

CHEPA news

Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis

Summer 2018



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Photo: CHEPA staff and students are shown participating in a planning workshop in April.

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.

CHEPA news is an electronic newsletter available by email or on the CHEPA website (chepa.org). If you would like to subscribe, send an email to ramsay@mcmaster.ca. If your email address is changing, please let us know.



New faculty

CHEPA welcomed **Feng Xie** as a new member in May. He is an Associate Professor of Health Economics in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact (HEI); is the deputy editor of the *BMC Journal: Health and Quality of Life Outcomes* and an associated editor of *Medical Decision Making*. His research interests include health technology assessment, economic evaluations using models and trial data, patient-reported

CHEPA Workshops

Personalizing patient care under uncertainty: Techniques to inform development of clinical guidelines and treatment choice. (April 11 and 12 at McMaster University's Innovation Research Park).

In collaboration with McMaster's Department of Economics and the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact (HEI), and the Canadian Centre for Health Economics (CCHE) at the University of Toronto, CHEPA sponsored this workshop led by **Charles Manski**, Professor of Economics at Northwestern University. Manski's research has pioneered advances in partial identification across many policy applications. The workshop attracted more than 40 students and non-student participants from seven universities and several professional organization including the Ontario Medical Association. Manski is planning to offer the same short course at Duke University and the University of London in the future.

outcome and preference measures, and health utility measures. To view his publications, click [here](#).

Awards

[Ellen Amster](#) received an Honourable Mention for her book *Medicine and the Saints: Science, Islam, and the Colonial Encounter in Morocco*, from the William H. Welch Medal in the History of Medicine of the American Association for the History of Medicine.

[Meredith Vanstone](#) received an Excellence in Graduate Student Supervision Award from McMaster's Faculty of Health Sciences.

Appointments

[John Lavis](#), director of the [McMaster Health Forum](#), has accepted several new appointments, including:

- Chair, Nursing Quality Indicators for Reporting and Evaluation (NQuIRE) International Advisory Committee (January 2018 -)
- Member, Advisory Committee on Health Research, Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office of the World Health Organization; to September 2021
- Member, Technical Advisory Group, Department of Evidence and Intelligence for Action in Health, Pan American Health Organization (April 2018 -)
- Visiting Adjunct Professor, University of Johannesburg (April 2018 - March 2023)

Conference presentations

Many CHEPA members presented their research at spring conferences this year.

[Julia Abelson](#) presented *Exploring Models of Patient Engagement* on March 28 at the [Clinical Trials Ontario](#) annual conference, where she spoke about advancing the science of patient engagement through evaluation. To view her presentation, click [here](#). She also presented [Managing screening technologies in the face of uncertainty: Results from a population survey and citizen deliberations about mammography screening in Ontario](#) at the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technology in Health (CADTH) symposium, held in Halifax April 15-17, and also at the [2018 Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research \(CAHSPR\) Conference](#), which took place in Montreal May 29-31.

Abelson and Sujane Kandasamy also jointly presented research findings at CAHSPR from the *Public and Patient Engagement Evaluation Tool (PPEET): Supporting high-*

Accelerating innovation for enhancing health care through effective health technology management. (April 15, Halifax, NS).

[Mike Wilson](#) co-led this 1/2-day workshop the day before the annual symposium of the [Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technology in Health \(CADTH\)](#). The workshop's objectives were to explore the challenges to the development and implementation of health system innovations in Canada and to provide participants with insights into current knowledge-translation and implementation-science approaches. The workshop was attended by 30 participants from various backgrounds.

An introduction to Health Technology Assessment (April 15, Halifax, NS).

CHEPA director [Jean-Éric Tarride](#), with fellow CHEPA members [Mitchell Levine](#) and [Daria O'Reilly](#), as well as colleagues from CADTH and [Alberta Health Services](#), held a full-day workshop the day before the annual CADTH symposium. Approximately 25 people from academia, industry and physicians/patients associations participated in the workshop, which dealt with the components and conduct of high-quality health technology assessments, from defining research questions to addressing implementation issues.

CHEPA in the media

[Andrew Costa](#) did multiple media interviews about the "association between home care visits and same-day emergency department use" following the publication of a [research](#) article in the [Canadian Medical Association Journal](#) showing that a visit by a home care nurse to a frail elderly adult often leads to a trip to the emergency department. He spoke to reporters at CBC radio in [Edmonton](#) and [Ontario](#); the [Hamilton Spectator](#) and with NEJM Journal Watch.

[Michel Grignon](#) commented on a [Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging \(CLSA\)](#) report covered in the [Hamilton Spectator](#) about [concerns](#)

quality public and patient engagement: Assessing the feasibility of the Public and Patient Engagement Evaluation Tool (PPEET) and Supporting high-quality public and patient engagement in Ontario's health system: Results from the implementation of the Public and Patient Engagement Evaluation Tool (PPEET).

[Elizabeth Alvarez](#) spoke on May 30 at the [Canadian Public Health Association](#) conference about the importance of *Defining public health and population health systems* and presented the poster *Shaping sleep-related behaviours to improve health outcomes in the population*. As well, she had poster presentations at a number of McMaster University's research showcase events this spring.

[Julia Bidonde](#), the CIHR-CADTH McMaster Health System Impact fellow, spoke about *Ethical challenges related to engaging patients and the public in HTA* at the [Health Technology Assessment international \(HTAi\)](#) conference, held in Vancouver June 1-5.

[Katherine Boothe](#) presented *(Re)defining legitimacy? Expertise and public and patient Involvement in Canadian drug assessment* at the Annual Meeting of the [Canadian Political Science Association](#) on June 1 in Regina. She was also a discussant in a session on Law and Public Policy.

[Emmanuel Guindon](#) presented *The impact of supplementary prescription drug insurance and cost-sharing on drug use, health services utilization and health in Canada: a systematic review*, at the CAHSR conference.

[Jeremiah Hurley](#) spoke on April 6 about *The politics of private parallel finance for health care* as part of a panel on The Politics and Economics of Private Finance for Medicare in Canada at the University of Ottawa's Centre for Health Law, Policy and Ethics [conference](#).

[John Lavis](#) gave presentations at several international conferences this spring:

- *Ten lessons learned about supporting evidence-informed policymaking* at the McGill Observatory on Health and Social Services in Montreal on March 20;
- *Creating rapid learning health (and social) systems in Ontario*, which was shared on April 20 with the Ontario SPOR SUPPORT Unit (OSSU) Renewal Executive Group in Toronto;
- *Building bridges across groups whose work can support implementation* was presented in Denmark, Copenhagen, on May 29 at the Nordic Implementation Conference;
- *Ecosystems for innovation and implementation* on May 31 at the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership 2018, in Stockholm, Sweden;

over increasing home care demand and social isolation among seniors.

Health Reform Observer - Observatoire des Réformes de Santé celebrates 5th Anniversary

In July, *HRO-ORS* will mark the 5th anniversary of the journal's launch. The journal emerged from a meeting convened by [Michel Grignon](#), along with [John Lavis](#), at [CHEPA](#) in 2012, that involved a dozen health systems and policy researchers concerned about the lack of scholarly description and analysis of Canadian health reforms. With support from [CHEPA](#), McMaster University Library Press, CIHR, Health Canada, Health Systems Evidence and others, the journal has become a trusted source of timely knowledge on what has happened and is happening with respect to health reform in Canada -- provincially, territorially and federally. Click [here](#) to read Editor-in-Chief Grignon's reflection on the milestones and achievements of the past five years as well as the future of the journal.

New Publications

Journal articles

Abelson J, Tripp L, Brouwers M, Pond G, Sussman J. [Uncertain times: A survey of Canadian women's perspectives toward mammography screening](#). *Preventive Medicine*. 2018. 112. July. 209-215.

Ellen ME, Wilson MG, Vélez M, Shach R, Lavis JN, Grimshaw JM, Moat KA, Synthesis working group. [Addressing overuse of health services in health systems: a critical interpretive synthesis](#). *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2018. 16(1):48.

Essue BM, Milinkovic D, Birch S.

- *Convening deliberative dialogues*, on June 1, also at the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.

Senior Research Coordinator **Debbie Milinkovic** presented a poster, *Low prioritization of LTBI - a systemic barrier to LTBI control: A qualitative study in Ontario, Canada* at the [Canadian Public Health Association Conference](#). The study was co-authored by [Steve Birch](#), post-doctoral fellow **Beverly Essue** and Fran Scott, director of McMaster's Master of Public Health program.

[Daria O'Reilly](#) presented *Bridging the PATHway from health technology assessment to health technology management: A comprehensive approach to the evaluation of medical devices*, during a session on health technology assessment methods at the CADTH symposium.

[Hsien Seow](#) presented *Early palliative care in the community: A propensity score matched cancer cohort including novel interRAI covariates* at the CAHSPR conference.

[Meredith Vanstone](#) gave two presentations at the HTAi conference in Vancouver: *Reconciling ethical and economic notions of 'value' for HTA and Women's preferences and perspectives on cervical cancer screening*.

[Mike Wilson](#) and colleague Rosalie Wang from the University of Toronto spoke on June 12 at the United Nations in New York City at the [11th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#). Their presentation was entitled *Enhancing Equitable Access to Assistive Technologies in Canada*. To view the slides for their presentation, click [here](#).

Health Policy PhD program

Two [Health Policy PhD](#) candidates successfully defended their doctoral dissertations this spring:

- On May 2, **Francesca Brundisini**, supervised by [Mita Giacomini](#), successfully defended her dissertation entitled *The social construction of telemedicine in Ontario: A historical narrative analysis*.
- **Val Ulep** defended his thesis *Essays on subsidized health insurance and health-related quality of life* on June 15. He is now employed by the World Bank as a health economist in its Washington, DC and Delhi offices. His supervisor was [Jeremiah Hurley](#).

Health Policy students were recognized on May 30 at McMaster's Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) graduate students awards ceremony for their academic

effective care for people with latent tuberculosis infection in Canada. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*. 2018. 190(23):E700-E701.

Haidar H, **Vanstone M**, Laberge A-M, Bibeau G, Ghulmiyyah L, Ravitsky V. *Cross-cultural perspectives on decision making regarding noninvasive prenatal testing: A comparative study of Lebanon and Quebec*. *AJOB Empirical Bioethics*. 2018. 9:2, 99-111. DOI: 10.1080/23294515.2018.1469551.

Hanmer J, Cella D, **Feeny D**. et al. *Evaluation of options for presenting health-states from PROMIS® item banks for valuation exercises*. *Quality of Life Research*. 2018. April 12. 1-9.

Ongolo-Zogo P, **Lavis JN**, Sewankambo N, Tomson G. *Assessing the influence of knowledge translation platforms on health system policy processes to achieve the health Millennium Development Goals in Cameroon and Uganda: A comparative case study*. *Health Policy and Planning*. 2018; May 1;33(4):539-554.

O'Reilly DJ, Burke N, **Tarride JE**, Hahn J, Nurkanovic L. *Direct health-care costs and productivity costs associated with hypoglycemia in adults with type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus that participated in the Canadian Hypoglycemia Assessment Tool Program*. *Canadian Journal of Diabetes*. 2018. pii:S1499-2671(17)30368-4.

Rae C, Furlong W, **Feeny D**, et al. *Health status and health-related quality of life measurement in pediatric cancer clinical trials: An examination of the DFCI 00-01 acute lymphoblastic leukemia protocol*. *Journal of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology*. 2018. doi: 10.1097/MPH. 0000000000001235.

Rattray DD, Weins L, Regush LC, Bowen JN, **O'Reilly D**, Theil JA. *Clinical outcomes and health care utilization pre- and post-*

achievements. **Avram Denburg**, supervised by [Julia Abelson](#), received an outstanding thesis award for his thesis entitled *The politics of child health technologies: Social values and public policy on drug funding for children in Canada*. **Claudia Marcela Vélez**, supervised by [Mike Wilson](#), was the recipient of a Graduate Student International Trainee Award for Excellence.

Health Policy students have been active at spring conferences this year. Recent graduate **Avram Denburg** was part of a panel discussion at the [CADTH](#) symposium about *Gene therapy: Where is it headed and how do we prepare for it?*

Graham Dobbs and **Wynonna Smoke** both attended the [Canadian Economics Association annual conference](#) June 1-3 in Montreal, where Dobbs presented *Household determinants of overburdening out-of-pocket prescribed drug costs in Canada*, and Smoke presented *Returns to education among Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations in Canada*.

At the CAHSPR conference, **Valentina Antonipillai** presented two posters: *Problems, policies and politics that placed the Canadian refugee health policy reforms on the agenda in 2016*, and *Policy agenda-setting and causal stories: Examining how organized interests redefined the problem of refugee health policy in Canada*. **Sophyia Garasia** gave an oral presentation on her research paper *Clinical outcomes and healthcare use in provincial medically uninsured populations in Canada: a systematic review*, while recent graduate **Christina Hackett** spoke about *Co-designing for quality: Creating a user-driven prototype to measure quality in youth mental health services*. As well, **Derek Manis** presented a poster entitled *Supervised injection facilities in Ontario, Canada: a qualitative content analysis of injection drug use problem definition in news media*.

At the [Canadian Centre for Applied Research in Cancer Control \(ARCC\)](#) annual conference in Montreal May 27-28, **Young Jung** presented his research about *The untold economic story of cancer diagnoses*.

Melodie Song spoke on May 30 in Montreal at the Canadian Public Health Association's (CPHA) [Vaccine Forum](#) about *Increasing public confidence in vaccines using social media - barriers and opportunities from a policy perspective*.

Claudia Marcela Vélez presented the poster *Identifying values in the health policy decision-making processes about health-system financing in Latin America: A critical interpretive synthesis* at the Professional Society for Health Economics and Outcomes Research ([ISPOR](#)) [2018 Conference](#), held in Baltimore, MD, USA May 19-23.

ablation of symptomatic fibroids and laparoscopic myomectomy. *ClinicoEconomics and Outcomes Research*. 2018. 10: 201-212.

Seow H, O'Leary E, Perez R, Tanuseputro P. [Access to palliative care by disease trajectory: a population-based cohort of Ontario decedents](#). *BMJ Open*. 2018. 8:e021147.

Vanstone M, Cernat A, Nisker J, Schwartz L. [Women's perspectives on the ethical implications of non-invasive prenatal testing: a qualitative analysis to inform health policy decisions](#). *BMC Medical Ethics*. 2018. 19:27.



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