

# Department of Evaluation and Research Services

A Year in Review: 2017-2018 Report



## Highlights



**Health Research Champion Award:**  
Dr. Sonia Singh, MD received a Frank Yvonne McCracken Endowment Fund Award from the Peace Arch Hospital Foundation to establish a Centre for Research in Bone Health & Healthy Aging.

**\$15,283,900**

Cumulative external research funding



**19** Studies funded by external funding agencies for a total value of

**\$2,001,423**

**108,077**



Consent to Contact research participants

## Facts

Fostering a Culture of Curiosity in a Climate of Spirited Scientific Inquiry.

**ONE**  
**31,618**  
Electronic downloads for reference publications overseen by Library Services

**FOUR**  
**55** Research and evaluation learning opportunities: workshops, Researchers' Cafes, and Research Week

**SEVEN**  
**29** Academic researchers became affiliated

**TWO**  
**294** Research studies were conducted monthly

**FIVE**  
Fraser Health Research Ethics Board Reviews  
**102** New research studies

**EIGHT**  
**71,862** Patients and clients were research participants (including their data)

**THREE**  
Library Services ROI  
\$1.92 for every \$1.00

**SIX**  
**381** Amendments/renewals of previously approved studies

**NINE**  
DERS Methodology Unit  
**196** Research project consultations

**SIX**  
**258** Fraser Health researchers conducted clinical, population health and health services research

**NINE**  
DERS Methodology Unit  
**19** Evaluations  
**783** Literature searches

# Fraser Health Research Kudos

## ABORIGINAL HEALTH

### Petra Pardy

- \$10,000 BC SUPPORT Unit Fraser Centre Planning Award
- “Determining Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Research Priorities”

## FAMILY PRACTICE

### Dr. Nitasha Puri, MD

- \$2,800 UBC Faculty of Medicine/DERS Summer Student Research Award
- “Understanding Alcohol Use Disorder Among South Asians in Surrey, BC: A Preliminary Qualitative Study”

## CRITICAL CARE

### Sarah Crowe

- \$52,768 Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) BC Nursing Research Initiative Grant
- “Healthcare Expectations and Sources of Distress: Experiences of the Chronically Critically Ill in Residential Care and their Families”

## HOME HEALTH

### Dr. Grace Park, MD

- \$2,500 Candian Institutes of Health Research Rewarding Success Initiative Travel Award
- “Proactively Delaying Frailty in Seniors: The Community Actions and Resources Empowering Seniors (CARES) Project”

## CRITICAL CARE

### Dr. Greg Haljan, MD

- \$20,000 Department of Evaluation and Research Services Physician Research Planning Salary Award
- “Fraser Health ICU Survivorship Research Program”

## NEUROLOGY

### Dr. George Medvedev, MD

- \$21,000 Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation Research Fund Grant “Improving Clinical Diagnosis and Intervention Outcomes in Hemorrhagic Stroke with the Automation of CT-Based Hemorrhage Assessment”

## DERS

### Dr. Sonia Singh, MD

- Department of Evaluation and Research Services**
- \$50,000 Surrey Hospital Foundation South Asian Research: Community of Practice Research Award

## NEUROTECH LAB

### Dr. Xiaowei Song, PhD

- \$1,384,652 Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grant
- “Frailty Assessment for Older Adults at Points of Care: Validating the Electronic Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment / Frailty Index (eFI-CGA)”
- \$99,910 Canadian Frailty Network Catalyst Grant
- “Brainwave Technology and Health Status Measurement in Cognitive Decline”
- \$45,000 Surrey Hospital Foundation
- Recipient of the Neuro Research Award to support students who are furthering neuro research being conducted at Surrey Memorial Hospital
- \$14,982 Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Convening and Collaborating Grant
- “Collaborative Development of a Dynamic Electronic Frailty Index (eFI) for Early Frailty Identification in Community-Dwelling Older Adults”

### Michelle Purdon

- Co-author for “Demonstrating the Financial Impact of Clinical Libraries: A Systematic Review” published in Health Information and Libraries Journal, was one of the journal’s top 20 most downloaded recent papers

# Fraser Health Research Kudos

NUTRITION

## Rebekah Sandhu

- \$10,000 BC SUPPORT Unit Fraser Centre Planning Award
- “Exploring the Experiences of Caregivers and Patients with Home Enteral Nutrition within FH”

OBSTETRICS

## Dr. Roy Jackson, MD

- \$2,800 UBC Faculty of Medicine/DERS Summer Student Research Award
- “The Impact of Surgical Wait Times on Medical Management of Uterine Fibroids”

PALLIATIVE CARE & HHN

## Dr. Neil Hilliard, MD, Lisa Zetes-Zanatta, & Dr. Rick Sawatzky, PhD

- Palliative Care & Home Health Network**
- \$2,500 Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) Rewarding Success Initiative Travel Award
  - “Integration of a Quality of Life and Practice Support System to Support a Palliative Approach for Frail Older Adults Living at Home”
- PI: Dr. Rick Sawatzky, PhD (Affiliated Researcher, Trinity Western University)*

PHARMACY

- ## Dr. Alison Alleyne, PharmD
- Department of Evaluation and Research Services**
- \$3,000 Surrey Hospital Foundation Auxiliary Grant
  - “The Use Of Dosesets To Facilitate Medication Adherence Upon Patient Discharge From Hospital”

POPULATION & PUBLIC HEALTH

## Jennifer Hawkins

- \$9,970 BC SUPPORT Unit Fraser Centre Planning Award
- “Responding to the Overdose Crisis: Exploring Risk and Resilience with a Hidden Patient Population in the Fraser East”

TRAUMA

## Dr. Shovita Padhi, MD

- \$750 Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) Institute Community Support
- “Healthy Cities Research ‘Think Tank’”

## Dr. Iain MacPhail, MD

- \$8,000 Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation Research Fund
- “Surgeon Versus Non-Surgeon Trauma Team Leader: A Multicentre Cohort Study”

# Adoption and Uptake

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## Maternal Health Research Impact

### What?

- The Hummingbird Project: A Community Based Program to Support Women and Families in Pregnancies after Stillbirth
- Focus groups with participants who have first-hand experience of care in subsequent pregnancies after stillbirth revealed core components that were missing in the care of such pregnancies and highlighted barriers to the delivery of desired care. *PI: Dr. Lynn Farrales, MD, Co-Investigators: Zoe G. Hodgson, Jaime Ascher, Ciana Maher, Lee Saxell, and Amanda Martin*

### Then What?

- Through a deliberate community-based participatory process, the research team reached consensus on a novel intervention to address the focus group findings.

### Now What?

- The Research Team is exploring ways to creatively reach knowledge users, including the development of audio-support tools in the form of podcasts in partnership with Co-Op Radio. These tools will be part of a tool-kit to be developed in the next two phases of the study for use by frontline providers within community-based and primary health care settings in their care for families in pregnancies after stillbirth.

## Palliative Care Research Impact

### What?

- The administration of Dexmedetomidine to improve end of life pain and confusion was analyzed using a case study approach. *PI: Dr. Neil Hilliard, MD; Co-Investigators: Dr. Stuart Brown, MD, Laurel Nicholson, Julie Pullis, Pam Tucker, Bruce Kennedy, and Dr. Doris Barwich, MD*

### Then What?

- The patient's pain and delirium cleared. The treatment was successful in fulfilling the patient's goal of care which was not to be deeply sedated but to be rousable and of clear mind while having good pain control.

### Now What?

- Dexmedetomidine was approved for conscious sedation to improve intractable pain and delirium

in the tertiary palliative care environment by the BC Provincial Formulary.

## Residential Care Research Impact

### What?

- Mixed methods research designed to determine what type of caregiver resource is needed to help families navigate the transition from home into residential care. *PI: Dr. Denise Cloutier, PhD (Affiliated Researcher, University of Victoria) and Taylor Hainstock (Island Health Authority)*

### Then What?

- Gaps in family caregiver knowledge identified at three distinct phases during the caregiver journey: precursors leading to transition, preparing to transition into residential care, and post-transition.
- An expanded Caregiver Journey resource was piloted with family caregiver participants.

### Now What?

- The Caregiver's Brochure produced as a result of this research is available at the University of Victoria's website <https://www.uvic.ca/research/centres/aging> (found under 'Research and resources', then 'Community resources') and the Family Caregivers of BC website <https://www.familycaregiversbc.ca/articles/> (found under 'Transitioning to Long Term Care')

# Emerging Research

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## Food & Nutrition Services

Food & Nutrition Services has implemented a full time research support service to develop research capacity amongst Fraser Health dietitians and Business Initiatives & Support Services.

This service includes a full time dietitian research position, a designated sharepoint research site and leadership support for education events. The position has already resulted in 10 new studies (three with UBC dietetics students) and 20 new dietitian research investigators.

# Most Active Researchers in FH

## Physician Led

- Dr. Galina Vorobeyhick, MD - **45** studies (Neurology, MS)
- Dr. Robert McCormack, MD - **35** studies (Orthopaedics)
- Dr. Sean Keenan, MD - **24** studies (Critical Care)
- Dr. Steve Reynolds, MD - **24** studies (Critical Care)
- Dr. Wendy Lam, MD - **21** studies (Oncology)
- Dr. Jan Kornder, MD - **20** studies (Cardiology)
- Dr. Ken Atkinson, MD - **14** studies (GI)
- Dr. Virgil Danescu, MD - **13** studies (Orthopaedics)
- Dr. Gerald Simkus, MD - **13** studies (Cardiology)
- Dr. Michael Noble, MD - **12** studies (Oncology)
- Dr. Sonia Singh, MD - **12** studies (Osteoporosis and Fall Prevention)

## Clinician Led

- Dr. Fabio Feldman, PhD - **16** studies (Quality)
- Dr. Wendy Gordon, PharmD - **10** studies (Pharmacy)
- Brandi Newby - **10** studies (Pharmacy)
- Liz da Silva - **9** studies (Dietetics)
- Dr. Alison Alleyne, PharmD - **7** studies (Pharmacy)
- David Kealy - **7** studies (MHSU)
- Anisha Lakhani - **7** studies (Pharmacy)
- Dr. William Miller, PhD - **7** studies (Rehab)
- Dr. Xiaowei Song, PhD - **7** studies (Neuroscience)

[View their studies and research impact summaries on our \*\*Research Study Database\*\*.](#)

# Notable Internal Awards

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES GRANTS

- **Reena Parhar** “Assessing Swallowing and Respiration Following Prolonged Intubation: A Feasibility Study” \$10,000 funding from Surrey Hospital Foundation

## SEED GRANTS

- **Ronda Field** “TeleHealth Exercise for Fall Prevention” \$5,000 funding from Ridge Meadows Hospital Foundation

# Research Ethics

## Board Members: On the Move

With regret, the Board accepted the resignation of both MaryEllen Gillan and Dr. Dennis Orton, PhD. MaryEllen had been a community member for 7 years. In addition to ensuring that scientific information in participant consent forms was made understandable for a lay person, MaryEllen also brought with her knowledge of Indigenous peoples as part of the Canadian Métis community. The Board is very grateful for her long years of thoughtful service to the Fraser Health research community. Dr. Orton brought his clinical lab expertise to the board as a clinical biochemist.

The Board welcomes Bonnie MacKenzie, Michelle Tsai and Dr. Tim Leung, PharmD as its new members. Bonnie will serve the Board in the capacity of a community representative. She has past experience being on other REBs. Michelle is a Fraser Health therapist and researcher who will be able to provide expertise in mental health and substance use. Dr. Leung brings with him pharmacological expertise that is essential to the review of clinical drug protocols and drug safety information.