



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Grant recipients work to improve health for children and women

Several investigators affiliated with BC Children's Hospital and BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre received grants from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) this August to support their research through the Child & Family Research Institute (CFRI).

Dr. Peter von Dadelszen at BC Women's was awarded a grant in the Acute Care Redesign category. The focus of "An Integrated Approach to the Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy" is to institute a standardized protocol for the assessment, surveillance and management of women admitted with a hypertensive disorder of pregnancy and to monitor the effect of the protocol on health outcomes, resource utilization, place of care, and family/social disruption. The co-investigator is Sherry Hamilton, a Program Director at BC Women's.

Drs. Simon Dobson and Eva Thomas at Children's were also awarded a grant in the Acute Care Redesign category for their project, "Unclogging the Pediatric Emergency Room: Impact of Rapid Viral Diagnostics." Their focus is to determine if use of a new program to support rapid diagnosis of viral respiratory infections in children will improve patient management and resource use in the emergency department by reducing wait time, improving decision making regarding diagnosis and decreasing antibiotic prescriptions.

Dr. Stefan Grzybowski, Director of Research at the UBC Department of Family Practice based at BC Women's, received operating funding under the Health Human Resources category for the project "Practice Experiences of Rural GP Surgeons in British Columbia." He and Dr. Jude Kornelsen will explore the potential for enhancing the obstetrical skills of general practice surgeons as a strategy for maintaining safe and cost-effective maternity care services in small, rural B.C. communities.

The B.C. Ministry of Health provided restricted funding amounting to \$16 million to MSFHR for programs that support and build B.C.'s capacity to undertake health services and policy research focused on health system evaluation, redesign and innovation. The Health Services and Policy Research Support Network provides the framework for consultation and is supported by MSFHR in the approval and implementation of research and capacity building strategies.

BC Children's Hospital, an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority, provides expert care for the province's most seriously ill or injured children, including newborns and adolescents. For more information please visit www.bcchildrens.ca.

BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre, an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority, provides service for pregnant women, newborns and women with specialized health needs from across the province. For more information please visit www.bcwomens.ca.

The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) plans, manages and evaluates selected specialty and province-wide health care services across BC, working with the five geographic health authorities to deliver province-wide solutions that improve the health of British Columbians. For more information visit www.phsa.ca.

The Child & Family Research Institute (CFRI) is dedicated to world-class research spanning a wide range of children's and women's health concerns. Incorporated in 1995, the institute works in close partnership with: BC Children's Hospital and BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre, agencies of the Provincial Health Services Authority; the University of British Columbia; and BC Children's Hospital Foundation.

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