

Collaboration, Resilience and Advancement



CANADIAN RHEUMATOLOGY
ASSOCIATION

SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE
DE RHUMATOLOGIE

Table of contents

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO	01
2021 LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEES	02
THE CRA'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY	04
OUR PROMISE TO MEMBERS	04
MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS	04
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES	05
MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW	06
SPECIAL PROJECTS	08
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION TASK FORCE	09
2021 AWARD WINNERS	10
CIORA GRANT AWARD WINNERS	12
2020 COVID-19 RESPONSE	14
OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES	16
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	32
PUBLICATIONS	32
SPONSOR SUPPORT	33

CRA'S MISSION

Represent Canadian rheumatologists and promote the pursuit of excellence in arthritis and rheumatic disease care, education and research.

A message from the President and CEO



EVELYN SUTTON, MD, FRCPC, FACP

President

It is my pleasure to introduce the Canadian Rheumatology Association's 2020-2021 Annual Report. Although this has been a challenging period for the world as a whole, the Canadian rheumatologist community has truly come together in the face of this pandemic.

The hard work and achievements you will read about in this Annual Report are all thanks to the dedication of our Board of Directors, committees, volunteers, partners, supporters and staff.



Ahmad Zbib, MD, CPHIMS-CA

This past year has been a pivotal one for the CRA, with many firsts including the planning for our first virtual meeting, launching our first educational webinar series, and publishing several position statements in a matter of days (which historically takes weeks or months).

This is not by coincidence; it is the result of gifted volunteers, dedicated staff and sound processes combined with passion and commitment to our mission. This past year we demonstrated that the CRA is a resilient and nimble organization, with a bright present and future ahead. I hope you enjoy reading through this report.

2021 Leadership and Committees

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT

Dr. Evelyn Sutton

VICE-PRESIDENT

Dr. Nigil Haroon

PAST-PRESIDENT

Dr. Vandana Ahluwalia

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dr. John Wade

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dr. Ahmad Zbib

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Vandana Ahluwalia

Dr. Louis Bessette

Dr. Nigil Haroon

Dr. Ronald Laxer

Dr. Lillian Lim

Dr. Evelyn Sutton (Chair)

Dr. Michelle Teo

Dr. Stephanie Tom

Dr. John Wade

OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES

CHAIR, ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING PROGRAM

Dr. Vinod Chandran

Chair, Abstract Review

Dr. Marinka Twilt

CHAIR, COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Dax G. Rumsey

CHAIR, EDUCATION

Dr. Raheem B. Kherani

Sub-Committee Chairs

CPD (Continuing Professional Development)

Drs. Gregory Choy and Marie Paule-Morin

Postgraduate

Drs. Marie Clements-Baker and Dharini Mahendira

Undergraduate

Drs. Lori Albert and Robert Ferrari

CanREAL (Canadian Rheumatology Education and Learning)

Drs. Mercedes Chan and Marie Paule-Morin

Chair, NWRITE (National Written Rheumatology

In-Training Examination)

Dr. Raheem Kherani

Program Committee Chairs

CRA Review Course

Drs. Shahin Jamal and Trudy Taylor

LEAP (CRA LEAdership Program)

Dr. Janet Pope

NRRW (National Rheumatology Residents Weekend)

Drs. Elizabeth Hazel and Dharini Mahendira

Residents' Pre-Course

Drs. Jason Kur and Dharini Mahendira

CHAIR, GUIDELINES

Dr. Glen Hazlewood

CHAIR, HUMAN RESOURCES

Drs. Claire Barber and Jessica Widdifield

CHAIR, PEDIATRICS

Dr. Ronald Laxer

Sub-Committee Chairs

Advocacy

Vacant

Education

Drs. Mercedes Chan and Evelyn Rozenblyum

Human Resources

Dr. Michelle Batthish

Community Pediatrics

Dr. Tommy Gerschman

CHAIR, QUALITY CARE

Dr. Amanda Steiman

Sub-Committee Chairs

Chair, Choosing Wisely

Dr. Shirley Lake

Chair, Equity

Dr. Cheryl Barnabe

Chair, Access

Dr. Amanda Steiman

Chair, Quality

Dr. Claire Barber

CHAIR, RESEARCH

Dr. Janet Pope

Chair, CIORA Grant Review

Dr. Marie Hudson

CHAIR, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Dr. Carter Thorne

CHAIR, THERAPEUTICS

Dr. Rosie Scuccimarri

LIAISONS

CRAJ EDITOR-IN CHIEF

Dr. Philip Baer

JOURNAL OF RHEUMATOLOGY

Dr. Jamie Henderson

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

Dr. Evelyn Sutton

PRESIDENT, ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION (AHPA)

Anne Macleod

It's Our 75th Anniversary



The road to how we got here.



1946

CRA was established; first known as the Canadian Rheumatic Disease Association. Interest in rheumatic disease was minimal and early membership numbers were sparse.

1975

In 1975 a report estimated there were 90 full-time rheumatologists in Canada. That is, internists spending more than 50% of practice time in rheumatic diseases.

2021

Nationally and internationally respected organization - almost 600 members across the country (and growing!)

Our promise to members



Constantly strive to understand and serve our members' needs and wants based on their career stage in the most responsive, respectful, efficient and personable manner.

Membership benefits



The CRA offers outstanding membership benefits including knowledge sharing, education, networking, advocacy and research support.



Members also receive complimentary subscriptions to The Journal of Rheumatology and The Journal of the Canadian Rheumatology Association.

Strategic Priorities

The CRA exists so that Canadian rheumatologists achieve excellence in clinical care, education and research.



Position the CRA as the leading national provider of rheumatology resources and continuing professional education.



Identify and influence issues of national relevance that affect rheumatologists' practices.



Build and nurture a vibrant national rheumatology community.



Champion the cause of rheumatology research in Canada.



Ensure continuing financial and operational sustainability of the CRA in a changing environment.

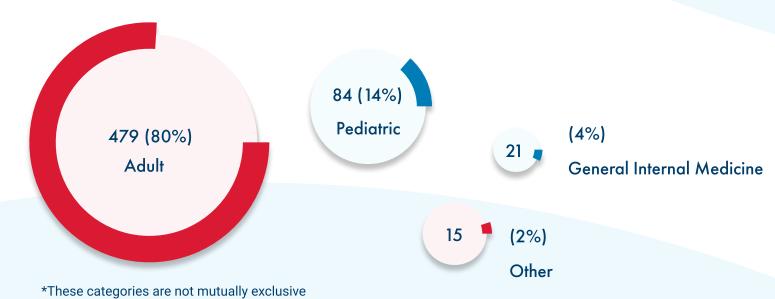
2020 Membership Overview



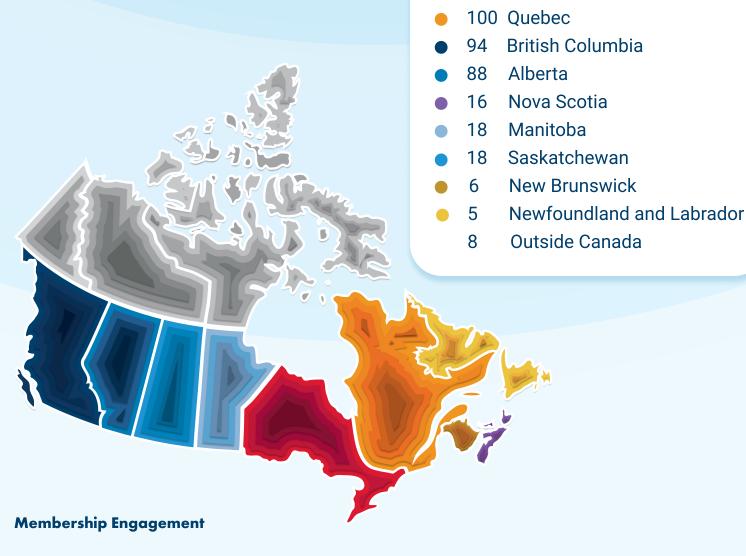
Membership Type



Specialty Practice



Geography



Our members are highly engaged:

of our members participated in at least 1 CRA networking events or is involved in a CRA committee



3 in 10 of our members are involved in CRA committiees

246 Ontario

Special Projects

COVID-19 Podcast Episodes

Over the past year, the CRA's Around the Rheum podcast explored Canadian perspectives of COVID-19 and how it has affected different groups.

Episodes and Topics included:

PIMS and the Pediatric COVID-19 Experience
Rheum on the Wards - Two Rheumatologists' Experiences
Working on the COVID-19 Wards in Montreal, QC.
Changing Rheums - Rheumatology Training and
COVID-19

Head of the Rheum - A Chat with the CEO about the CRA's role in the COVID-19 response

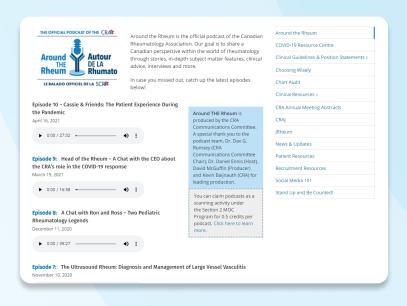
Cassie & Friends: The Patient Experience During the Pandemic

CRA ACR and EULAR 2020 Updates

The ACR and EULAR 2020 virtual conferences provided healthcare professionals with a plethora of new data on rheumatic conditions. CRA speakers reflected back on all the studies presented and highlighted key studies they think can significantly change clinical practice from a uniquely Canadian lens.

Models of Care

An upcoming special project under development; stay tuned for more information!





Diversity & Inclusion Task Force

The Task Force will be responsible for working with the Board of Directors, CEO and other Operational Committee Chairs to ensure the CRA delivers an inclusive opportunity and experience for all future and current members, as well as stakeholders.

Chaired by Dr. Nicole Johnson, this Task Force is currently reviewing organizational processes, with the goal of making recommendations to help the CRA be as inclusive and equitable as possible.



2021 Award Winners

CRA Awards of Distinction

Dr. Stephanie Gottheil

Dr. Sasha Bernatsky	Distinguished Investigator Award
Dr. Rachel Shupak	Distinguished Rheumatologist Award
Dr. Zahi Touma	Emerging Investigator Award
Dr. Elaine Yacyshyn	Distinguished Teacher-Educator Award
CRA Master Awards	
Dr. Ciarán M. Duffy	
Dr. Mary-Ann Fitzcharles	
Dr. James M. Henderson	
Practice Reflection Award	

Practice Reflection Award – Gold

Abstract Award Winners

Dr. Raffaella Carlomagno	Ian Watson Award for the Best Abstract on SLE Research by a Trainee
Ms. Kimberley Yuen	Phil Rosen Award for the Best Abstract on Clinical or Epidemiology Research by a Trainee
Dr. Ariane Barbacki	Best Abstract by a Rheumatology Resident
Mr. Andrew Kwan	Best Abstract on Basic Science Research by a Trainee
Ms. Luiza Grazziotin	Best Abstract by a Post-Graduate Research Trainee
Dr. Nadia Luca	Best Abstract on Quality Care Initiatives in Rheumatology
Mr. Daniel Levin	Best Abstract by a Medical Student
Mr. Anson Lee	Best Abstract by an Undergraduate Student
Dr. Jennifer Lee	Best Abstract by a Rheumatology Post-Graduate Research Trainee
Dr. Lihi Eder	Best Abstract on Research by Young Faculty
Dr. Sandeep Dhillon	Best Abstract on Spondyloarthritis Research

CIORA Grant Award Winners

In 2020 CIORA funded 5 two-year grants for a total of \$509,203.

Pillar	Awareness/Advocacy/Education			
Principal Investigator	Roberts, J.H. Ye, C.			
Award	\$ <i>77</i> , 148			
Title	Improving the care of cancer patients receiving immunotherapy who develop rheumatic immune-related complications, and those with pre-existing rheumatic disease, through online education with health care providers: An Initiative of CanRIO (Canadian Research Group of Rheumatology in Immuno-Oncology)			
Pillar	Health Economics/ Sustainability of Health Care/Quality Improvement			
Principal Investigator	Bansback, N.			
Award	\$96,984			
Title	Health Economic Evaluation of the Mandatory Switching Policy for Biosimilars in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis			
Pillar	Health Economics/ Sustainability of Health Care/Quality Improvement			
Principal Investigator	Kuriya, B. Eder, L.			
Award	\$104,000			
Title	Measuring Quality of Heart Failure Care in Inflammatory Arthritis- Are We Making the Mark?			

Pillar	Health Economics/ Sustainability of Health Care/Quality Improvement
Principal Investigator	Lacaille, D.
Award	\$114,000
Title	Safety and effectiveness of biosimilar anti-TNF agents in British Columbia – Exploiting a natural experiment from a change in health policy
Pillar	Multi-Disciplinary Care Teams
Principal Investigator	Nowrouzi-Kia, B. Touma, Z

Award

Title

\$11*7*,098

explanatory study

Work disability and function in systematic lupus

erythematosus: a national mixed-methods sequential

2020 COVID-19 Response

Since the onset of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the CRA team has been monitoring this developing and rapidly evolving situation. Here is a list of initiatives and measures that we've undertaken in 2020 to help keep our members and community up to date.

Keeping You Informed

Position Statements

- The CRA's Therapeutics Committee responded quickly with position statements relevant to Canadian rheumatologists.
- Position Statement on COVID-19 and Hydroxychloroquine Supply
- Position Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination

Stakeholder Engagement

Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) Shortage:

- The CRA remained active on this file, leading the way and connecting with key stakeholders to both inform decision-makers as well as report back to members. This includes active participation in meetings with Health Canada, other professional associations, patient groups and industry to both define the problem and identify solutions for the HCQ shortages.
- Furthermore, the CRA's leadership including board members and committee chairs, proactively reached out to the Federal Minister of Health, penning a letter urging the Federal Government to increase Canada's supply of HCQ to meet the higher demand for all patients who need it.

Webinars

- The COVID-19 Response Webinar Series was developed out of the immediate need to offer health care providers within the rheumatology community essential information and additional educational resources to assist with patient care.
- Webinars included:
- "Insights from Italy: A Rheumatologist's Perspective on COVID-19"
- "Journey of the RA & Rheumatology Patient during COVID-19"
- And more!

Resource Centre

 The CRA launched a COVID-19 resource centre at rheum.ca/COVID-19 with information and updates relevant to Canadian rheumatologists.

Staying Connected

Discussion Forum

• To encourage knowledge sharing amongst our community, the CRA launched a new discussion forum for members

Programming and Events

2020 Annual Scientific Meeting

• The CRA regularly communicated COVID-19 information to all attendees including best practices and implemented a flexible cancellation policy for those who had been feeling ill or did not want to travel.

Summer Studentship Program

• We made the difficult decision to cancel the Summer Studentship program in 2020.

Initiatives

COVID-19 Global Alliance Registry

- The CRA endorsed the COVID-19 Global Rheumatology Alliance Registry.
- This registry was an international effort to collect information pertinent to COVID-19 infection in patients with rheumatologic disease.
- Many sites across Canada were supported to participate in the global rheumatology alliance registry.

Other Initiatives Included:

- Transitioning Back to In-Person Patient Care Living Resource
- EULAR coverage from a Canadian perspective
- COVID-19 podcast series
- Complimentary yoga sessions

Weekly President's Updates

• Beginning in March of 2020, the CRA began deploying weekly updates to all CRA members regarding COVID-19 related information that impacts Canadian rheumatologists.

Operational Committees

Annual Scientific Meeting Program (ASM) Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Vinod Chandran	Coordinator Claire McGowan	Page 16	Pediatrics Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Ron Laxer	Coordinator Sue Ranta	Page 24
Communications Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Dax G. Rumsey	Coordinator Kevin Baijnauth	Page 20	Quality Care Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Amanda Steiman	Coordinator Sue Ranta	Page 25
Education Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Raheem Kherani	Coordinator Claire McGowan	Page 21	Research Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Janet Pope	Coordinator Virginia Hopkins	Page 26
Guidelines Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Glen Hazlewood	Coordinator Sue Ranta	Page 22	Stakeholder Engagement Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Carter Thorne	Coordinator Sue Ranta	Page 27
Human Resources Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Claire Barber, Dr. Jessica Widdifield	Coordinator Sharon Brinkos	Page 23	Therapeutics Committee	Committee Chair Dr. Rosie Scuccimarri	Coordinator Sue Ranta	Page 28

2021

Annual Scientific Meeting Program (ASM) Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Vinod Chandran Claire McGowan



Mandate

Determine and plan all scientific elements of the CRA Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) to ensure unparalleled education and networking opportunities are presented to all in attendance.



Achievements

2021 ASM Theme

Collaboration, Resilience and Advancement

Successfully re-engineered conference to a content-rich, interactive virtual event.

Satellite meetings included the CRA Residents' Pre-Course, CRA Review Course, AHPA Pre-Course, and the Canadian Arthritis Research Conference.

Priorities

Develop a comprehensive breadth of content for the Annual Scientific Meeting to ensure that members' Continuing Professional Development (CPD) needs are met and that networking opportunities are fostered within the membership and greater rheumatology community.

Continue to crowd-source content through a member needs assessment and Request for Proposal (RFP) program for 2022 workshops.



Save the date 2022 ASM

February 2 - 5

Québec City Convention Centre, Quebec City, Quebec

Meeting at a Glance

780 Registrants



workshops

6

poster tours

T 6 symposia

201

poster presentations

Satisfaction Scores:

satisfied with conference

97%

would recommend conference to a colleague

65%

Will be changing practice due to conference

Top reasons for attending:

® 80%

Professional Development

Rheumatology Research Updates

9 44% Poster Sessions

Notable Sessions



RheumJeopardy



Great Debate



Controversies in Rheumatology

New Sessions



Paired Specialty



Topic-Specific Networking Lounges

Comments

"Great speakers with excellent content relevant to Canadian rheumatologists."

"Excellent update of latest scientific research; great virtual experience."

"Variety of topics with high-level educational content."

"A good balance between high-level scientific content and light-hearted, community-engaging activities."

CRASCR Review Course

Committee Chair

Coordinator

Drs. Shahin Jamal and Trudy Taylor

Claire McGowan

Feeback:

Overview

ä 210

Registrants

Satisfaction Scores

95% satisfied with program would recommend

Presentations

program to a colleague

Great content packed into short period of time

symptoms, medication management.

Practical and well-balanced with good clinical

Good insight in to research being done, disease

information for the practicing rheumatologist.

Amazing....great topics and excellent speakers with content relevant to clinical practice

Clinician centric approach to high yield topics.

Residents' Pre-Course

Committee Chair

Drs. Jason Kur and Dharini Mahendira

Overview

145

Registrants

Presentations

Impact measures

93%

Satisfied with program

98%

Would recommend program to a colleague

Feeback:

Excellent talks on a broad range of important rheumatology topics at an appropriate level for trainees

Great learning and review for the Royal College exam

Important and topical subjects taught by experts in their field

Fantastic review, very relevant to daily practice as a rheumatology fellow

Canadian Arthritis Research Conference

Overview

2021

213

Theme Research with Impact

Registrants

- Nurture Leaders

Speakers

CARC program featured:

2 keynote lectures, RA and OA themed presentations offered in 2 streams, 41 poster presentations, and Original Research Presentation Day (*Original Research Day featured 25 presentations with 75 attendees)

Original Research Presentation Day

Reasons for attending:

Presentations

Attendees

Top reasons for attending

② 71%

Professional

Development

Poster Sessions

35%

Networking **Opportunities**

Satisfaction Score

74%

Satisfied with program

Communications Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Dax G. Rumsey Kevin Baijnauth



Mandate

Facilitate optimal and fluid communications among the CRA, members and stakeholders.



Achievements 2020

Podcast: 8 episodes released across 2020 to date with over 2,000 streams

Accounting Column (Rheum for Growth) - two articles launched to date:

- 1) "To Incorporate or Not to Incorporate?"
- 2) "Opening a New Practice"

Social Media: Small task force created to seek out articles and resources for members to post on the CRA's Twitter account and in select President's Updates

Review: Provided feedback and review of investigator-led surveys and special projects (EULAR and ACR coverage)



Priorities 2021

Who's in the Rheum: Relaunch series of articles that will highlight CRA members.

Podcast: Record and produce episodes for season 2 of Around the Rheum in 2021. New initiatives include a focus on different formats including a guest host (Dr. Janet Pope) and a French pilot episode.

Continue to work on social media and accounting column initiatives, as well as reviewing surveys and/or special projects as needed.



The official pocast of the CRAS Le balado officiel de la SCR



Google Podcasts





Apple Podcast











Education Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Raheem Kherani Claire McGowan



Mandate

Provide member education through a variety of CRA programs and initiatives designed for members and rheumatology trainees as well as facilitate rheumatology education for medical undergraduates, postgraduates and paediatric/internal medicine trainees.



Achievements 2020

Introduced COVID-19 Response Webinar Series in response to global pandemic.

Developed national consensus opinion of learning outcomes for a National Undergraduate Rheumatology Cirrucula (NURC).

Developed, disseminated and reviewed annual National Written Rheumatology In-Training Examinations (NWRITE) for adult rheumatology trainees.

Rebranded CRA leadership program to LEAP (LEAdership Program) and received record number of applicants to the 2020 program.

Continued collaboration with the ASM, Residents' Pre-Course, Review Course, LEAP and NRRW Program Committees to facilitate program planning.



Priorities 2021

Dissemination of national learning outcomes for undergraduate rheumatology education.

Extend educational resources for Program Directors and rheumatology residents (including a national immunology curriculum).

Continue to provide accreditation of Section 1 and Section 3 activities to physician organizations

Promote best practices in CPD activities to inform CRA membership and operational committees.



Programs

National Rheumatology Residents' Weekend (NRRW) hosted in Toronto January 10–12, 2020.

CRA LEAdership Program (LEAP, formerly known as FLIRT) meetings hosted virtually in May and October, 2020.



Guidelines Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Glen Hazlewood Sue Ranta



Mandate

Prioritize, fund and support the development of evidence-based guidelines for various rheumatic diseases, and disseminate them to the membership and medical community at large.



Achievements 2020

Introduced concept of continually updated recommendations or 'living guidelines' for CRA guideline development.

Developed an 'equity framework' to be incorporated into all CRA guidelines (collaboration with Quality Care Committee).

Responded to urgent members needs with development of COVID-19 vaccination decision aid tool and work on GRADE COVID-19 Vaccine guidelines.



Priorities 2021

Utilize the guidelines development tool MAGICapp to streamline the development process.

Finalize and publish RA, SpA, JIA Uveitis and Transition Care guidelines.

Human Resources Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Drs. Claire Barber & Jessica Widdifield

Sharon Brinkos



Mandate

Ensure that the CRA workforce issues are identified nationally, provincially & regionally, & that appropriate strategies are identified/developed to strengthen workforce capacity across Canada.

The CRA endorses the needs to:

- Increase Recruitment of Clinical FTE Rheumatologists.
- Reduce the Regional Maldistribution of Rheumatologists across Canada.
- Enhance Retention of Rheumatologists within the Workforce.
- Enhance Workforce Capacity with Allied Health Practitioners.
- Promote and Support Research to Provide Data About the Rheumatology Workforce to Plan for the Future Health Care Needs of Canada's Population.



Achievements 2020

Successful launch of the 2020 CRA Workforce & Wellness Survey underway which will provide key information on Canada's rheumatology workforce (supply, distribution, clinical activity, retirement planning, wellness & burnout, impact of COVID-19 pandemic on rheumatology practices). Survey will be analyzed in Spring 2021.

Drafted the 2020 CRA Rheumatology Workforce Technical Report & Position Statements.



Priorities 2021

Analysis, manuscript preparation, and knowledge translation activities to report on the findings from 2020 CRA Workforce & Wellness Survey.

Manuscript preparation, and knowledge translation activities to report on the 2020 CRA Rheumatology Workforce Technical Report & Position Statements.

Explore interprofessional collaboration opportunities as well as develop synergies with other CRA committees & related rheumatology & medical organizations.

Collaborate with ongoing programs addressing workforce

Support CRA members in advocating for HR resources in their regions.

Pediatrics Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Ron Laxer

Sue Ranta



Mandate

Promote education and awareness of childhood rheumatic diseases and serve to strengthen the voice of pediatric rheumatology across Canada through advocacy, education, and human resources



Achievements 2020

Collaborated with Therapeutics Committee and Stakeholder Engagement committee re: advocacy efforts related to Actemra, citrate-free Humira, SIMPONI ARIA, and Anakinra

Educated members on issues related to COVID-19 and pediatric rheumatology patients, including a PIMS webinar and podcast episode. Pediatric Executive members were lead authors on Canadian Pediatric Society PIMS Practice Point, endorsed by the CRA

Subcommittees actively engaged on developing Choosing Wisely pediatric recommendations, JIA Uveitis Guidelines, and networking opportunities for community pediatric rheumatologists.



Priorities 2021

Identify and influence issues of national relevance that affect rheumatologists' practices through dissemination of Practice Patterns Survey.

Host accredited 'National Grand Rounds' webinars of issues of national interest.

Publish pediatric Choosing Wisely recommendations and JIA Uveitis Guidelines.

Continue to strengthen relations and collaborations with Cassie + Friends and the Canadian Paediatric Society.

Quality Care Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Amanda Steiman

Sue Ranta



Mandate

Support member activities in the domains of Equity, Access, Quality Patient Management, and Resource Stewardship, and work with key stakeholders to achieve optimal patient care.



Achievements 2020

JIA Transition working group is a collaboration between Quality Care, Pediatrics and Guidelines Committee. Published 'National Priorities for High Quality Rheumatology Transition Care for Youth in Canada' in the Journal of Rheumatology.

Supported members through the pandemic with telehealth guidance, including a webinar on best practices for telehealth use. A Telehealth Working Group has been formed with several initiatives planned for 2021.

Indigenous Health initiatives included national workshop (with Phase Two held virtually), and several local workshops for residents, PTs, OTs and nurses in BC.

Survey on type and extent of inequity in COVID-19 vaccine access developed, to be deployed in early 2021.



Priorities 2021

Publish JIA Transition guidelines and compile transition resources; development of an educational blueprint to develop learning sessions; and creation of a 'business case' for transition care in rheumatology in Canada, to be used in advocacy efforts.

Develop Telehealth position statement and resources for members.

Continue to increase rheumatologists' knowledge and practice skills in Indigenous Health topics.

Research Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Janet Pope

Virginia Hopkins



Mandate

To work with the CEO to champion the cause of Rheumatology Research in Canada:

- · The committee will be responsible for soliciting sponsorship funding for the CIORA grant program and formulating new funding strategies and establishing grant competition criteria.
- · The committee will establish what can be done beyond CIORA.
- · The committee will address all research agenda items for the CRA.



Achievements 2020

Launched 13th CIORA Grant Competition and funded 5 two-year grants for a total of \$509,203.

Submitted articles to CRAJ Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer issues highlighting past projects.

Submitted workshop proposal for SR&ED Credits.

Solicited funding and received \$475,000 in sponsorship support.

Participated on the Canadian Arthritis Research Conference planning committee.

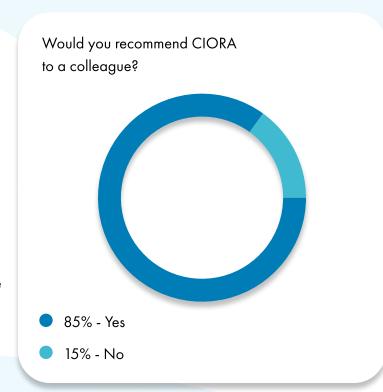
Priorities 2021

Present What Can SR&ED Credits Do for You and Your Practice workshop at the CRA & AHPA Annual Scientific Meeting.

Fund 5 CIORA grants, including one community rheumatology grant.

Solicit funding for CIORA grants.

Work with IMHA and Arthritis Society to develop a national research strategy.



Canadian Initiative for Outcomes in Rheumatology cAre (CIORA)

CIORA* ICORA

Mandate

CIORA's grant program supports sustainable projects related to rheumatic diseases that promote the following pillars:



Awareness/Advocacy/ Education

Health Economics/Sustainability of Health Care/Quality Improvement



Early Access for Rheumatic Disease Patients



Multi-Disciplinary Care Teams



Community Rheumatology



Metrics



(\$2,191,924 in 2019)



\$509,203

Total funding granted \$493,518 in (2019)



\$475,000

Total funding recieved \$485,000 in (2019)



19

Grants submitted (24 in 2019)



Letters of intent 34 in (2019)



Applications funded 6 in 2019

Dissemination of results:



22 Presentations which included:



11 Poster presentations



3 Podium presentations



6 Publications



2 Webinars

Stakeholder Engagement Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Carter Thorne

Sue Ranta



Mandate

Stakeholder Engagement committee works to build third-party networks that can develop credible, united voices about issues, products, and/or services that are important to our organization.



Achievements 2020

Worked with Pediatrics and Therapeutics Committee to advocate on a number of drug access issues including citrate-free Humira and Simponi Aria for pediatric patients, HCQ supplies during the pandemic, and Actemra.

Active on many stakeholder committees including Health Canada's Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee on Drug Shortages (MSSC) and provided requested CRA feedback to CMA on revisions to the Guidelines for Physicians Interactions with Industry.

Invited to participate in a pan-Canadian evaluation on biosimilar implementation, extended by Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario).



Priorities 2021

CRA Position Statement on Pharmacare that outlines guiding values and principles to consider while including the unique rheumatology perspective.

Continue to engage with provincial and federal stakeholders on emerging drug shortages and advocate for the needs of rheumatologists and their patients.

Therapeutics Committee



Committee Chair

Coordinator

Dr. Rosie Scuccimarri

Sue Ranta



Mandate

Identify and address all therapeutic issues that are relevant to the CRA membership as well as develop position statements and respond to drug shortages/withdrawals as required.



Achievements 2020

Published several CRA position statements including: COVID-19 and Hydroxychloroquine Supply, Citrate-Free Humira, and COVID-19 Vaccination.

Active with other CRA committees on advocacy efforts including a letter to the Minister of Health regarding the hydroxychloroquine shortage, as well as access to drugs for pediatric patients (Actemra, Citrate-Free Humira, Simponi Aria).



Priorities 2021

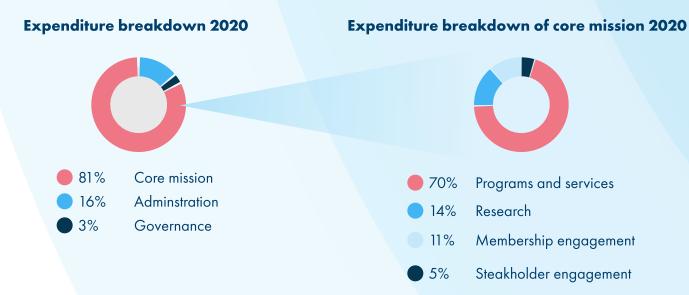
Continue responding to drug shortages, withdrawals, or new issues as required.

Continue advocacy efforts via letters, position statements, meeting participation with stakeholders, etc.

Publish updated Medical Cannabis position statement to include section on cannabidiol and a patient information pamphlet and checklist.

Finalize and publish position statement on Stem Cell Therapy.

Expenditure Summary



Publications

The Journal of the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRAJ)

CRAFSCR The mission of The Journal of the Canadian Rheumatology Association is to encourage discourse among the Canadian rheumatology community for the exchange of opinions and information. The CRAJ is published under the direction of an Editorial Board 4 times annually in both English and French languages.

2760 Total print circulation 83% English 17% French

The Journal Of Rheumatology

The Journal of Rheumatology

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