



Laura Passalent

Laura Passalent obtained her Bachelors of Science in Physical Therapy from the University of Toronto in 1995 and completed a Masters of Health Science in Epidemiology and Community Health at the University of Toronto in 2005. She is a certified Advanced Practitioner in Arthritis Care, having graduated from the ACPAC program in 2008.

Laura Passalent's research focuses on the rehabilitation and education of the spondyloarthritis population, as well as innovative health services delivery by rehabilitation professionals. Her research to date has included the development of a physiotherapist-led screening program for spondyloarthritis and the development, implementation and evaluation of an interdisciplinary education program for patients diagnosed with ankylosing spondylitis. She has presented and published on the subjects of physiotherapy for spondyloarthritis, extended scope practice of rehabilitation professionals in arthritis care, access to rehabilitation, and the use of geographic information systems in the analysis of rehabilitation services.

Laura Passalent is a Lecturer at the Department of Physical Therapy, Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto and works as a Physiotherapist Practitioner with the Arthritis Program at the Toronto Western Hospital.



Rita Kang

Manager, Patient Education and the Patient and Family Library, Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network.

Rita provides leadership to patient education initiatives and assists hospital staff to develop high quality patient education projects at Toronto Western Hospital, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. She manages UHN staff who work in the areas of graphics and plain language editing. She also oversees the function of patient and family library services that provides consumer health information and is active in community health education and partnerships.

Rita has a Bachelor of Social Work degree (with a minor in Public Administration) from Ryerson University and a Master of Education (with a specialization in Learning in the Workplace) from the University of Calgary.