

CHEPA news

Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis

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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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CHEPA director named Research Chair in Health Technology Management

CHEPA director [Jean-Éric Tarride](#) has been named the inaugural [McMaster Research Chair in Health Technology Management](#) for a five-year term that began retroactively on July 1. As chair, he is responsible for helping lead the establishment at McMaster of a world-class program in

In this issue

- CHEPA director Jean-Éric Tarride named the inaugural McMaster Research Chair in Health Technology Management
- David Feeny and George Torrance honoured by International Society for Quality of Life Research
- John Lavis appointed the sole Director at the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Evidence-Informed Policy
- CHEPA new grants
- Health Policy PhD program marks 10th anniversary
- CHEPA presentations and publications

Photo: [Dr. Ruth Lavergne](#) is shown presenting the [27th annual Labelle Lecture](#) on October 3. Dr. Lavergne, an Assistant Professor at Simon Fraser University's Faculty of Health Sciences, spoke on the topic "*Primary care, secondary data: Learning from policy change in British Columbia.*" To view the video of her lecture, click [here](#).

New Publications

Reports

Anderson L, Alvarez E, Apatu E, Bayat S, Bourque C, de Rubeis V, Winsor E. Measurement of

health technology management; contributing to the body of scholarship in the field through teaching or research; and participating in the education programs of the school of medicine. For more information, click [here](#).

Honours

Congratulations to CHEPA's [David Feeny](#) and Emeritus faculty member [George Torrance](#) who were awarded Honorary Member status at the [25th Annual Conference of the International Society for Quality of Life Research \(ISOQOL\)](#) in Dublin on Oct. 24.

Appointments

[John Lavis](#) has been appointed the sole Director at the [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Collaborating Centre for Evidence-Informed Policy](#), after having served as co-director for the past eight years. His new responsibilities extend until November, 2022

As well, he was appointed Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg, where he will collaborate with colleagues at the [Africa Centre for Evidence](#). Additionally, this fall he became a member of the Advisory Board of the newly-established [Caribbean Centre for Health Systems Research and Development](#), and is also now Chair of the Board of Directors of the [Ontario HIV Treatment Network](#).

Grants

[John Lavis](#), who is director of the [McMaster Health Forum](#) and the [Canada Research Chair in Evidence-Informed Health Systems](#), is the principal investigator on "Partners for evidence-driven rapid learning in social systems," which received \$1,990,859 from the International Development Research Centre and Hewlett Foundation and extends through 2021.

[Meredith Vanstone](#) is co-principal investigator on a \$100,000 one-year study funded by the Canadian College of Family Physicians to help understand the impact of CFPC Certificates of Added Competence. She is also among a group of researchers involved in a two-year study entitled "Optimizing feedback from direct observation of clinical performance: Learner feedback-seeking and avoidance behaviour in four clinical settings," which received a \$47,500 Medical Research Grant from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Post-Doctoral Fellows

Two 2018 Health System Impact (HIS) post-doctoral

being at the neighborhood level. *Report to Sidewalk Labs, Waterfront Toronto and the Toronto Foundation*. Toronto. 2018. Nov. 28. pp.1-24.

Guertin JR, Humphries B, Feeny D, Tarride JÉ. [Health Utilities Index Mark 3 scores for major chronic conditions: Population norms for Canada based on the 2013 and 2014 Canadian Community Health Survey](#). *Statistics Canada Health Report*. 2018. Nov 21;29(11):12-19.

Lavis JN, Gauvin F-P, Mattison CA, Moat KA, Waddell K, Wilson MG, Reid RJ. [Rapid synthesis: Creating rapid-learning health systems in Canada](#). *Hamilton, Canada: McMaster Health Forum*. 2018. December 10. This document includes the report plus 14 appendices - one for every Canadian jurisdiction - and one cross-jurisdictional appendix for each of the 'health system as whole,' the primary-care sector, and the elderly population.

Journal articles

Abelson J, Tripp L, Sussman J. [‘I just want to be able to make a choice’: Results from citizen deliberations about mammography screening in Ontario, Canada](#). *Journal of Healthcare policy*. 2018. Sep 28. pii: S0168-8510(18)30524-4.

Amster E. [Global IVF, Infertility, and Emergency Contraception in the Middle East and North Africa](#). *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*. 2018. 14:3.

Boothe K. [Pharmaceutical policy reform in Canada: lessons from history](#). *Health Economics, Policy and Law*. 2018. Jul;13(3-4):299-322.

Brouwers MC, Ako-Arrey D, Spithoff K, Vukmirovic M, Florez ID, Lavis JN, Cluzeau F, Permanand G, Bosch-Capblanch X, Chen Y; AGREE-HS Research Team. [Validity and usability](#)

fellowships were awarded this fall by the Canadian Institutes of Health Information (CIHR) to researchers supervised by CHEPA members:

- **Iwona Bielska**, supervised by Kelly Cimek of the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and **Jean-Éric Tarride**, received \$155,000, including a contribution from the LHIN, over two years for her project entitled "[Evidence-based strategic directions to reduce emergency department patient wait times within the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network \(HNHB LHIN\).](#)"
- **Matt Leyenaar**, who is supervised by Dr. William Krizmanich and **Andrew Costa**, was awarded \$35,000 over one year for his research project "[Common assessments for repeated paramedic encounters: Evaluating care planning in community paramedicine.](#)"

As well, **Irene Mussio** began a two-year post-doctoral fellowship under the supervision of **Jeremiah Hurley** in September at McMaster's [Department of Economics](#) and the [McMaster Institute for Research on Aging \(MIRA\)](#). Mussio is an experimentalist whose research focuses on behaviour economics with applications to health contexts. She holds a PhD from the University of Massachusetts - Amherst.

Presentations

Elizabeth Alvarez had several poster presentations this fall. "[How medical contracts are used in chronic condition management: A scoping review](#)" and "[Feasibility and implementation of a healthy lifestyles program: a six-month interim assessment](#)" were shown at the Family Medicine Forum in Toronto Nov. 14, while "[Comparative analysis of cannabis sale and distribution policies in select Canadian provinces](#)" was displayed the same day at the Ontario Public Health Association conference.

Post-doctoral fellow **Sonya de Laat** travelled to a conference on Ethics and Palliative Care in Humanitarian Crisis Contexts held in Kigali, Rwanda, to present the results on Dec. 14 of the [Humanitarian Health Ethics research group](#)'s study of palliative care in humanitarian settings.

John Lavis, and **Kaelan Moat**, (the director and assistant director, respectively, of the [McMaster Health Forum](#)) attended Evidence 2018, put on by the [Africa Evidence Network](#), on September 28 in Pretoria, South Africa. The two co-lead a workshop at the conference addressing how

[guidance appraisal tool, the AGREE-HS.](#) *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2018. June 20;16(1):51. doi: 10.1186/s12961-018-0334-9.

Church PT, Cavanagh A, Lee SK, Shah V. [Academic challenges for the preterm infant: Parent and educators' perspectives.](#) *Early Human Development*. 2018. Oct.13;128:1-5.

Ellen ME, Lavis JN, Horowitz E, Berglas R. [How is the use of research evidence in health policy perceived? A comparison between the reporting of researchers and policy-makers.](#) *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2018. July 20;16(1):64.

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.

Embrett M, Randall G. [Physician perspectives on Choosing Wisely Canada as an approach to reduce unnecessary medical care: a qualitative study.](#) *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2018. 16:95.

Feeny D, Furlong W, Torrance GW. [What were they thinking when providing preference measurements for generic health states? The evidence for HUI3.](#) *Health Quality of Life Outcomes*. 2018. Aug 15;16(1):166.

Hackett CL, Mulvale G, Miatello A. [Co-designing for quality: Creating a user-driven tool to improve quality in youth mental health services.](#) *Health Expectations*. 2018. Apr 29.

Hall W, Williams I, Smith N, Gold M, Coast J, Kapiriri L, Danis M, Mitton C. [Past, present and future challenges in health care priority setting.](#) *Journal of Health Organization Management*. 2018. May 21;32(3):444-462.

research organizations can more effectively disseminate their research to, and support the use of research evidence by, policymakers. Lavis also spoke at a plenary discussion about *"The next five-year agenda for supporting evidence-informed policymaking? Building bridges, adapting innovations and learning across issues and contexts."*

On November 22, Lavis spoke to the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland about *"How EVIPNet can contribute to the GPW13."*

Post-doctoral fellow [Irene Mussio](#) travelled to the [BEHNET Workshop](#) on Behavioral and Experimental Health Economics in Oslo, Norway to present *"Reconciling health and wealth background risks: an analysis of risky behavior when higher-order preferences are considered"* on December 15.

[Lisa Schwartz](#), who holds the [Arnold L. Johnson Chair in Health Care Ethics](#), flew to Amsterdam in November to meet face-to-face with directors of [Médecins Sans Frontières \(MSF\)](#) to talk about the evolution of health research ethics. Schwartz is a member of the [MSF International Ethics Review Board](#).

In early December, Schwarz was in Bangalore, India to make presentations at two separate conferences. At the World Congress of the [International Network on Feminist Approaches to Bioethics](#), held Dec. 3-5, she presented a talk called *"Coerced Contexts"*, as part of a panel on vulnerability in migrant research. The same week, at the [World Congress of Bioethics](#) held Dec. 5-7, she gave two talks: *"You just want to talk less and start the treatment: Perceptions of research during the 2014-2016 Ebola crisis"*, and *"Ethics and treatment options in end of life care: the view from refugees during complex humanitarian crises"*, and also chaired a plenary panel on *"Rethinking bioethics in the context of health for all."*

[Meredith Vanstone](#) attended a conference in Chicago, IL on November 10 put on by the [North American Primary Care Research Group](#), where she participated in a forum about Medical Education Research in the Context of Family Medicine, and presented the papers *"Barriers & Facilitators of Physician Assistant Integration: Lessons from Family Medicine Settings in Ontario, Canada"* and *"They belittle you, embarrass you, and humiliate you about something you did": Medical learner and educator perceptions of mistreatment and abuse in the clinical workplace."*

Health Policy PhD program

Faculty, students and alumni of the [Health Policy PhD program](#) held a formal celebration on Dec. 6, 2018, to

Jones A, Costa AP, Pesevski A, McNicholas PD. [Predicting hospital and emergency department utilization among community-dwelling older adults: Statistical and machine learning approaches](#). *PLoS One*. 2018. Nov 1; 13(11):e0206662.

Kapiriri L. [Stakeholder involvement in health research priority setting in low income countries: the case of Zambia](#). *Research Involvement and Engagement*. 2018. Nov 5; 4:41.

Kapiriri L, Schuster-Wallace C, Chanda-Kapata P. [Evaluating health research priority setting in low-income countries: a case study of health research priority-setting in Zambia](#). *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2018. Nov 7; 16(1):105.

Khuong Truong NT, Sweetman A. [Basic information and communication technology skills among Canadian immigrants and non-immigrants](#). *Canadian Public Policy - U of T Press*. 2018. Nov 15.

Krucien N, Pelletier-Fleury N, Gafni A. [Measuring public preferences for health outcomes and expenditures in a context of healthcare resource re-allocation](#). *PharmacoEconomics*. 2018. Nov 30.

Lancaster K, Thabane L, Tarride JÉ, et al. [Descriptive analysis of pharmacy services provided after community pharmacy screening](#). *International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy*. 2018. December. 40 (6) pp 1577-1586.

La Vielle S, Lefebvre DE, Khalid AF, Decan MR, Godefroy S. [Dietary restrictions for people with glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency](#). *Nutrition Reviews*. 2018. Oct 31.

Longo CJ, Harrold J, Dunn S, Smith G. [Elective repeat caesarian section in low-risk women- Economic evaluation comparing births before vs. after 39 weeks](#)

mark the program's 10th anniversary.

Among the program's highlights this fall was the convocation on Nov. 22 of five students - **Francesca Brundisini, Sarah Newell, Melodie (Yun-Ju) Song, Val Ulep and Marjan Walli-Attai**, which is the largest group to graduate together in the program's history. To date, 24 students have completed the program and successfully defended their dissertations.

The program has also launched a revamped website: <https://healthsci.mcmaster.ca/hpphd>.

Sophiya Garasia, who is supervised by **Emmanuel Guindon**, was awarded first prize in the "Health and Disadvantaged Populations" section within the "Health, Well-being and Inequality" poster session at the Canadian Research Data Centre Network's conference "Building an Inclusive, Prosperous and Healthy Canada: What Can We Learn from the Data?," which was held in Hamilton Oct. 18 & 19.

Ahmad Firas Khalid's visit to a Syrian refugee camp in Lebanon, made as part of his internship with the Knowledge to Policy Centre (K2P), was profiled in a Nov. 26 [Hamilton Spectator article](#).

Many PhD students shared their work at conferences in the fall:

Fanor Balderrama presented "*When are pharmaceuticals priced fairly?: A framework for an ethical pricing of pharmaceuticals*" at the Queen's University Health and Human Rights Conference on Nov 17.

Gautham Krishnaraj presented a workshop on Nov. 18 entitled "*Awkward Moments with No Right Answer: Three Ethical Cases from An Early Career Professional*" at the 2018 Global Health Students and Young Professionals Summit hosted at the Dala Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto.

Derek Manis presented his paper "*News media portrayal of supervised injection facilities in Ontario, Canada*" on Nov. 16 at Queen's University's 18th Annual Health and Human Rights Conference, in Kingston.

Donya Razavi went to Sweden in September to present "*Analysis of stakeholder participation in priority setting in three districts in Uganda: Who is in and who is out?*" along with "*Participation of vulnerable women in priority setting processes in Tororo district, Uganda*" at the 12th biannual International Conference of the International Society on Priorities in Health Priorities in Linköping. She presented the later paper again on November 14 at the 24th Canadian Conference on Global Health.

Canada. *Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology Canada*. 2018. Oct 22. pii: S1701-2163(18)30296-2.

Mascarenhas M, Garasia S, et al. [A scoping review of published literature on chikungunya virus](#). *PLoS ONE*. 2018.13(11): e0207554.

Mercuri M, Gafni A. [Examining the role of the physician as a source of variation: Are physician-related variations necessarily unwarranted?](#) *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*. 2018. Feb;24(1):145-151. doi: 10.1111/jep.12770.

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Milinkovic DA, Birch S, Scott F, Newbold KB, Hopkins J, Saffie M, Essue BM. [Low prioritization of latent tuberculosis infection - a systemic barrier to tuberculosis control: A qualitative study in Ontario, Canada](#). *International Journal of Health Planning and Management*. 2018. Nov 7. doi: 10.1002/hpm.2670.

Muratov S, Lee J, Holbrook A, Costa A, Paterson JM, Guertin JR, Mbuagbaw L, Gomes T, Khuu W, Tarride JE. [Regional variation in healthcare spending and mortality among senior high-cost healthcare users in Ontario, Canada: a retrospective matched cohort study](#). *BMC Geriatrics*. 2018. Nov 1;18(1):262. doi: 10.1186/s12877-018-0952-7.

Nielsen L, Sweetman A. [Measuring physician's incomes with a focus on Canadian-controlled private corporations](#). *Healthcare Papers*. 2018. Apr;17(4):77-86.

Nouvet E, Chan E, Schwartz LJ. [Looking good but doing harm? Perceptions of short-term medical missions in Nicaragua](#). *Global Health Action*. 2018. 12(1):157-167.

472.

Obuku E, Sewankambo N, Mafigiri DK, Sengooba F, Karamagi C, Lavis JN. [Use of post-graduate students' research in evidence informed health policies: A case study of Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Uganda](#). *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2018. 16:77.

Obuku EA, Lavis JN, Kinengyeere A, Ssenono R, Ocan M, Mafigiri DK, Sengooba F, Karamagi C, Sewankambo NK. [A systematic review on academic research productivity of postgraduate students in low and middle-income countries](#). *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2018. 16: 86.

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. Jan 31. pii: S1499-2671(17)30368-4.

Poirier MJP, Grignon M, Grépin KA, Dion ML. [Transnational wealth-related health inequality measurement](#). *SSM Population Health*. 2018. Oct 24; 6:259-275.

Rehman Y, Muzammil S, Wiercioch W, Rehman N, Drew B, Cenic A, Reddy K, Murty N, Kucher E, Dunlop RB, Guyatt GH, Busse JW, Schwartz L, Vanstone M. [Discrepancies between patient and surgeon expectations of surgery for sciatica: A challenge for informed decision making?](#) *Spine(Phila Pa 1976)*. 2018. Nov 1.

Saengow U, Birch S, Geater A, Chongsuwiatvong V. [Willingness to pay for colorectal cancer screening and effect of copayment in Southern Thailand](#). *Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention*. 2018. Jun 25;19(6):1727-1734.

Shearer J, Lavis JN, Abelson J,

[policy-making and policy innovation in a low-income country: Does policy network structure matter?](#) *Evidence & Policy*. 2018. 14(3): 381-401.

Tarride JE, Quinn FR, Blackhouse G, et al. [Is screening for atrial fibrillation in Canadian family practices cost-effective in patients 65 years and older?](#) *Canadian Journal of Cardiology*. 2018. Jun 21. pii: S0828-282X(18)30384-2.

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