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CHEPA *news*

Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis

Informing Fair and Sustainable Health and Social Systems

SPRING 2021

Founded in 1987, **CHEPA** is a world-renowned interdisciplinary health research centre at McMaster University that fosters excellence in policy-relevant research, education and service to inform fair and sustainable health and social systems.

CHEPA Research Grants



A \$5-million study co-led by **Andrew Costa** and Immunologist **Dawn Bowdish**, a professor of medicine at McMaster, will [seek to learn how well vaccination works in residents of long-term care facilities](#), and which features of these homes may be directly linked with outbreaks. **Arthur Sweetman** and PhD candidate **Ahmad von Schlegell** are among a large group of co-investigators involved in the study, which will measure the far-reaching impact of COVID-19 in more than 2,000 residents, staff and visitors of long-term care homes in Ontario.

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Andrew Costa and **Lauren Griffith** are co-Principal Investigators leading a group of McMaster researchers who were awarded \$1 million by the Public Health Agency of Canada to determine how many Canadians live with undiagnosed dementia and improve understanding around risk factors related to the disease. The project is part of the **Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging**, a national platform for research on aging led by **Parminder Raina**.



Christopher Longo is co-investigator on a study entitled *Rebuilding the vitreous humour to delay or prevent the onset of age-related macular degeneration*, which received \$50,000 from McMaster's Interdisciplinary Research Support fund.

CHEPA director **Jean-Éric Tarride** is among a large group of researchers from McMaster who are involved in research projects funded by the Canadian **Institutes for Health Research (CIHR)** that seek ways to prevent hip fractures in frail older adults in long-term care, and to improve outcomes in older adults after they undergo joint replacement surgery.

- ***The PREVENT trial: a pragmatic cluster randomized controlled trial of a multicomponent fracture prevention model for long-term care*** uses a tool ("fracture risk calculator") to capture who is most at risk of fracture due to osteoporosis and falls and then trains the health care team, including doctors, pharmacists and nurses, on the latest recommendations on how to best assist residents and their families in making treatment decisions. This three-year, \$570,000 study, led by **Alexandra Papaioannou**, also includes **Andrew Costa**.
- Tarride is also an investigator on ***Getting Fit for Hip or Knee Replacement: The Fit Joints Randomized Controlled Trial of A Multimodal Intervention in Frail Patients with Osteoarthritis***, which is

also led by Papaioannou. This study received \$700,000 over four years to investigate if participating in a pre-surgical supervised regime of exercise, diet and medication before joint replacement surgery improves post-surgical outcomes in older adults (aged 60+) who are frail, compared with older adults who receive the standard care.



Meredith Vanstone is a co-investigator involved in the CIHR-funded study *Defining clinically important bleeding outcomes for clinical trials in hematological malignancies: perceptions of patients and health care providers.*





Feng Xie is a co-investigator in a group that received \$350,000 in CIHR funding over three years to study the effectiveness of *Online peer-delivered group cognitive behavioural therapy for postpartum depression.*



Waiting Room Revolution podcast



[Listen to The Waiting Room Revolution](#)

Hsien Seow and palliative care physician **Samantha Winemaker** host The Waiting Room Revolution, a podcast that helps patients, families, and health care providers unlock a better illness experience. It shares real-life stories to explain the seven keys to being hopeful and prepared when facing serious illness. The acclaimed series, now ranked in the top 3% of the most popular of all podcasts

globally by <http://listennotes.com>, is carried on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Stitcher and at <https://www.waitingroomrevolution.com/>



Virtual events



Ellen Amster is organizing and participating in a virtual workshop on *Magic, Healing and Religion*, which seeks to understand the relationship between religion, science, magic, and healing. This all-day workshop will be held on Wednesday May 26, 2021.

[Learn more](#)

The Financial Burden of Cancer

Christopher Longo spoke about *Out of Pocket Cancer Costs: More than you think!* with Dr. Bill Evans on his “Cancer Assist Show” podcast.

[Listen](#)

Longo also conducted a national webinar sponsored by the [Canada Centre for Applied Research on Cancer Control](#) that drew from the results of Longo's national research study on the *Patient and family financial burden associated with cancer treatment in Canada*.

[Read the journal article](#)



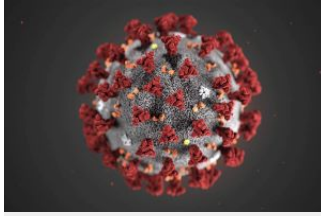
Emma Apatu elected to McMaster's Board of Governors



Emma Apatu, director of McMaster's [Master of Public Health Program](#) and Associate Professor, Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact, was elected to serve as the Faculty of Health Sciences' Teaching Representative on the university's Board of Governors. Her three-year term begins July 2021.



In The News



Research by CHEPA members related to the spread of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities and retirement residences, and dissemination of research evidence relating to the virus attracted considerable media attention. Links to some samples of the coverage are below:

A large study co-led by [Andrew Costa](#) to investigate the impact of COVID-19 and the effectiveness of vaccines on residents of long-term care homes and residences attracted media attention that included coverage by:

- [Global News](#), and
- [The Hamilton Spectator](#).

Costa's research into the relationship between the design and staffing levels and COVID fatalities in long-term care homes was also cited extensively:

- [Toronto Star](#)
- [Hamilton Spectator](#)

A \$1M federal grant that [boosts the ability of experts to collaborate and rapidly synthesize the best available evidence](#) to assist Canada's COVID-19 response by supporting the [COVID-19 Evidence Network to support Decision-makers \(COVID-END\)](#), a network led by [John Lavis](#), director of the [McMaster Health Forum](#), was also covered:

- [Hamilton Spectator](#)

Lavis is also a member of the Lancet COVID-19 Commission Taskforce on Public Health, which published an article in *The Conversation* calling for urgent global 'maximum suppression' in response to the new virus variants. Read it [here](#).

[The Waiting Room Revolution](#) podcast hosted by [Hsein Seow](#) and [Samantha Winemaker](#) was profiled by newspapers in the Torstar chain and others:

- [The Toronto Star](#).

Seow also did several podcast and radio interviews including this one for the Bill Kelly Show on CHML900 radio. Listen [here](#).

CHEPA Seminars



Lydia Kipiriri will present *"The Impact of priority setting on pandemic preparedness and response: A Global comparative analysis of the role of priority setting and equity during the COVID-19 pandemic"* on **April 21, 2021, at 12:30 pm.**

To get a link to the webinar, email ramsay@mcmaster.ca

In case you missed them...



"Economic Issues in Long-term Care," presented by **Arthur Sweetman** on Sept. 16, 2020.

[Recording](#)



"*Public Health Education & Workforce Needs*", presented by **Emma Apatu** on Oct. 20, 2020.

[Recording](#)



"*Saving Black Women and Babies: Leveraging Data and Community Engagement to Achieve Health Equity*," **Labelle Lecture** presented by **Tiffany Green** on Nov. 11, 2020.

[Recording](#)



"Long-term care, COVID-19 and the case for public insurance for home & residential care," presented by **Michel Grignon** on Nov. 18, 2020.

[Recording](#)



"Can a single opioid prescription make a difference? Evidence from physician prescribing variation in emergency," presented by **Jonathan Zhang** on January 20, 2021.

[Recording](#)



"Economic Evaluation of Mobile Health (m-Health) Interventions for Improving Maternal and Newborn Health in the low-and-middle-income countries: Lessons learned and implications for health technology assessment in Canada," presented by **Asif Khowaja** on February 10, 2021.

[Recording](#)



"Finding harmony within dissonance: Engaging patients, family/caregivers and service providers in co-design research to transform relations through integrative dynamics", presented by **Gillian Mulvale** on March 17, 2021.

[Recording](#)



Publications

Journal Publications

- Adachi JD, Brown JP, Schemitsch E, **Tarride JÉ**, et al. [Fragility fracture identifies patients at imminent risk for subsequent fracture: real-world retrospective database study in Ontario, Canada.](#) *BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders*. 2021. Feb 26;22(1):224.
- Arthur SA, Hirdes JP, Heckman G, Morinville A, **Costa AP**, Hébert PC. [Do pre-morbid characteristics of home care clients predict delayed discharges in acute care hospitals: A retrospective cohort study in Ontario and British Columbia, Canada.](#) *BMJ Open*. 2021. Feb 5;11(2):e038484.
- Bidonde J, **Vanstone M**, **Schwartz L**, **Abelson J**. [An institutional ethnographic analysis of public and patient engagement activities at a national health technology assessment agency.](#) *International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care*. 2021. 37, e37, 1–7.
- **Boothe K**. [\(Re\)defining legitimacy in Canadian drug assessment policy? Comparing ideas over time.](#) *Health Economics, Policy and Law*. 2021. 1-6.

- Bullock HL, **Lavis JN**, **Wilson MG**, **Mulvale G**, Miatello A. [Understanding the implementation of evidence-informed policies and practices from a policy perspective: a critical interpretive synthesis](#). *Implementation Science*. 2021. Feb 15;16(1):18.
- Dixon PR, **Feeny D**, Tomlinson G, Cushing S, Chen JM, Krahn MD. [Health-related quality of life changes associated with hearing loss](#). *JAMA Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery*. 2020. Jul 1;146(7):630-638.
- Doumouras A, Wong JA, Paterson JM, Lee Y, Sivapathasundaram B, **Tarride JÉ**, Thabane L, Hong D, Yusuf S, Anvari M. [Bariatric surgery and cardiovascular outcomes in patients with obesity and cardiovascular disease: A population-based retrospective cohort study](#). *Circulation*. 2021. Apr 5.
- Paraje GR, **Guindon GE**, Chaloupka FJ. [Prices, alcohol use initiation and heavy episodic drinking among Chilean youth](#). *Addiction*. 2021. Mar; 116(3): 485–494.
- Hay JW, Gong CL, Jiao X, Zadadzki NK, Zawadzki RS, Pickard AS, **Xie F**, et al. [A US population health survey on the impact of COVID-19 using the EQ-5D-5L](#). 2021. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. March 8.
- Heckman GA, Arthur S, **Costa AP**. [Delayed discharge and frailty, delirium and functional decline](#). *CMAJ*. 2021. Feb 8;193(6):E221.
- Heenan M, **Mulvale G**. [What factors impact implementation of critical incident disclosure in Ontario hospitals: A multiple-case study](#). *Healthcare Policy*. 2021. Feb;16(3):76-88.
- Lau VI, **Xie F**, Basmaji J, Cook DJ, et al. [Health-related quality-of-life and cost utility analyses in critical care: A systematic review](#). *Critical Care Medicine*. 2021. Feb 12.
- L'Espérance A, O'Brien N, Grégoire A, **Abelson J**, et al. [Developing a Canadian evaluation framework for patient and public engagement in research: Study protocol](#). *Research Involvement and Engagement*. 2021. Feb 25;7(1):10.
- **Longo CJ**, Fitch MI, Banfield L. et al. [Financial toxicity associated with a cancer diagnosis in publicly funded healthcare countries: a systematic review](#). *Supportive Care in Cancer*. 2020. 28, 4645–4665.

- **Longo CJ**, Fitch MI, Loree JM. *et al.* [Patient and family financial burden associated with cancer treatment in Canada: a national study.](#) *Supportive Care in Cancer*. 2021. Jan. 5.
- Mbuagbaw L, Logie CH, Thabane L, Smaill F, Smieja M, Burchell AN, Rachlis B, **Tarride JÉ**, Kroch A, Mazzulli T, **Alvarez E**, Lawson DO, Nguyen F, Perez R, **Seow H**. [The impact of routine HIV drug resistance testing in Ontario: A controlled interrupted time series study.](#) *PLoS One*. 2021. Apr 2;16(4): e0246766.
- Morgenstern JD, Rosella LC, **Costa AP**, de Souza RJ, **Anderson LN**. [Perspective: Big Data and Machine Learning could help advance nutritional epidemiology.](#) *Advances in Nutrition*. 2021. Feb 19: nmaa183.
- Nouvet E, Strachan PH, Luciani M, de Laat S, Conti A, Oliphant A, Monette E, **Kapiriri L**, **Schwartz L**. [Triaging critical care during COVID-19: Global preparedness, socio-cultural considerations, and communication.](#) *COVID-19 Global Research Roadmap (World Health Organization Social Sciences working group)*, and *Western University*. 2020. April.
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- **Razavi SD**, **Kapiriri L**, **Abelson J**, **Wilson M**. [Barriers to equitable public participation in health-system priority setting within the context of decentralization: The case of vulnerable women in a Ugandan District.](#) *International Journal of Health Policy Management*. 2020. Dec 26.
- Rowland P, Fancott C, **Abelson J**. [Metaphors of organizations in patient involvement programs: connections and contradictions.](#) *Journal of Health Organization and Management*. 2021. March 31.

- Saxena A, Bouvier PA, Shamsi-Gooshki E, Köhler J, **Schwartz LJ**. [WHO guidance on ethics in outbreaks and the COVID-19 pandemic: a critical appraisal](#). *Journal of Medical Ethics*. 2021 Mar 31:medethics-2020-106959.
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- Sebastian A, Carroll J, **Vanstone M.**, et al. [Widening the lens of actionability: A qualitative study of primary care providers' views and experiences of managing secondary findings from genomic sequencing](#). *European Journal of Human Genetics*. 2021. March.
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[financial burden of cancer in French-speaking patients](#). *Healthcare*. 2020. September 25;8(4):366.

- **Xie F**, Yan J, Agarwal G, Ferron R. [Economic analysis of mobile integrated health care delivered by emergency medical services paramedic teams](#). *JAMA Network Open*. 2021 Feb 1;4(2):e210055.
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