

## Recap of Recent POR Events

### March 6 - Women's Xchange Workshop

OSSU's Research Centre, the Women's Xchange at Women's College Hospital, held a one-day workshop on integrating sex and gender into health research. The day featured international speakers and interactive panel discussions focused on: methods for including sex and gender in studies; case studies illustrating a sex and gender lens; and, critical questions posed and answered. The event attracted 116 registrants including health researchers, trainees, health policy analysts and decision makers, clinicians and community groups.



### March 7 - Pragmatic Trials

OSSU's Working Group on Pragmatic Trials held a one-day workshop to share and build on the evidence, value and use of pragmatic trials evidence. The event featured a broad spectrum of stakeholders discussing methods, implementation requirements and analysis of data in a patient-oriented research system. The workshop was supported by multiple OSSU Research Centres including PHRI, Ottawa Methods Centre and ICES and featured Provincial, National and International speakers. Over 100 participants provided in-depth discussion about the different approaches to move forward pragmatic trials in Ontario.



### March 8/9 - Clinical Trials Ontario Conference

On March 8 and 9, 2017, Clinical Trials Ontario brought together 300 members of the clinical research community through an exciting conference aimed at understanding and addressing the challenges and opportunities to support a strong environment for clinical trials, and the health and economic benefits they bring to Ontarians. Select presentations may be found at <http://ctoconference.ca/2017-slide-presentations/>



### April 6 - Ontario Child Health SUPPORT Unit (OCHSU) Symposium

OCHSU hosted a full day symposium on patient engagement (PE) in child health research. Approximately 75 people attended the morning session on Patient Engagement featuring an excellent presentation on the theory behind PE followed by practical advice from a panel of researchers and family members involved in POR research. A



highly engaging and informative Q&A period followed. The afternoon Strengthening Workshop featured 12 invited Principal Investigators (PIs) from across the province. Representatives from the OSSU Research Centres were in attendance with the goal of networking and forming collaborations for research projects. PIs and Research Centre representatives deemed this workshop an important learning and collaborative session.

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## POR Training for Senior Executives at the MOHLTC

Recognizing the value of POR evidence in health policy and decision making, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) scheduled its own Masterclass on the Use and Conduct of Patient-Oriented Research. Dr. John Lavis led the intensive learning session customized for members of MOHLTC's senior executive team and decision makers.



### Next Masterclass

Anyone interested in attending the next Masterclass scheduled for November 6-8, 2017 can visit [www.ossu.ca/training](http://www.ossu.ca/training) to find out how to register.

## OSSU Interim Evaluation

As OSSU enters its 4th year, Shift Health was commissioned to conduct an independent interim-evaluation of the SUPPORT Unit and its activities. The aim of this evaluation was to identify what OSSU has been doing well, where OSSU can improve and also to help build the evidence base for what OSSU is achieving. The full report will be released in the summer, after submission to CIHR and the Government of Ontario. One key highlight of the evaluation was that OSSU-enabled research has generated seven improvements to health practices already (with further practices and policies being explored).



*~2000 researchers, clinicians, patients and policy-makers makers have obtained training in POR through OSSU-enabled programs and resources.*

## KT at OSSU

On Friday, May 5, OSSU-funded research team representatives met with Dr. Sharon Straus and her Knowledge Transfer (KT) team to draft KT plans for their IMPACT awards. Each team was represented by a patient partner and a researcher/KT professional to flesh out the details of their KT plans. Once complete, OSSU will use these plans to formulate an overall “Blueprint for Knowledge Mobilization” at OSSU which will leverage its close relationship with Ontario’s health policy and decision maker community.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 24, 25 Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) Annual Meeting, Toronto  
<https://www.cahspr.ca/en/conferences/current/2017>.
- May 31 Trillium Primary Health Care Research Day, Toronto.  
[www.trilliumresearchday.com](http://www.trilliumresearchday.com).
- June 15, 16 KT Canada Annual Scientific Meeting, Quebec City, QC. [www.ktcanada.org](http://www.ktcanada.org)
- June 26, 28 KT Canada Summer Institute, Toronto, ON. The theme of the 2017 Institute is: “Patient oriented research”.  
<http://ktcanada.org/event/kt-canada-summer-institute>.

## HSRF “Un-paused”

The MOHLTC has relaunched its Health System Research Funds (HSRF) award. The relaunched competition will prioritize projects previously submitted to its Targeted Research call and new applications to its Targeted Call for Research in Nursing. In addition to expanding the patient engagement component of this and all future HSRF Calls, the MOHLTC is engaging patients in the review process.

## Taking the Pulse of Patient Engagement in Ontario

On April 25th, OSSU held two open calls with its stakeholders to report on its progress with Patient Oriented Research (POR) in Ontario and to learn first-hand from patients and researchers about their experiences with patient engagement (PE) in research. Overall, the adoption of PE is proceeding extremely well and all 35 participants were encouraged by OSSU’s future plans. OSSU has committed to hold more open calls with the community to learn about their real-world experiences with POR and PE.

## Congratulations

OSSU would like to congratulate the successful applicants of the CIHR Operating Grant: SPOR Innovative Clinical Trial Multi-Year Grant. The Innovative Clinical Trials (iCT) initiative aims to build capacity and increase the intensity of iCT research.

- Dr. Amit Garg, London Health Sciences Centre Research Institute
- Dr. Navindra Persaud, St. Michael's Hospital
- Dr. Jack V Tu, Sunnybrook Research Institute
- Dr. Brian Cuthbertson, Sunnybrook Research Institute (Toronto, Ontario)

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