

CHEPA news

Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis

Spring 2019



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- Andrew Costa and Meredith Vanstone honoured for excellence as teachers
- McMaster Health Forum celebrates 10th anniversary
- Several grants awarded to CHEPA members
- Nominations open for 2019 Labelle Lectureship

E-News

CHEPA researchers have been helping to shape Canada's health system since 1988. Located at McMaster University, CHEPA (chepa.org) is a multidisciplinary centre providing timely and relevant evidence to inform policy-making at all levels of the health-care system.

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Honours

Andrew Costa received the 2018 Regional Assistant Dean's Award of Excellence in Medical Education, McMaster M.G. DeGrootte Waterloo Regional Campus.

Meredith Vanstone was named 2019 Champion Winner by the Early Career Medical Educators of Canada (ECME), in recognition of her teaching and mentorship.

McMaster Health Forum turns 10!

The [McMaster Health Forum](#) recently marked its 10th anniversary by hosting a celebration on March 28 and

Photo: **Gillian Mulvale** is shown speaking in Toronto on Feb. 25 about engaging people who have lived experience of mental health and/or substance abuse issues in developing a national framework for mental health indicators. Her presentation, made at the request of the Mental Health Commission of Canada and the Canadian Centre for Substance Abuse, was among those solicited by the agencies as part of an initiative to advocate for the development of a pan-Canadian performance measurement framework.

Nominate a 'rising star' to give the 2019 Labelle Lecture

The Labelle Lectureship Committee is seeking nominations for a promising junior health services researcher – a rising star in the field – to be the 2019 **Labelle Lecturer**. The candidate can be from any country; is early in his/her career development (assistant or early associate level); shows tremendous promise based on early research accomplishments and is conducting research on a topic that challenges existing methods or accepted ideas in health research. Click [here](#) for more information. Nominations will be accepted until May 15 by emailing **Emmanuel Guindon** at emmanuel.guindon@mcmaster.ca.

releasing a report that looks back at the Forum's accomplishments over the past decade as it worked to harness research evidence, citizen values and stakeholder insights to help strengthen health systems and get the right programs, services and products to the people who need them. As it moves into its second decade, it is broadening its work via [Forum+](#) to include social systems and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Click [here](#) to view the 10-year report. The Forum is led by director [John Lavis](#), assistant director [Mike Wilson](#), and managing director [Kaelan Moat](#), all CHEPA members.

Grants

[Julia Abelson](#), [Elizabeth Alvarez](#) and [Gillian Mulvale](#) are part of a group of researchers that includes McMaster's Nutrition, Exercise and Mobility Working Group that has been awarded \$1 M by the [McMaster Institute for Research on Aging \(MIRA\)](#) to conduct the "EMBOLDEN trial (*Enhancing physical and social MoBility, sOcial participation, and system navigation in oLDEr adults with health inequities using commuNity co-design*)". The research, which is funded until 2022, involves partnering with older adults and communities to develop and test a community program that supports exercise, nutrition, social participation, and community connections.

Alvarez is also an investigator on two other projects that received grants this winter. She is part of a one-year study, "*Refinement, usability testing, and feasibility of a mobile-based software infrastructure to conduct efficient RCTs of mobile health applications*", funded by a \$99,000 CIHR SPOR Innovative Clinical Trials-Catalyst Grant. The research will look for ways to test and evaluate the efficacy of mobile health apps using smartphones. Ultimately, as more apps are evaluated, the information will enable patients to select those that meet their needs and physicians will be able to make evidence-based recommendations for apps aimed at improving cardiovascular health. For more information about the project, click [here](#).

As well, she is among a group of researchers who received a \$50,000 project grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to assess "*Diet and Exercise Frailty Intervention in Cardiac Device Patients Trial - Pilot (DEFINIT-P)*".

[Laura Anderson](#) is Principal Investigator on a one-year \$70,000 study funded by a CIHR Catalyst Grant to analyze data from the [Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging \(CLSA\)](#), looking at "*Clustering of obesity related characteristics and associations with body mass index,*

New Publications

Journal Articles

Alarakhia M, Costa A, Roudsari A. [Axe the fax: What users think of electronic referral](#). *IOS Press Ebooks. Studies in Health Technologies and Informatics*. 2019. 257:9-16.

Anderson LN, Ball GDC. [Commentary on Cochrane reviews of behavioral, diet and physical activity interventions for the treatment of child obesity](#). *Paediatrics & Child Health*. Invited commentary. 2019. February.

Barbera L, Sutradhar R, Howell D, Corn E, O'Brien MA, Seow H, Dudgeon D, Atzema C, Earle C, DeAngelis C, Sussman J. [Factors associated with opioid use in long term cancer survivors](#). *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*. 2019. Mar 1. pii: S0885-3924(19)30102-2.

Bentley C, Peacock S, Abelson J, Burgess M, Demers-Payette O, Longstaff H, Tripp L, Lavis JN, Wilson MG. [Addressing the affordability of cancer drugs: Using deliberative public engagement to inform health policy](#). *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2019; 12019; 17:17.

Chan J, Griffith LE, Costa AP, Leyenaar MS, Agarwal G. [Community paramedicine: A systematic review of program descriptions and training](#). *Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine*. 2019. March 19:1-13.

Croteau C, Mottron L, Dorais M, Tarride JE, Perreault S. [Use, costs and predictors of psychiatric healthcare services following an autism spectrum diagnosis: Population-based cohort study](#). *Autism*. 2019. April 4.

Eapen BR, Costa A, Archer N, Sartipi K. [FHIRForm: An open-source framework for the management of electronic forms in healthcare](#). *IOS Press Ebooks. Studies in Health Technologies and Informatics*. 2019. 257:80-85

Foroutan N, Hopkins RB, Tarride JE, Florez ID, Levine M. [Safety and efficacy](#)

waist circumference, and body fatness". The research will examine the distinct classes of obesity related characteristics among older Canadians and evaluate the distribution of these classes across categories of body mass index and body fatness. For more information, click [here](#).

[Emmanuel Guindon](#), [Jean-Éric Tarride](#) and Gord Blackhouse in collaboration with University of Toronto colleagues Robert Schwartz (PI) and Michael Chaiton from the [Ontario Tobacco Research Unit](#), received \$197,750 from Health Canada for a study ending in March 2020 to measure the return on investment of the Federal Tobacco Control Strategy (FTCS) for the years 2001-2017.

[Lisa Schwartz](#) and colleagues from France, England and Australia received funds to develop a workshop on [Ethical Futures and AI Medicine](#), to be held later this year in Warrick, England. The workshop will investigate how assistance from Artificial Intelligence (AI) may affect our understanding of the practice of medicine, particularly the impact of AI on core professional values, the professional roles of doctors, and the future of health-care services. The workshop is being funded by [CIFAR](#) which has been tasked by Canada's federal government to develop a Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy, the world's first national AI strategy.

[Hsien Seow](#) received \$1,216,350 from CIHR as Principal Investigator to lead a team of researchers on a project that will help improve the quality of life for people receiving palliative care at the home and in the community. The project, "[Building CAPACITI \(Community Access to Palliative Care via Interprofessional primary care Teams Intervention\)](#)", includes providing palliative care training and coaching for 53 primary care teams in Ontario and evaluating outcomes before and after its implementation. The project runs until the end of 2023. For more information about the research, click [here](#).

Appointments

[John Lavis](#), director of the [McMaster Health Forum](#), has been appointed to the [Cochrane Review editorial board](#).

Presentations

[Elizabeth Alvarez](#) presented "A prospective comparative analysis using the 3I+E Framework to assess the likelihood of adopting a Pharmacist-

[mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease: A systematic review and network meta-analysis](#). *Clinical and Investigative Medicine*. 2019. March 23;42(1):E53-E65. doi: 10.25011/cim.v42i1.32393.

Fitch M, Longo CJ. [Exploring the impact of out-of-pocket costs on the quality of life of Canadian cancer patients](#). *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*. 2018. 26 (18).

Grignon M, Hurley J, Feeny D, Guindon E, Hackett C. [Moral hazard in health insurance. \(L'aléa moral dans l'assurance santé\)](#). 2018. *Oeconomia -- History, Methodology, Philosophy*. 8(3): 367-405.

Humphries B, Xie F. [Canada's Amendment to Patented Drug Price Regulation: A Prescription for Global Drug Cost Control?](#) *JAMA*. March 29, 2019.

Kho ME, Molloy AJ, Clarke FJ, Reid JC, Herridge MS, Karachi T, Rochweg B, Fox-Robichaud AE, Seely AJ, Mathur S, Lo V, Burns KE, Ball IM, Pellizzari JR, Tarride JE, et al. [Multicentre pilot randomised clinical trial of early in-bed cycle ergometry with ventilated patients](#). *BMJ Open Respiratory Research*. 2019. Feb 18;6(1):e000383.

Longo CJ, Dunn S, Harrold J, Smith GN. [Repeat Caesarian section and neonatal age effects on costs and outcomes in Ontario](#). *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology Canada*. 2018. October .

Mulvale G, Moll S, Miatello A, Murray-Leung L, Rogerson K, Sassi RB. [Co-designing services for youth with mental health issues: Novel elicitation approaches](#). *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*. 2019. Feb 21.

Mulvale G, Wilson F, Jones S, Green J, Johansen KJ, Arnold I, Kates N. [Integrating mental health peer support in clinical settings: Lessons from Canada and Norway](#). *Healthcare Management Forum*. 2019. Feb 11.

Sangiorgi D, Farr M, McAllister S, Mulvale G, Sneyd M, Vink J, Warwick L. [Designing in highly contentious areas: Perspectives on a way forward for mental healthcare transformation](#): Conference paper. *Northumbria Research Link*. April 12, 2019.

Prescribing Program in Ontario and Yukon" at the Ontario Public Health Conference in Toronto on March 27.

Michel Grignon spoke on March 27 at the University of Paris Dauphine about the "History of Moral Hazard".

John Lavis gave several presentations in Toronto this winter including "What do we mean by rapid-learning health systems in the Canadian context?" at the 2019 [Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research \(CAHSR\)](#) Policy Forum on January 14 as well as "Knowledge translation of research to policy" at the Wellesley Institute Junior Fellows Program on Jan. 22. He then headed to Finland to present "Supporting rapid learning in child and family services" to the APEX Consortium, University of Turku, Finland on Feb 11 and "Ten lessons learned about supporting evidence-informed policymaking in Canada" at a Parliamentary Seminar in Helsinki on Feb 13, followed by a stop in Beirut, Lebanon on Feb. 19 to talk about "Policy-development processes and the use of evidence" at a meeting on Institutional Capacity for the Use of Evidence in Health Policymaking.

Lavis later attended the Quality Forum 2019 in Vancouver where he presented "Learning health systems across Canada" on Feb. 26, and talked about "Ten lessons learned about supporting evidence-informed policymaking" with the Innovation, Evidence & Impact Team at Alberta Health Services in Edmonton on March 5.

Gillian Mulvale gave several presentations and held workshops related to her research on mental health services and involving people with lived experience in their design and implementation. This included hosting three online focus groups and a co-design event in March in partnership with the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant (HNHB) LHIN to co-design a transitions protocol for youth to adult mental health transitions.

She gave an invited talk on Feb. 25 in Toronto to national mental health and substance use leaders about "Involving people with lived experience in setting priorities for measurement", as part of an initiative to advocate for the development of a pan-Canadian performance measurement framework.

Mulvale also travelled to Venice, Italy with HP PhD student **Asheigh Miatello** where on March 31 they presented "Using experience-based co-design to improve transitions from child to adult mental health services" at the 14th International workshop on Costs and Assessment in psychiatry, sponsored by the International Journal of Mental Health Policy and

Seow H, Salam-White L, Bainbridge D. [Community-based specialist palliative care teams and health system costs at end of life: a retrospective matched cohort study.](#) *CMAJ Open.* 2019 Feb 11;7(1):E73-E80.

Squires JE, Graham ID, Grinspun D, Lavis JN, Légaré F, Bell R, Bornstein S, Brien SE, Dobrow M, Greenough M, Estabrooks CA, Hillmer M, Horsley T, Katz A, Krause C, Levinson W, Levy A, Mancuso M, Maybee A, Morgan S, Penno LN, Neuner A, Rader T, Roberts J, Teare G, Tepper J, Vandyk A, Widmeyer D, Wilson M, Grimshaw JM. [Inappropriateness of health care in Canada: a systematic review protocol.](#) *Systematic Reviews.* 2019. Feb 11;8(1):50. doi: 10.1186/s13643-019-0948-1.

Van Spall HGC, Lee SF, Xie F, et al. [Effect of patient-centered transitional care services on clinical outcomes in patients hospitalized for heart failure: The PACT-HF Randomized Clinical Trial.](#) *JAMA.* 2019;321(8):753-761.

Wei L, Feeny D. [The dynamics of the gradient between child's health and family income: Evidence from Canada.](#) *Social Science & Medicine.* 2019. April. Vol 226. 182-189.



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Economics. Three days later, in Milan, Mulvale presented “*Service design to inform policy for recovery-oriented and co-produced mental healthcare in Canada: Novel strategies and tools for evaluation*”, at the Politecnico di Milano.

Lisa Schwartz, who holds the **Arnold L. Johnson Chair in Health Care Ethics**, and former McMaster post-doctoral fellow Matthew Hunt, now an associate professor at McGill University, gave a workshop in Rome for members of the UN World Food Programme Wellness Division that addressed the ethics associated with operating a multidisciplinary health service (medical doctors, staff counsellors, nurses, medical insurance and administrative staff).

Media

Laura Anderson’s research grant for the **study of obesity in older adults**, using data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) was mentioned in the **Hamilton Spectator** on April 11.

Andrew Costa was interviewed on Radio AM800 - Sunday Morning Live on March 10 about the implications of the aging population. To hear the interview, click **here**.

Health Policy PhD program

On March 18, **Health Policy PhD** student **Dr. Marcela Velez** successfully defended her thesis on the role of values in Latin American health systems. Her supervisor was **Michael Wilson**.

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