therapy for the appropriate person, at the appropriate time. We discuss “supportive” therapy and how to best apply this in the primary care setting. We then will focus in some detail on “change” therapy, particularly Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT). We discuss techniques of CBT, including setting up cognitive logs, and how to challenge distorted thinking patterns. We go on to discuss setting up behavioural homework as a therapeutic modality to complement the cognitive work

Objectives:
1. Define the different models of supportive and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.
2. Describe when to use specific forms of psychotherapy.
3. Describe the principles of doing Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.

Jon Davine

D-4  We Are All In This Together: A Primer for Nurse Practitioners on Antimicrobial Stewardship

This sessions aims to provide an overview on the current state of antimicrobial resistance and why antimicrobial stewardship is urgently needed in our health system, including the acute care setting, long term care facilities and community practice. The focus of the talk will be on the role of the nurse practitioners in tackling antimicrobial resistance is these diverse settings. Resources and useful tools will also be reviewed.

Learning objectives:
• To provide an overview of antimicrobial stewardship, what it means and why it is needed
• To describe the role of nurse practitioners in antimicrobial stewardship initiatives
• To introduce resources and tools to help nurse practitioners incorporate antimicrobial stewardship interventions in their practices

Miranda So

D-5  The Spectrum of Care Along the Continuum of Kidney Disease

This presentation is designed to provide the nurse practitioner in both primary care and acute care settings with an awareness of and appreciation for the requisite comprehensive care of the patient along the continuum of kidney disease as it relates to the diagnostic approach, and the therapeutic management and intervention(s) in chronic kidney disease. The presentation will explore the different renal replacement modality options, immediate considerations of care in acute kidney injury and end-stage kidney disease, and vascular access considerations.

Objectives:
1. Review the applied anatomy and (patho) physiology in kidney disease
2. Discuss the stages of chronic kidney disease (CKD) and the implications for diagnostic and therapeutic interventions in both primary and acute care settings
3. Outline the different renal replacement modalities
4. Recognize the importance of collaboration between nephrology and multidisciplinary teams in both primary care and acute care settings

Jovina Bachynski

D-6  10 Most commonly used natural health products- can you educate your patients about them?

A common concern I have heard from nurse practitioners and family doctors is the lack of education they have received around natural health products (NHPs) and their role in patient’s health care. In this lecture, we will review published evidence and clini-
Closing Keynote

Mixing and Matching: Layering Psychiatric Medications in Primary Care

Often, psychopharmacologic of treatment psychiatric conditions involves combining medications in an appropriate manner. In this workshop, we will discuss a number of scenarios where this occurs. This will include augmenting a partial response to antidepressants, dealing with treatment resistant depressions, treating acute manic conditions, dealing with insomnia, and dealing with anxiety disorders, schizoaffective disorder, among others. This kind of “layering” can be most appropriate in primary care.

Objectives:

- Combine medications to optimize antidepressant treatment response.
- Combine medications to optimize sleeping.
- Describe examples of combining psychiatric medications that may be pertinent to the patient’s situation.

Jon Davine

---

D-7 Updates on Stroke Prevention in patients with Atrial Fibrillation – new recommendations and management choices

Participants of this session will learn;

- An overview of the new guidelines on stroke prevention in patients with Atrial Fibrillation
- To familiarize with the new evidence for usage of DOACs in AFIB management
- How to choose a proper management course for different types of patients in patients with AFIB (case-based approach).

Sponsored by Pfizer

TBA

---

14:15 – 15:15 Closing Keynote

Mixing and Matching: Layering Psychiatric Medications in Primary Care

Often, psychopharmacologic of treatment psychiatric conditions involves combining medications in an appropriate manner. In this workshop, we will discuss a number of scenarios where this occurs. This will include augmenting a partial response to antidepressants, dealing with treatment resistant depressions, treating acute manic conditions, dealing with insomnia, and dealing with anxiety disorders, schizoaffective disorder, among others. This kind of “layering” can be most appropriate in primary care.

Objectives:

- Combine medications to optimize antidepressant treatment response.
- Combine medications to optimize sleeping.
- Describe examples of combining psychiatric medications that may be pertinent to the patient’s situation.

Jon Davine

---

15:15 Conference Adjourns

---

Be sure to use the Twitter Hashtag when Tweeting about the 2017 NPAO Conference

#NpaoConference2017
Take Part in the 2017 NPAO Annual Conference

Registration for the NPAO Annual Conference, Workshops, Concurrent Sessions and Symposia is available through a secure website only

Cancellations / Substitutions

Requests to cancel a registration must be sent in writing to the Vanessa Mooney at npao@intertaskconferences.com and is subject to a $75 administrative fee if received by Wednesday, August 23, 2017. Refunds will not be issued after August 23, 2017, or for conference “no-shows”.

Substitutions can be made without penalty until Friday, September 8, 2017 by returning to your online registration profile (Ref # is required). As of September 9, 2017, requests for substitutions must be sent in writing to Vanessa Mooney at npao@intertaskconferences.com and will be subject to a $50 administration fee.

Registration

Delegate Registration Includes

- Admission to sessions and Exhibit Hall on day(s) of registration
- Access to industry-sponsored symposia on day(s) of registration
- Breakfast, lunch and refreshment breaks on Friday and Saturday
- Official delegate bag
- Printed conference program

Payment

Registration fees must be paid by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) in full at time of registration. InternetSecure, a third party payment gateway will send a separate email detailing your transaction. All fees are subject to 13% HST.

Confirmation

Upon completion of the online registration process, you will receive an automatic email confirmation of your registration. The email will contain your personal reference number (Ref#) which will allow you access to your registration profile to update contact information, to add a workshop selection or make a substitution. To change or cancel a workshop or symposium selection, contact npao@intertaskconferences.com

NP Student – Proof of Status

All NP students are eligible for the student rate. Proof of status must be provided within 72 hours of submitting your registration, otherwise your registration is considered incomplete. Acceptable proof of status:

- A recent transcript demonstrating that you are currently enrolled in an NP Program; or
- A letter signed by an instructor, tutor, clinical preceptor, professor, faculty liaison or program coordinator.

Send your documents by email to: npao@intertaskconferences.com

Conference Workshops, Concurrent Sessions and Symposia

Registration for each workshop, concurrent sessions and symposium is required and is on a first come, first served basis. Only those registered will be permitted entrance.

When indicating which breakfast/dinner symposium you will attend, please do so in consideration of our generous symposia sponsors who rely on registration estimates to order meals. You may cancel attendance at a symposium until Friday, September 15, 2017 without penalty.
2017 Fees**

**Registration**

Registration Fee for Full Conference (September 21 – 23, 2017)*

Early Bird – Two-Day Registration (until August 4, 2017)

- NPAO Member: $385.00
- Non-Member: $500.00
- NP Student: $240.00

Early Bird – One-Day Registration (until August 4, 2017)

- NPAO Member: $250.00
- Non-Member: $320.00
- NP Student: $130.00

Registration – Two-Day Regular Rate (effective August 5, 2017)*

- NPAO Member: $450.00
- Non-Member: $580.00
- NP Student: $240.00

Registration – One-Day Regular Rate (effective August 5, 2017)

- NPAO Member: $293.00
- Non-Member: $370.00
- NP Student: $130.00

*Fees do not include Pre-Conference Workshops on Thursday, September 21, 2017 or Awards Dinner on Friday, September 22, 2017

** All fees are subject to HST

**Pre-Conference Workshops**

Thursday, September 21

**All Day Workshop**

Joint Assessment Made Easy (All Day Session)
09:00 – 16:00
NPAO members .......................... $180
Non Members ............................. $225

Maximum of 24 participants.
(Please remember to wear shorts + tank top)

**Morning Workshops**

Suturing Skills/Joint Injections
09:00 – 12:00
NPAO members ......................... $95
Non Members ........................... $117

Maximum of 25 participants

COPD vs Asthma
09:00 – 12:00
NPAO members .......................... $75
Non Members ........................... $94

Lower Extremity Wounds: What the Nurse Practitioner Needs to Know
09:00 – 12:00
NPAO members .......................... $95
Non Members ........................... $117

Maximum of 25 participants

Adult NP Session - 3 Part Session
(note this session starts at 8:30am)
09:00 – 12:00
NPAO members .......................... $95
Non Members ........................... $117

Pediatric Session - 2 Part Session
09:00 – 12:00
NPAO members .......................... $95
Non Members ........................... $117

**NPAO Awards Banquet Dinner**

Friday, September 22

Conference Attendee Fee......................... $55
Guest or non-Conference attendee Fee......... $80

Register Online at npao.org
2017 Fees**

Afternoon Workshops

Syncpe
12:45 – 16:00
NPAO members ...............................$90
Non Members .................................$112

Adult NP Session - 3 Part Session
12:45 – 16:00
NPAO members ...............................$95
Non Members .................................$117

Pediatric Session
12:45 – 16:00
NPAO members ...............................$90
Non Members .................................$112

Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment
12:45 – 16:00
NPAO members ...............................$90
Non Members .................................$112

Three Clinical Applications of Botulinum Toxin
12:45 – 16:00
NPAO members ...............................$75
Non Members .................................$94

Sponsorship & Exhibitor Information

For all sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities and registration information please contact Vanessa Mooney at vmooney@npao.org or 647.339.6028
**Speaker Biographies**

**Dr. Michelle Acorn**, DNP, NP PHC/Adult, MN/ACNP, ENC(C), GNC(C) CAP, CGP (C) holds dual Extended Class specialty certifications as a Primary Health Care and Adult Nurse Practitioner and possess Canadian Nursing Certifications in both Emergency and Gerontology and is a certified Geriatric and Anticoagulation prescriber. Michelle is the Lead NP at Lakeridge Health Hospital.

She is also the Primary Health Care Global Health NP Coordinator & Lecturer at the University of Toronto and is a Past President of the Nurse Practitioner Association of Ontario.

Michelle has been awarded the Jerry Gerow NP Leadership Award, Lakeridge Awards of Excellence, and Fleming Alumni of Distinction and was a Queen’s Silver Jubilee Nominee & Premier’s Outstanding Graduate Award Nominee.

Michelle Co-chairs the Central East LHIN Health Professions Advisory Council
She also co-chairs the RNAO/NPAO NP Hospital Toolkit/Expert Group & RNAO Best Practice Guidelines for Dementia, Delirium and Depression.

Michelle completed her Doctorate of Nurse Practitioner/Nursing Practice at D’Youville, Buffalo in 2014 with a focus on NPs as the Most Responsible Provider in Ontario Hospitals and has published Internationally. Michelle successfully innovated multiple NP roles starting in the Emergency, Hospitalist, SAFE/ GAIN Clinics and is now practicing at the Whitby NP led hospital model of care focusing on seniors, complex continuing care and rehabilitation.

**Dr. Ahooja** is an invasive cardiologist with multiple board certifications including internal medicine, cardiology, echocardiography, nuclear cardiology and cardiac CT. Her practice involves a special focus in advanced cardiac imaging.

Her main practices are located in Scarborough and Ajax as part of the heart health institute. She has been in practice 10 years with the first few years of practice in Michigan and subsequent eight years here in the GTA.

**Dr. Julia Alleyne** is a Family Physician practising Sport and Exercise Medicine at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, University Health Network. In addition, she trained as a physiotherapist and maintained an active license for 30 years. She is appointed at the University of Toronto, Department of Family and Community Medicine as an associate clinical professor.

In 2009, she completed her Masters with a focus in Health Professions Education. Since that time, she has been active as an educational curriculum consultant including the clinical lead for Ontario’s Low Back Pain Strategy and program designer for the MSK Initiative in British Columbia. In 2013, she was appointed as the first Family Physician to be chair of Bone and Joint Canada. She was the clinical lead on the development of the CORE Low Back and the CORE Neck tool in conjunction with the Centre for Effective Practice.

**Mariel Ang**

**Therese Antoun**, RN, BScN, MScN, director of medicine, rehabilitation, geriatrics, therapeutic services, palliative care and discharge planning at the Montfort Hospital. Her significant strategic achievements include the attainment of Montfort’s national designation as a Best Practice Spotlight Organization. She is currently overseeing the implementation of the nurse practitioner MRP project.

**Arielle Baltman-Cord** supports the strategic implementation of Quality Standards at Health Quality Ontario. She brings to this role a unique blend of policy, strategy, and stakeholder engagement expertise. Most recently,
Jovina Bachynski holds a Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner Field) from the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto. She has been in nephrology nursing since 1996. She currently works in the nephrology program at Halton Healthcare Services in hemodialysis. Previous to this post, Jovina was the nurse practitioner in the inpatient nephrology program at the University Health Network (Toronto General Hospital). She has also served as the vascular access coordinator in the hemodialysis unit at William Osler Health System (Brampton Civic Hospital) from 2007-2013. She is currently the editor-in-chief of the Canadian Association of Nephrology Nurses and Technologists (CANNT) Journal and has an Adjunct Lecturer appointment at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing. Jovina is also a member of the Ontario Renal Network (ORN) Palliative Care Priority Panel and is the project lead for the ORN Symptom Management Project at Halton Healthcare Services.

Dr. Alan Bell is a family physician and clinical researcher in Toronto, Canada. He is Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Toronto and on the active staff of the Humber River Hospital. He is a recipient of the College of Family Physicians of Canada Award of Excellence.

His activities include:
- Primary Panel and Past Chair – Canadian Cardiovascular Society Antiplatelet Guideline Committee.
- Dr. Bell is the only primary care physician to ever chair a CCS guideline committee.
- Primary Panel – Canadian Cardiovascular Society Atrial Fibrillation Guideline Committee
- Thrombosis Canada – Board of Directors
- Hypertension Canada – Board of Directors
- Canadian Stroke Network Professional Development Committee

Dr. Bell’s involvement in continuing medical education includes the development and presentation of many national projects. He has served as faculty and chair of countless committees and advisory boards dedicated to serving the common interests of the medical profession and the public. His research, commentaries and letters have been presented and published internationally.

Dr. Chris Brymer is an associate professor in the dept of medicine, division of geriatric medicine at Western University, London Ontario where he’s worked for the last 24 years, mostly attending on ctu at university hospital, doing geriatric consults at university hospital, and running geriatric clinics at st joes hospital in london. He did med school at University of Toronto, and residency at Stanford. His research interests include appropriate prescribing and falls and delirium prevention in the elderly.

Sandy Buchman is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Toronto and practices palliative medicine providing home based palliative and end of life care with the Temmy Latner Centre for Palliative Care, Sinai Health System in Toronto. He also serves as a palliative care physician through the Palliative Care and Education for the Homeless (PEACH) program out of Inner City Health Associates in Toronto. He practiced comprehensive Family Medicine for many years with special interest in Primary Care Cancer Care, Palliative Care, HIV/AIDS and Global Health - including volunteer experiences in South America and Africa. He currently serves as the Medical Lead for a group working to build a new Residential Hospice (Neshama Hospice) in Toronto. His academic interests include the Integration of Primary Care/ Cancer Care, Primary Care/Palliative Care and the Social Accountability of Medicine. He chairs the Primary Care Committee of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer and the Social Accountability Committee of the College of Family Physicians of Canada. He was President of the College of Family Physicians of Canada in 2011-2012 and the Ontario College of Family Physicians in 2005-2006.

Arielle served as Senior Policy Advisor to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care with responsibility for the drug, chronic disease, and oncology portfolios. Arielle holds a master's degree in political science.
Jennifer Carroll (BSc, Archaeology, 1997, UCalgary; BSc Nursing, 2008, UOttawa/Algonquin) Jen’s background is as a pediatric surgical nurse and an instructor in the nursing programs at Algonquin College. She is currently in the Master of Nursing Science program at Queen’s University; her supervisor is Rosemary Wilson.

Susan Chernenko is a Nurse Practitioner with the Toronto Lung Transplant Program. She has been in clinical practice since 2002 following completion of a Masters degree in Advanced Nursing Practice from the University of Alberta. Susan partners with medical, surgical and interdisciplinary colleagues in the management of patients with end-stage lung disease through their trajectory of illness towards and following lung transplantation. Ms. Chernenko has been appointed to various leadership positions locally, nationally and internationally and has lectured frequently on key issues pertaining to lung transplantation. She currently holds cross appointment as adjunct lecturer with the Lawrence S Bloomberg, Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto.

Wendy Cheung is currently the Clinical Team Manager of the Telemetry Unit, Heart Function Clinic, and Supportive Care Clinic at NYGH. She received her education at the University of Toronto and Central Michigan University. Wendy recently achieved her Canadian Health Executive Certification from the Canadian College of Health Leaders.

Jodi Colwill has a BScN - University of Western Ontario 2005, PHCNP - McMaster in 2009. Has been working to my full scope in the Minto Mapleton Family Health Team in rural Southwestern Ontario. I have been an advocate for OTN as a solution to improving increased quality care to our patients.

Jon Davine, MD, CCFP, FRCP(C) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University, with a cross appointment in the Department of Family Medicine. His outpatient psychiatry practice focuses on liaising with primary care teams in the “shared care” model. For a number of years, he has taught courses in behavioural sciences to family medicine residents and to family doctors in the community. He has lectured nationally and internationally on this topic. He is a past Chair of the Council of Psychiatric Continuing Education (COPCE), which is affiliated with the Canadian Psychiatric Association. He is currently the Ontario representative on the Canadian Psychiatric Association Education Committee. He has also co-authored a book called "Psychiatry in Primary Care, a concise Canadian pocket guide". He was made a fellow of the American Psychiatric Association in 2013. He was made a distinguished fellow of the Canadian Psychiatric Association in 2014.

Janie Desroches is a Clinical Manager at Montfort Hospital in Ottawa. She has experience managing several units including the Frailty Unit. She has a B.Sc.(N) from McGill University, a Masters in Business Administration and a Masters in Health Administration from University of Ottawa.

Bridget Doan-Perera completed the University of Toronto’s Master’s Degree in Nursing and Paediatric Nurse Practitioner Program in 2016. Bridget started her nursing career as a Registered Nurse with the Adolescent Medicine and Psychiatry inpatient programs at the Hospital for Sick Children. She has dedicated her nursing career to Child and Adolescent Mental Health, and has worked/studied with many client populations including those struggling with anxiety, obsessions and compulsions, gender diversity, attention deficit/hyperactivity, personality challenges, depression, psychosis, autism, and eating disorders. Five years, into her career Bridget continues to be inspired daily by her colleagues and clients to contribute to a comprehensive mental health program for children and adolescents in Ontario. She is currently part of the interdisciplinary adolescent medicine team at McMaster Children’s Hospital, dedicating the majority of her time to the Dialectical Behaviour Therapy Day Hospital Program for adolescents with eating disorders. Bridget has received training in trauma informed yoga and restorative yoga which she integrates into her clinical work.
Jennifer Fournier is national Co-Chair of the Nurse Practitioners’ Association of Canada’s Choosing Wisely Campaign. The Nurse Practitioners’ Association of Canada represents nurse practitioners from across the country. In developing the Choosing Wisely list she worked closely with Cathy Scofield-Singh (national Co-Chair) and a dedicated team of volunteers.

Dr Natasha Gakhal is a clinical rheumatologist at Women’s College Hospital and lecturer at the University of Toronto. She graduated from University of Western Ontario medical school, completed internal medicine residency at Queen’s university and rheumatology fellowship at the University of Toronto. She has a masters in quality improvement with a special interest in improving access to care in rheumatology and improving links between primary care and rheumatology.

Carole Gionet possesses a Master’s Degree in Nursing from the University of Toronto and is a Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner with over 15 years experience in a variety of community health settings. She began her career in nursing as a public health nurse on the sexual health team. She has also worked as a PHCNP at various community health centres in Toronto delivering primary health care to diverse populations. In the last 10 years, she has worked primarily with adolescents and young adults at the health centres at Humber College and OCAD University. It was through these latter workplaces, she observed firsthand the challenges that college students with mental illness face due to the inequities and constraints in our health care system. Carole is committed to providing optimal care to adolescents and young adults who are suffering from mental illness and basis her care on the recovery model. She is currently working at Ontario Shores on the adolescent outpatient unit and works collaboratively with psychiatrists, social workers and a psychologist to provide comprehensive care to adolescents suffering from mental illness.

Dr. Adrian Gunaratne obtained his PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University of Western Ontario, where he studied altered signalling pathways in lung cancer progression. Following his PhD, Adrian worked as a fellow at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto trying to identify biomarkers and targeted therapeutics for personalized medicine strategies. His work has been recognized through several publications and notably he is a 2 time recipient of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Fellowship. Adrian joined the Medical Affairs division at GSK in 2015, and overall he is interested in using his various experiences from basic and clinical science to help make a positive impact on patient lives.

Dr. Janice Harvey BSc, MD, CCFP, FRCP (SEM), Dip Sport Med is a Physician Advisor in CPD for the Professional Development and Practice Support Division (PD+PS) of the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC). Dr. Harvey is concurrently an Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Family Medicine, McMaster University, as well as the Assistant Director of the Standardized Patient Program at the Centre for Simulation Based Learning (CSBL) at McMaster University. Dr. Harvey is a practicing clinician at McMaster University in family medicine with a special interest in Sport and Exercise Medicine.

Judy Hawes has been a Nurse Practitioner within the division of Neonatology since 2001. She obtained her Master of Nursing in the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner program from the University of Toronto and her Neonatal Nurse Practitioner graduate diploma from McMaster University. She is a leader in the development and implementation of quality improvement initiatives aimed at reducing morbidities such as central line associated blood stream infections (CLABSI). She also has an interest in providing international newborn care education and has been involved with several SickKids education initiatives in resource limited countries.

Vanessa Helleur, BScN, MN, Adult -NP is based at the Montfort Hospital in Ottawa. She works both as consultant for the in-patient short term rehabilitation program and independently as an MRP on the fragility unit where she assumes full care and responsibility for 10 inpatients.
**Tom Janzen**, M.D., Parkwood Institute Mental Health, London Health Sciences Center, St. Joseph’s Health Care, Chief Medical Information Officer (CMIO), Primary Care with Focus in Mental Health Managed the second microcomputer store in Canada at age 17. Graduated with M.D. from the University of Western Ontario in London in 1987 Active Member of the College of Family Physicians of Canada. Spent 15 years in general family practice with a special interest in mental health. Current: Primary Care with full-time focus in Mental Health, Parkwood Institute Has developed numerous grass root programs for managing mental illness in a primary care setting with specific interests in Depression and Anxiety Disorders, Bipolar Disorders, Adult ADHD and early presentations of psychotic illnesses in primary care settings. Developed and facilitated workshops for physicians interested in advancing their presentation skills. International speaker with over 2000 keynote presentations. Chief Medical Information Officer (CMIO) for the London Health Sciences and St. Joseph’s Health Care since 2003

**Nasir M. Jaffer, MD, FRCPC**
Professor, Faculty of Medicine Dept of Medical Imaging University of Toronto Abdominal and GI Radiologist, Mount Sinai Hospital, University Health Network & Women’s College Hospital Toronto, Ontario

Dr. Nasir Jaffer is a UBC Medical graduate, having completed his Internship at Dalhousie University and Radiology Residency at McGill University. He then pursued a Fellowship in Vascular & Interventional Radiology at Mount Sinai Hospital, University of Toronto, and has been on Faculty since 1980

His clinical work was in Vascular & Interventional Radiology for a number of years and currently his clinical interests are in GI & Abdominal Imaging. He also initiated CT colonography program at UHN and MSH in 1997 and has presented at several local, national and international conferences on CT colonography

His main interest are undergraduate and Postgraduate teaching of radiology at University of Toronto and international teaching at Aga Khan Universities in Pakistan, Kenya and Tanzanian since 1993.

Dr Jaffer has won numerous teaching awards both at Undergraduate and Postgraduate level.

**Mae Katt**

Donna Kearney has been an Independently employed NP for the past five years in the Muskoka region, working under the business name of “Rural Health Solutions”. During that time Donna has been successful in securing funding for the Rural Health Hubs now operating in Muskoka. Donna has also taught in the NP Roles and Responsibilities program through COUPN for several years, and most recently have served on the Board of Directors of NPAO.

**Mark Hamish Kimmins**, MD, FRCSC, FACS, FASCRS Board certified in both Canada and USA. Sub-specialty fellowship trained and experienced colorectal surgeon with demonstrated history of working in the hospital & health care industry including direct patient care, program directorship for surgical training, medical staff leadership, human resource management, and hospital/surgery center board membership. Experienced in cancer research and treatment, basic science research, and scientific publication. Strong skills in public speaking, medical education, strategic planning, business development, and EMR systems. Business experience

**Roseanne Hickey** is a graduate prepared PHC NP Her interests are maternal newborn care and refugee health Prior to completing the NP program, 10 years ago, Roseanne worked in various advances practice roles in the perinatal area She is cross appointed to the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto and lectures in these areas for York and Ryerson University.
including start up and development of successful outpatient surgical center that partnered with a major hospital system.

**Michelle Lafontaine** is the Program Manager for the Pregnancy and Infant Loss Network of Ontario (PAIL). Michelle is a bereaved parent and was instrumental in the passage of Bill 141 that protects the needs of families experiencing perinatal loss. As a result of Bill 141, PAIL is now a Ministry funded program.

**Erin Lamphier** holds a BSc and BScN from the University of Windsor. She began her nursing career on the orthopedic unit, then remained in the emergency room several years before returning for the nurse practitioner and MN programs. Erin is currently a primary care provider at the Amherstberg FHT in Amherstburg.

**Karen Lock** has been an APN in Oncology/Palliative Care since 2004. She is currently the Supportive Care NP at NYGH. She received her education at the University of Toronto and Center for Palliative Care at Harvard Medical School. She is a LEAP (Learning Essential Approaches to Palliative and End-of-Life Care) facilitator.

**Dr. Claire Mallette** is the Director of the School of Nursing at York University. She was formally the Director of Nursing Education, Placement and Development at University Health Network in Toronto. Her portfolio focuses on fostering lifelong learning through leading and developing educational and professional development initiatives and opportunities for students and nursing staff across the learning continuum. Her career is diverse with roles in academia, administration, research and clinical practice in the provinces of Quebec, Alberta and Ontario. Her areas of expertise are in administration, nursing education and professional issues related to recruitment, retention, change, innovation, and employment relationships. She is a Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator for approximately 1.4 Million dollars examining educational methodologies, virtual worlds, simulation, new nursing graduate competencies and decision making. She participates in a variety of professional and scholarly activities such as being on the Advisory Committee for the York-UHN Academy; the De Souza Institute for Oncology Nursing. a Reviewer for the Canadian Journal of Nursing Leadership; and a Member of the Executive Review Panel of the Canadian Nurses Foundation.

**Donna May** was born and raised in the relatively small steel making community of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada. It was still during an age where it was commonly understood that family matters were exactly that; a family matter. If discussed at all, these matters were private and only spoken of within the confines of the home.

Like many families of that generation, and those preceding it, secrets were kept; fear was instilled to secure anonymity; and, if all went as desired, forgotten about.

Silence and secrets broke many a sole in its path, but not Donna’s. Always one to question the practicality of an established process or the order of things, Donna was the family member who fearlessly bucked the system throughout her adolescence, puberty and well into her adult years, much to the chagrin of those in the family trying to live out their lives in obscurity.

Maturity has yet to change her character or to soften her demeanor dramatically, but it has allowed for her to be schooled in incredibly valuable life lessons.

In her writings she brings out the skeletons that have plagued her life and the lives of the generations before hers; she dances with them and gives them voice before laying them to rest once more.

She tells it as she lived it and unashamedly describes the affect that addiction and mental illness has had on her and on those she’s loved and those she has lost to both illnesses.
Stephanie Nickerson has been an RN since 1991 and graduated from Durham College. She worked at University Health Network with the Multi Organ Transplant Program from 1991-2005 and while working there attended Ryerson and completed both her BScN and Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate. While completing the NP program she worked exclusively with the Liver Transplant Program, working with patients listed for transplant as well as the post transplant patients. She has worked in a Family Health Team setting and due to her interest in hepatology continues to work in collaboration with a number of Gastroenterologists in Durham Region providing care to patients with Hepatitis C. She is currently completing her final course for her Master’s in Nursing through Athabasca University.

Joanna Noble is the Supervisor, Knowledge Transfer within the Healthcare Risk Management Department at the Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada (HIROC). HIROC is a non-profit insurance reciprocal owned and governed by over 600 healthcare organizations across Canada with the vision of “Partnering to create the safest healthcare system”. She leads the translation of claims data into patient safety knowledge and the dissemination of this knowledge to subscribers and other stakeholders. Joanna is a key lead in the development of tools, resources and reports for hospitals and care providers providing labour/delivery and midwifery services. Joanna's areas of expertise include regulatory authorities/colleges, obstetrics, and credentialing. She has over 20 years’ experience in patient safety, risk, quality, nursing and insurance, and frequently contributes to external forums, publications and committees on diverse risk management and patient safety issues. In 2016, Joanna was selected to be a member of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) Knowledge Translation

Rhona McGlasson is a physiotherapist by trade, graduating with a degree from the University of Greenwich and has a MBA from Edinburgh Business School. She has worked in leadership positions for knowledge translation in orthopaedic care since 2006 and is currently the Executive Director of Bone and Joint Canada.

Jane McNamee is a nurse practitioner and a member of professional practice department at West Park Healthcare Centre in Toronto on the Tuberculosis Service. Since graduating from the University of Toronto's Acute Care NP program in 2008, Ms McNamee has been an integral part of the TB Service working in the TB outpatient clinic two days a week and actively following patients on a 20 bed inpatient unit. Ms. McNamee works closely with two respirologist, Drs. Sarah Brode and Natasha Sabur along with the infectious diseases specialist Dr Howard Song.

Her knowledge in nursing is very diverse and spans more than 20 years with experience in acute care, rehabilitation, community nursing and family practice. She has held positions in clinical nursing, health administration and internationally, as a consultant diabetes specialist in England. Her research interests involve TB and infection control, with current emphasis on the treatment and outcomes of multi-drug resistant TB.

Meredith Muscat

Stephanie Nickerson has been an RN since 1991 and graduated from Durham College. She worked at University Health Network with the Multi Organ Transplant Program from 1991-2005 and while working there attended Ryerson and completed both her BScN and Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate. While completing the NP program she worked exclusively with the Liver Transplant Program, working with patients listed for transplant as well as the post transplant patients. She has worked in a Family Health Team setting and due to her interest in hepatology continues to work in collaboration with a number of Gastroenterologists in Durham Region providing care to patients with Hepatitis C. She is currently completing her final course for her Master’s in Nursing through Athabasca University.

Joanna Noble is the Supervisor, Knowledge Transfer within the Healthcare Risk Management Department at the Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada (HIROC). HIROC is a non-profit insurance reciprocal owned and governed by over 600 healthcare organizations across Canada with the vision of “Partnering to create the safest healthcare system”. She leads the translation of claims data into patient safety knowledge and the dissemination of this knowledge to subscribers and other stakeholders. Joanna is a key lead in the development of tools, resources and reports for hospitals and care providers providing labour/delivery and midwifery services. Joanna's areas of expertise include regulatory authorities/colleges, obstetrics, and credentialing. She has over 20 years’ experience in patient safety, risk, quality, nursing and insurance, and frequently contributes to external forums, publications and committees on diverse risk management and patient safety issues. In 2016, Joanna was selected to be a member of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) Knowledge Translation
Patrick O’Byrne is Associate Professor of Nursing at the University of Ottawa, and a Nurse Practitioner at Ottawa Public Health’s Sexual Health Centre and GayZone clinics. His clinical practice and research focus on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, in both public health and primary care.

Joanne Opsteen practices at East End Community Health Centre in Toronto and instructs for the Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Program (PHC-NP) at York University. She has authored modules for the Practice Based Small Group Learning Program at McMaster University and the provincial PHC-NP program. Joanne is a NPAO Conference Planning Committee member.

Dr. Katerina Pavenski is the Head of the Division of Transfusion Medicine, clinical hematologist, medical director of the Therapeutic Apheresis Service and Patient Blood Management Program at St. Michael’s Hospital, Toronto, Canada. Her undergraduate training was in Genetics at the University of Manitoba (1997). She obtained Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Toronto (2001) and subsequently completed residency training in Internal Medicine (2004) and Adult Clinical Hematology (2006) in Toronto. She then pursued a two year residency in Transfusion Medicine at the McMaster University, Hamilton (2006-2008). She joined St. Michael’s in April 2009. She is an associate professor in the Department of Pathobiology and Laboratory Medicine and is cross-appointed to the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto. Her research interests include clinical transfusion medicine, patient blood management, therapeutic apheresis, and TTP/cm-HUS. She is the Chair of the Ontario Blood Advisory Committee (OBAC), member of the National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products (NAC), and previously served on the board of directors of the Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine (2010-2012). She is the Chair of the Topics Committee of the ICTMG (International Collaboration for Transfusion Medicine Guidelines) and the Chair of the Local organizing Committee for the 35th International congress of the ISBT (the International Society of Blood Transfusion) to be held in June 2018 in Toronto.

Dr. Jodie Peacock B.Sc., N.D. is a Naturopathic doctor who has been in practice for 11 years. She is a graduate of the University of Guelph, where her studies focused on bio-medical science. After completing her bachelor of science Jodie went on to complete four years of study at the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine (CCNM), one of the six accredited schools in North America.

Dr. Peacock has a special interest in women’s health concerns including hormone balancing addressing the adrenals, thyroid and ovarian function. This can help symptoms associated with fertility, PCOS, menopause, weight gain and fatigue.

Dr. Peacock is the chief medical officer for Nutritional Fundamentals for Health (NFH) a Canadian owned professional NHP company. In her role with NFH she spends time researching novel formulations and educating fellow health professionals on the uses and benefits of NHPs.

Dr. Peacock is passionate about educating patients, the public and colleagues about evidence based nutrition and natural health products, empowering them to take control of their own health.

Julia Peart is a nurse practitioner who works in both primary care and has a special interest in dermatology and alternative methods for pain management. She currently offers botulinum toxin for clinical and cosmetic applications as well as training for nurses who are interested in conducting these procedures.
Dr Albert Schumacher practices Family Medicine in Windsor, now in his 34th year. As a founding member of a 14 member Family Health Organization, he works in a clinic group with 2 of his former residents. As an Adjunct Professor at Western University and Assistant Professor at McMaster University, he trains medical students, residents and physician assistant students as well as serving as an Examiner for the Medical Council of Canada. As President of the Ontario Medical Association he worked to deliver several important public health changes.

Laurie Sardo is a Nurse Practitioner in the Thrombosis Service, Department of Hematology at St. Joseph’s Healthcare in Hamilton. Laurie graduated with her NP from McMaster University in 2014, and previously worked at McMaster University as a Thrombosis Clinical Research Nurse.

Her professional interests include patient and staff education, and recently joined Thrombosis Canada as co-chair of their patient and family education committee.

Mona Sawhney, completed her BScN at Ryerson University in 1992, Masters of Nursing/Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program in 2001 and PhD in 2012 at the University of Toronto. Mona has been working as within hospital based pain services since 1995 at a variety of hospitals in the Toronto area, Hamilton, Kingston. Her research interest is in pain management following surgery. She has published several book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles and has presented at local, national and international conferences.

She currently works as an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing at Queen’s University, and has a clinical practice in the chronic pain clinic at Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston.

Anca Prica is a staff hematologist at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and Mount Sinai Hospital, and assistant professor in the division of hematology at University of Toronto. She did her initial medical training in Toronto, and her clinical training in Internal Medicine and Hematology in the University of Toronto Program. She then did a 2 year fellowship in Malignant Hematology at the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and a Masters in Health Research Methodology at McMaster University with research interests in pharmacoeconomic evaluation and health outcomes in the hematologic malignancies, having published significantly in this area. She is also interested in the quality of life of patients and caregivers, and is currently conducting studies in elderly lymphoma patients and autologous stem cell transplantation patients to evaluate these domains. Her clinical work focuses in both lymphoproliferative and plasma cell disorders at both hospitals.

Martine Puts RN PhD has completed her BaN, Master in Health Sciences and PhD in epidemiology/Gerontology in the Netherlands. She has completed a postdoctoral fellowship (2006-2009) with the Solidage Research Group on Frailty and Aging Jewish General Hospital and the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health at McGill University, Montreal, Quebec. Since July 2009 Martine has been an assistant professor at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing. Her research interests are the health and well-being of older adults with cancer, in particular to examine if the use of geriatric assessment for older adults with cancer can improve patient outcomes such as quality of life, and to better understand the impact of frailty and multimorbidity on cancer treatment decision-making for older adults with cancer.

Michael Postic

Laurie Sardo is a Nurse Practitioner in the Thrombosis Service, Department of Hematology at St. Joseph’s Healthcare in Hamilton.

Mona Sawhney, completed her BScN at Ryerson University in 1992, Masters of Nursing/Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program in 2001 and PhD in 2012 at the University of Toronto. Mona has been working as within hospital based pain services since 1995 at a variety of hospitals in the Toronto area, Hamilton, Kingston. Her research interest is in pain management following surgery. She has published several book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles and has presented at local, national and international conferences.

She currently works as an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing at Queen’s University, and has a clinical practice in the chronic pain clinic at Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston.

Dr Albert Schumacher practices Family Medicine in Windsor, now in his 34th year. As a founding member of a 14 member Family Health Organization, he works in a clinic group with 2 of his former residents. As a Adjunct Professor at Western University and Assistant Professor at McMaster University, he trains medical students, residents and physician assistant students as well as serving as an Examiner for the Medical Council of Canada. As President of the Ontario Medical Association he worked to deliver several important public health changes.
including the Ontario Clean Air Act, Ontario Clean Water Act and the legislation banning smoking in public places.

As Canadian Medical Association President, Dr Schumacher addressed the dire shortage of healthcare professionals in Canada resulting in the expansion of medical school training spots and creation of satellite medical school campuses across the country.

**Suzan Schneeweiss**, MD, MEd, FRCPC, is the Associate Dean, Continuing Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto and the Associate Professor, Department of Paediatrics, Director of Education & Staff Emergency Paediatrician, Division of Paediatric Emergency Medicine at The Hospital for Sick Children.

**Suzanne Singh** has been working in primary care as a pharmacist for a number of years. She has spent the bulk of her career working at the Mount Sinai Academic Family Health Team. She has also dabbled in hospital and community practice. Suzanne is involved in teaching at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto and participates in interprofessional education through the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Toronto. Her practice area of interest is optimizing medication management in high-risk patient populations within team-based models of primary care.

**Mary Smith** is a Primary Health Nurse Practitioner and is presently a PhD(c) at the University of Victoria. Through a nursing career spanning over 25 years, her experiences range from nursing within a First Nation community to critical care in the U.S, cardiac care and Public Health Nursing. She is also currently an Adjunct Lecturer in the Ontario Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Program at Queen’s University. She has conducted research and presented widely with publications in autoethnography, nursing education, mental and Indigenous health. With a great passion for kidney health and as a kidney donor, Mary has become a strong advocate for kidney health care. Through her involvement in health care as a Nurse Practitioner and as a member of a First Nation community, Mary is particularly interested in engaging learners in furthering awareness in relation to equitable health care and the social determinants of health.

**Miranda So** is a Pharmacotherapy Specialist of the Sinai Health System-University Health Network Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, and an Assistant Professor (Status- Only), at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto. She received both her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from the University of Toronto, where she is currently the Course Coordinator of the Year 3 elective "Introduction to Antimicrobial Stewardship" in the PharmD Program. Antimicrobial stewardship in immunocompromised patients, and the use of education technology for knowledge translation are her main research interests. She has been an invited speaker at many local, national and international infectious disease and pharmacy conferences. Miranda is a recipient of the 2015 Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) Foundation Education Grant, as well as a recipient of the 2013 CSHP Foundation Research Grant. She is also a recipient of two educational technology grants from the University of Toronto in 2016. In her spare time, she loves to knit, and is equally happy to talk a good yarn, as she would with antibiotics!

**Laura Teague** is a nurse practitioner and has worked there for 33 years, in the intensive care units and since 1998 in wound care. She is the co-founder an interdisciplinary wound care program at St. Michael's Hospital, with eight full time staff on their clinical team.

Laura obtained undergraduate degrees in nursing and psychology at Queen’s University at Kingston (1987), and Master of Nursing (1998) and Nurse Practitioner Diploma (2001) from University of Toronto. She is currently enrolled in the PhD program at McMaster University in Hamilton under the supervision Dr. Gina Browne. Her thesis involves identifying risk factors and prognosis for persons with spinal cord injury who have Stage IV pelvic pressure ulcers undergoing surgical repair.
Laura is interested in standards of care, health policy and education and clinical care around complex wounds. She is also keenly interested in innovative and cost-efficient wound management strategies and devices that improve patient care and outcomes. She is the co-founder of the RNAO Minding the GAP wound care institute, co-founder of the Ontario Woundcare Interest Group, and teaches at Western University in the Master of Clinical Science in Wound Healing.

Laura has been sought to provide expert opinion around standards of wound care practice to legal firms and to the Ontario Office of the Chief Coroner.

**Dr. Tran** is an emergency and family doctor in the GTA. He is extremely happy to be here to present to your NP audience.

**Kate Uchendu** is a Nurse Practitioner in the Red Blood Cell Disorders (RBBCD) Program at Toronto General Hospital (TGH) and is dually certified as both Adult and Adult –Gerontology Nurse Practitioner. She has been in this role for the past 5 years. Prior to joining the RBBCD team, she worked as a registered nurse in cardiovascular surgery at TGH and also as a Public Health Nurse in Toronto Public Health.

Kate is passionate about care of patients with hemoglobin disorders which are typically poorly understood and is very keen on building capacity in this area. She has presented on hemoglobin disorders through webinars locally and provincially and also presents at conferences. Kate is also leading a variety of key quality improvement initiatives within TGH, the most recent being an effort to revamp the entire patient education program of the Red Blood Cell Disorders Team based on input received from patients. Kate volunteers her time as the Chair of the Education Committee of Sickle Cell Disease Association of Canada.

**Kanna Vela** completed her bachelors of science in neuroscience, medical degree and residency in family medicine at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Vela is currently a family physician with the West Durham Family Health Team in Pickering and emergency physician at Markham Stouffville and Uxbridge Cottage Hospitals.

**Kelly Van Camp** currently practices and is the Lead of the Interdisciplinary Health Professionals at Markham Family Health Team. She has 10 years of experience as a primary care NP in the emergency room setting. She is an instructor for the Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner program at York University and is a regular preceptor for students in clinical practice.

**Shirin Vellani** is a Masters prepared Nurse Practitioner with a vast experience in critical care and geriatrics. She completed her nursing Diploma and Undergrad from the Aga Khan University in Karachi, Pakistan and her MN-NP from the University of Toronto. She plans to start PhD in Nursing at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Nursing.

She played a significant role in establishing the CELHIN’s NP Outreach program in Scarborough area. After which she worked at the Scarborough hospital emergency department as a GEM NP. She got the opportunity to work with seniors in Mombasa, Kenya for 2 years in volunteer capacity before joining the SPLC Community GAIN Team as Clinic NP Lead.

**Margaret Verkuyl** is a Professor at Centennial College and an adjunct faculty at, University of Toronto. She plays a leadership role on development teams for virtual gaming simulation. She studies gaming and presents the findings nationally and internationally. A number of the studies have been published.
**Jo Watson** is a Nurse Practitioner, the Director of the Pregnancy and Infant Loss Network and the Operations Director in the Women and Babies Program at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. Her clinical role is in the NP Led Breastfeeding Clinic and she is the Professional Leader for the NPs at Sunnybrook. Jo has 35 years of experience working with childbearing families.

Jo is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Nursing and received her PhD in 2010 having conducted a randomized trial on the effect of conservative intrapartum IV fluid management on outcomes in breastfed newborns. She is a co-author of the recently published Cochrane Systematic Review evaluating interventions for the treatment of sore nipples in breastfeeding women. In 2012, Jo received the Canadian Lactation Consultants’ Award of Excellence for her work supporting breastfeeding women.

**Karen Yu** graduated from the University of Toronto with MN-NP. She is currently working as a Cardiology NP at North York General Hospital, in both in-patient unit and the Heart Function Clinic. One of her primary interests is managing patients with chronic heart failure to prevent recurrent exacerbation and hospital readmission.

**Erin Ziegler** is an NP at Wise Elephant FHT and lead for the gender clinic, which has over 80 transgender patients. Erin teaches in the NP program at Ryerson. She is completing a PhD at McMaster. Her thesis is exploring the provision of transgender primary healthcare and the NP role.