

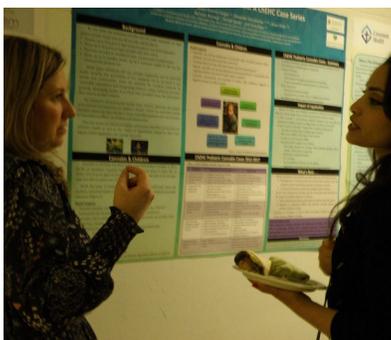


Research Day 2018, with some presenters and planning committee members

# Research Annual Report

A review of operations at the Covenant Health Research Centre for the fiscal year 2017/2018

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The Covenant Health Research Centre (CHRC) is dedicated to promoting innovation, facilitating inquiry, developing partnerships, and integrating research into practice in alignment with Covenant Health’s Mission, Vision, Values, and Strategic Directions.

Since its inaugural operations in 2003, the CHRC has reviewed more than 1407 research studies, and has secured operational/administrative approval for 1223 studies. In addition, the CHRC has approved 123 research grants representing over \$441,905 in funding.

This year, we focused on improving – streamlining – our use and function within EDGE, which is software used to facilitate research administration in alignment with our partners. This is in addition to assisting with wayfinding for researchers, and working with our partners to identify overall efficiencies and opportunities to work collaboratively across Alberta and nationally.

The well-attended 2018 Research Day event held at the Grey Nuns Community Hospital, entitled: *Addiction, and caring for this vulnerable population*, was the 13th such event produced by the CHRC. Dr. Douglas Spaner provided a keynote presentation on *“Brain-Focused” Addiction Research: Are we missing the forest for the trees?* and Dr. Ginetta Salvalaggio, Dr. Kathryn Dong, and Les



Dr. Douglas Spaner

### From our database

A total of 121 studies were approved during the fiscal year, most of which were observational studies (66%). Of those, 32 studies were led by Covenant Health primary physicians, allied health practitioners, and nurses. Of these 121 projects, the top three:

- » research methods included: 32% clinical and multi-centre trials, 19% qualitative studies, and 23% prospective chart reviews;
- » research focuses included: 60% patient-centred, 15% professional practice, and 14% innovation;
- » service areas included: 66% acute, 10% rehab, and 7% sub-acute;
- » therapeutic departments included: 21% medicine, 16% surgery, and 11% geriatrics and family health;
- » COV strategic plan objectives included: 36% Service, 26% Transform, and 21% Grow, with top three specific choices of S2, T1, and C2 (refer to the Strategic Objectives document);
- » Principal Investigators by discipline included: 76% physicians, 12% allied health professionals, and 11% academics;
- » Principal Investigators' affiliations included: the University of Alberta (82%), with the Universities of Calgary and Lethbridge at 16% and 2% respectively.

Umpherville provided another keynote presentation on *Relationship-Centered Addiction Care Experiences of the Inner City Health and Wellness Program*, joining other presenters from across Alberta Health Services, Covenant Health, University of Alberta, and University of Lethbridge. The event offered two discussion panels focusing on medical marijuana and harm reduction, respectively, as well as poster presentations on a broad range of health research topics.

## Creating capacity for research, one project at a time

During the 2017/2018 fiscal year, we were able to review/revise and fill a Research Development Coordinator (RDC) position with the CHRC. The incumbent is available to consult on developing potential research proposals, identify grant opportunities, and complete/edit grant applications, as well as assist in disseminating research outcomes, updates, and communications. This position and associated work helps us to extend beyond our wayfinding abilities within the health system and broaden the services that we can provide for researchers.

## The CHRC team



*Callista Ekuere*  
Administrative  
Assistant, Research



*Elise Kammerer*  
Research Development  
Coordinator



*Mary-Ann Clarkes*  
Manager



*Lynn Klein*  
Corporate Director,  
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