

# The DEMOCRAT

Department of Emergency Medicine Operational Clinical Research and Academic Tabloid

April 2017

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## 2017 Hodsman Lecture

The Department of Emergency Medicine successfully hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mike Hodsman Lecture on April 20 2017 at the FMC Auditorium. This year's discussion focused on "Cognitive Errors and Decision-Making in the ED" Presented by special guest, Dr. Pat Croskerry from Dalhousie University.

Dr. Croskerry is a professor and director of the Critical Thinking Program at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Dr. Croskerry has published over 80 journal articles and 30 book chapters on patient safety and clinical decision making.

In addition, Dr. Adam Oster presented a topic about "Error from a Patient Safety and Handover Standpoint" and Dr. Ward Flemons presented "Greg's Journey: Lessons learned." All speakers participated in a panel discussion about "Can We Do Better?" and then the day was concluded with case closure and questions.



**Dr. Pat Croskerry**

## 2017 Research Day

The department hosted a successful Research Day on Thursday, April 13th, 2017 in ACH Amphitheatre, Alberta Children's Hospital. Each year this event showcases the cutting edge research initiatives and accomplishments of local physicians, nurses, residents, students and allied health professionals with an impact on Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Amy Plint was the keynote speaker. Dr. Plint is a Senior Scientist, CHEO Research Institute Physician, Director of Emergency Medicine, CHEO Associate Professor at the Department of Medicine at University of Ottawa. Dr. Plint is also University of Ottawa Research Chair in Pediatric Emergency Medicine. Dr. Plint's speech in the research day was about the intersection between clinical care and clinical research in the emergency department.

There was a panel discussion during the day about "Healthcare Provider Wellness: Evidence, Knowledge Gaps and Research Opportunities"

Some of the topics that were presented in the event include but not limited to:

- The Effectiveness of Prehospital Hypertonic Saline for Hypotensive Patients: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis
- Which Kidney Stone patients require early referral for urologic intervention?
- Chest Ultrasonography by Emergency Physicians versus Supine Chest Radiography for Detection of Pneumothorax in Trauma Patients
- Medical Response to the 2016 Fort McMurray Wildfires –Descriptive Epidemiology of Patients Presenting to a Field Hospital
- Implementing Clinical Decision Support for CT Orders in Emergency
- The Calgary Stampede: Effects on emergency and urgent care department utilization during a Canadian mass gathering
- EVT Pre-hospital Communication Strategy
- THRIFT - Transportation via Helicopter to Regional Institutions for Fast Thromboectomy
- Emergency Medical Services Response Time and Survival: A Systematic Review
- Utility of Serum Electrolytes in Pediatrics Presenting With Suspected Appendicitis
- What are the palliative care needs of homeless patients with chronic diseases who frequent emergency departments in Calgary?
- Is Prehospital care supported by evidence-based guidelines? An environmental scan and quality appraisal using AGREE II
- Evaluation of the effect of nightshifts on patient outcomes: a multi-center study
- Patients Reported Experience at the Emergency Department
- Shiftwork and Your Health: Findings from an Updated Systematic Review



**Dr. Amy Plint**

## CAEP 2018 – In Calgary

Calgary was selected to host CAEP 2018. A planning committee has been selected of almost twenty two members. The members are coming from different backgrounds to show cases of different disciplines the work closely with the department of emergency medicine. A planning committee retreat was organized from April 14 until April 16 at Lake Louise. During the retreat, the planning committee discussed the major tracks of CAEP 2018, the potential plenary speakers, the venues and locations, the social events and activities, workshops and pre- conference offerings and sponsorship. Also the conference theme was selected to be “strengthening connections”

Starting on September, 2017, the planning committee members will meet on a regular basis to organize the event.



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## Adjust-DVT Study

Our research team will be looking to recruit patients with suspected DVT for the upcoming adjust-DVT study that will be starting up at FMC in July. This study will be enrolling patients aged 18 and older but we will be asking patients 50 years and older to have their care managed using an age adjusted d-dimer protocol (10 ug/L x age in years) rather than the standard cutoff of 500 ug/L. The purpose of the study is to evaluate whether this age-adjusted cutoff can be safely used to rule out DVT.

Patients with a low likelihood of DVT (Wells <2) will only receive an ultrasound if they exceed their age-adjusted d-dimer cutoff. Patients with a high likelihood of DVT (Well ≥2) will receive an initial ultrasound and if no DVT is found will only receive a serial ultrasound at one week if they exceed their age-adjusted d-dimer cutoff. If a DVT is found at any point they should be treated with appropriate anticoagulants at MD discretion.

There will likely be a short window of time to screen and consent these patients before a care plan is developed so we're hoping that ED staff and MDs will be able to help us out by paging or otherwise notifying our research assistants or research team. More details regarding the study will follow and will be posted around the ED. If anyone has any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to speak to a member of our research team.

Contact: Tristan Holotnak, Research Coordinator, 403-944-3650,  
[tristan.holotnak@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:tristan.holotnak@albertahealthservices.ca)

## Senior-Friendly Initiative Updates

Rob Abernethy, Leigh Morris and I attended a conference on “The Senior Friendly ED” last month. There was some initial confusion from Rob about whether the goal was to make the ED friendly for senior MD’s, or senior patients; once that was cleared up, we had a great educational experience. Many ED’s in Canada have a coordinated approach to the care of seniors that involves an ED lead that is responsible for geriatric programs as well as QI and ongoing education.

Several ideas came from the conference.

- Screening for delirium in patients over 65
- Frailty scoring for seniors at risk
- management of elder specific medical problems by protocol (hip fractures, foley catheters, medication issues)
- ED volunteers specifically trained for seniors
- Geriatric teams that assess patients in the ED, proactively assessing for geriatric issues and preparing for a transition to home

We will be moving forward with these programs as resources allow.

If anyone with a specific interest in Geriatric issues would like to help, please let me know.

Neil Collins  
Site Chief, PLC ED

### The ED Website and the New FOCUS Website



The website of emergency medicine at University of Calgary is a rich domain of information available for EM physicians, residents, EM staff and general public. The website focuses on the major academic, research, and clinical operations in the department as well as it reports professional development activities including grand rounds, journal clubs, courses and lectures. In addition, the website provides information on EM ultrasound, disaster response planning, and the publications of the department. You can find also different departmental reports like the ED annual report and the DEMOCRAT. For more information, please follow the link below to find the department of Emergency Medicine website:

<https://wcm.ucalgary.ca/ermedicine/>

### Emergency Medicine Doctors in the News

Back by popular demand – the emergency medicine conference is being hosted by North York General Hospital and Calgary’s Dr. Mike Betzner is one of the key speakers. He will be addressing Post Intubation Care in the ED on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Also, Calgary’s Commitment to Comfort team has been selected as one of four teams who will be receiving the HQCA Patient Experience Award on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Dr. Tom Rich Newly Appointed Within AHS IT

Congratulations to Dr. Tom Rich for his appointment to a provincial leadership role in Clinical Information Systems. This advance is a reflection of the great success and progress that Tom has brought to IT development in our department. While Tom is moving on to bigger things we will still be able to count on his support and advice on our own computerized physician order entry and decision support and tracking development.

## Announcements:

### New Hires, Residents and July 2017 Locums

#### New Residents:

##### FRCPC

Omar Damji – University of Calgary  
Miles Hunter – University of Calgary  
Tyson Savage – Queen's University  
Brett Shaw – University of Calgary

##### CCFP-EM

Jasdeep Gil – University of Alberta  
Lucy Jiang – University of Calgary  
Kimchi Nguyen – UBC  
Amanda Schreiner – University of Calgary  
Harsimranjit Singh – UBC  
Harinee Surendra – University of Toronto  
Allison Sweeney – University of Alberta  
Braden Teitge – University of Calgary

#### New Locums:

##### Summer

David Fu  
Andrew Battison  
Adrian Heller  
Marcie Veitch  
Gil Yehudaiff  
Christine East  
Sujiva Heyn  
Kelsey MacLeod  
Waleed Janjua

##### 1 Year

Anjli Pandya  
Brad Granberg  
Kasia Lenz  
Katherine Bateman  
Jean Chris Ghazal  
Eric McGillis

#### New Hires:





Andrew Fagan  
Geoff Lampard  
Marshall Ross  
Mike Szava-Kovats  
Natalie Cram  
Charles Wong  
Rory Thomson  
Conor McKaigney  
Grenvil Gracias  
Justin Wong  
Kevin Haley  
Fareen Zaver

### New Promotions, Awards and Achievements

#### **Promotion to Clinical Assistant Professor**

-  Anoop Manocha
-  Chris Rebus
-  Daniel Joo
-  Ian Wishart
-  Joseph Vipond
-  Margariet Greidanus
-  Mark Bromly


#### **Promotion to Clinical Associate Professor**

-  James Huffman
-  Jason Lord
-  Rick Anderson
-  Trevor Langan


#### **MA Graduate**

-  James Cooke

#### **Guenter (International Health) Award**

-  Ian Wishart

#### **UME Jones Award**

-  Trevor Langan


#### **Resident Mentorship Award (PEM)**

-  Russell Lam




#### **Support of Residency Education Award (PEM)**

-  Tracey Boyle

#### **Outstanding Commitment to Residency Education Award (CCFP – EM)**

-  Aaron Johnston

#### **PGME Nominations**

-  Mark Bromley
-  Sarah McPherson
-  Stacey Dickenson

## Current Publications

- ✚ Andrew D. McRae MD, PhD, Grant Innes, MD, Michelle Graham, MD, MSc, Eddy Lang, MD, James E. Andruchow, MD, MSc, Hong Yang, MSc, Yunqi Ji, PhD, Shabnam Vatanpour, PhD, Danielle A. Southern, MSc, Dongmei Wang, MSc, Isolde Seiden-Long, PhD, Lawrence DeKoning, PhD, Peter Kavsak, PhD. Comparative evaluation of 2-hour rapid diagnostic algorithms for acute myocardial infarction using high-sensitivity cardiac Troponin T. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cjca.2017.04.010>
- ✚ Akl EA, Welch V, Pottie K, Eslava-Schmalbach J, Darzi A, Sola I, Katikireddi SV, Singh J, Murad MH, Meerpohl J, Stanev R, Lang E, Matovinovic E, Shea B, Agoritsas T, Alexander PE, Snellman A, Brignardello-Petersen R, Gloss D, Thabane L, Shi C, Stein AT, Sharaf R, Briel M, Guyatt G, Schünemann H, Tugwell P. GRADE Equity Guidelines 2: Considering health equity in the GRADE guideline development process. J Clin Epidemiol. 2017 May 9. pii: S0895-4356(17)30470-5. doi: 10.1016/j.jclinepi.2017.01.017.
- ✚ Welch VA, Akl EA, Pottie K, Ansari MT, Briel M, Christensen R, Dans A, Dans L, Eslava-Schmalbach JH, Guyatt G, Hultcrantz M, Jull J, Katikireddi SV, Lang E, Matovinovic E, Meerpohl JJ, Morton R, Mosdøl A, Murad MH, Petkovic J, Schünemann H, Sharaf R, Shea B, Singh JA, Solà I, Stanev R, Stein AT, Thabane L, Tonia T, Tristan M, Vitols S, Watine J, Tugwell P. GRADE Equity Guidelines 3: Health equity considerations in rating the certainty of synthesized evidence. J Clin Epidemiol. 2017 Apr 4. pii: S0895-4356(17)30340-2. doi: 10.1016/j.jclinepi.2017.01.015.
- ✚ Eagles D, Perry JJ, Sirois MJ, Lang E, Daoust R, Lee J, Griffith L, Wilding L, Neveu X, Émond M. Timed Up and Go predicts functional decline in older patients presenting to the emergency department following minor trauma†. Age Ageing. 2017 Mar 1;46(2):214-218. doi: 10.1093/ageing/afw184.
- ✚ Shannon I.A. Parker, Karen M. Benzies, K. Alix Hayden, Eddy S. Lang. Effectiveness of interventions for adult peripheral intravenous catheterization: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. International Emergency Nursing. Volume 31, March 2017, Pages 15-21. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ienj.2016.05.004>
- ✚ Daoust R, Sirois MJ, Lee JS, Perry JJ, Griffith LE, Worster A, Lang E, Paquet J, Chauny JM, Émond M. Painful Memories: Reliability of Pain Intensity Recall at 3 Months in Senior Patients. Pain Res Manag. 2017;2017:5983721. doi: 10.1155/2017/5983721. Epub 2017 Feb 2.

## New Research Grants Awarded

- 🌐 Effectiveness of hospital avoidance interventions among elderly patients: A systematic review – 2017 Emergency Strategic Clinical Network (ESCN) Systematic Review Grant competition (Totaling \$15,000, will be supported for a period of 12 months – start date of April 13, 2017)
- 🌐 Airway Management Pause (AMP) – CMO/MA Quality Improvement Initiative competition (This competition attracted 33 submissions for the \$325,000 in total project funding provided by the Chief Medical Officer and Calgary Zone Medical Affairs)

