



Toronto Health Economics and
Technology Assessment Collaborative

SECOND ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM Field Evaluations in HTA

May 22-24, 2009

Queen's Landing, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario



University Health Network
Toronto General Hospital Toronto Western Hospital Princess Margaret Hospital



Leslie Dan Pharmacy Building
University of Toronto
6th Floor, Room 658
144 College Street
Toronto, Ontario Canada M5S 3M2

T 416 946 3718

F 416 946 3719

E info@theta.utoronto.ca

Day 1 – Friday, May 22

3:00 pm Registration & check-in at Queen's Landing

7:00 pm Wine & cheese reception

Day 2 – Saturday, May 23

- 7:00 am** **Registration, BREAKFAST in Tiara Restaurant**
- 9:00 am** Welcome, Overview and Objectives of the Retreat – Dr. Louise Lemieux-Charles, Chair, Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto
- 9:05 am** One Year Review of Theta
- Outcomes of Last Year’s Retreat – Dr. Louise Lemieux-Charles
 - Major Activities and Accomplishments – Dr. Murray Krahn, Director, THETA; F. Norman Hughes Chair, Faculty of Pharmacy, Professor, University of Toronto
- 9:30 am** What Have You Been Up To Since We Met Last Year?: THETA Community Speed ‘Dating’
- 10:15 am** **BREAK**
- 10:30 am** **Keynote Address:** Field Evaluation in the United States – Dr. Sean Tunis, Founder and Director of the Center for Medical Technology Policy, San Francisco, California
- 11:15 am** Evidence-Based Analysis in Ontario: Trends, Successes, Challenges and the Impact of the New Fiscal Reality – Dr. Leslie Levin, Head, Medical Advisory Secretariat and Senior Medical, Scientific and Health Technology Advisor, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario
- 12:00 pm** **LUNCH, Tiara Restaurant**
- 1:15 pm** THETA Project Updates and Group Feedback
- Cost Effectiveness of Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Ontario: Long-term, Acute and Community Care – Ba’ Pham, Senior Research Associate, THETA Collaborative
 - Ongoing and Planned Randomized Clinical Trials:
 - Pressure Ulcer Prevention: Turning for Ulcer Reduction (TURN) – Dr. Gina Trubiani, Clinical Research Coordinator, THETA Collaborative, University of Toronto
 - Pressure Ulcers Multi-disciplinary Teams (PUMT) – Dr. Anita Stern, Senior Clinical Research Coordinator, THETA Collaborative, University of Toronto
 - Ontario Cardiovascular Economic Model (OCVEM) – Dr. Marcio Machado, Research Associate, THETA, University of Toronto
- 2:30 pm** **BREAK**

- 2:45 pm** A Sampling of Health Technology Assessment and Management Hors D'oeuvres: Presentations by THETA Collaborators
- Promoting Excellence in HTA Training: What Can We Learn From Successful Transdisciplinary Training Programs? – Dr. Patricia O'Campo, Director, Centre for Research on Inner City Health, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto
 - Technology Assessment at Sick Kids (TASK): An Update – Dr. Wendy Ungar, Senior Scientist, Child Health Evaluative Sciences, The Hospital for Sick Children; Associate Professor, Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto and Program Director - Ulysses Program (International Master's Program in Health Technology Assessment and Management)
 - The Ulysses Program in Health Technology Assessment and Management: A Student's Perspective – Jennifer Donnan, University of Toronto, Graduate Student (MSc. HTA&M); Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information, Pharmacy Research Specialist
 - Health Care Management Science – Dr. Greg Zaric, Associate Professor, Canada Research Chair in Health Care Management Science, Richard Ivey School of Business, University of Western Ontario
 - What are "SMART" and "RIGHT-ON"? – Dr. Suzanne Cadarette, Assistant Professor, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto
 - News From the World of Pharmaceutical Economics – Dr. Paul Grootendorst, Associate Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto; Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Economics, McMaster University
 - The Pharmacoeconomics Research Unit at 18 Months – Dr. Jeffrey Hoch, Research Scientist, Centre for Research on Inner City Health, The Keenan Research Centre, Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, St Michael's Hospital; Head, Pharmacoeconomics Research Unit, Cancer Care Ontario; Associate Professor, Department of Health Policy, Management, and Evaluation, University of Toronto
- 4:00 pm** Small Group Discussions and Report Back: Top Three Goals for THETA in 2009/10 (e.g. research, service, education, "community" activities)
- 5:15 pm** Reflections on Day 1 – Dr. Louise Lemieux-Charles
- 6:00 pm** Dinner **PLEASE NOTE DINNER WILL BE SERVED PROMPTLY AT 6PM**
complimentary to invitees and those who have paid for their family member(s)
- 8:00 pm** Shaw Festival: Born Yesterday – please note that a *very limited* number of tickets remain for the show. Price is \$60

Day 3 – Sunday, May 24

Evaluating Imaging Technologies: Balancing Innovation, Access, Evidence and Affordability

Diagnostic imaging is becoming increasingly important to health policy makers for a number of reasons:

- There continue to be long wait times in Ontario for CT and MRI scans despite a massive increase in the number of CTs and MRIs performed (3 and 7 fold increases, respectively, from 1994/95-2004/05).¹ In Ontario, the wait time for MRI (defined as the time after a requisition for MRI by which 90% of patients have received the scan) was 107 days in March 2009 compared to the provincial target of 28 days.² This situation has led to an increased focus on the appropriateness of MRI, the implication being that many scans are “inappropriate”. There has been very little progress in defining appropriateness or developing mechanisms to achieve it.
- Some new imaging techniques such as Positron Emission Tomography (PET) are quite expensive.
- There appears to be poor evidence for the impact of these technologies on clinical outcomes.
- There are concerns that high rates of imaging are driving expensive care without an improvement in outcomes.^{3,4}

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has taken a controversial approach to PET scanning by basing the introduction of PET on the results of clinical trials, which are largely funded by the Ministry. Supporters of this approach argue that high quality evidence will finally be developed on the benefits and harms of this modality, and that an appropriate bar will be set for the evidence needed to introduce new diagnostic imaging techniques. Critics of the approach say that Ontario lags behind much of the developed world in accessing imaging in general and PET scanning in particular, that clinical trials are unreasonably slow (taking years to complete), that it is unreasonable to expect imaging techniques to impact on clinical outcomes, and that this approach stifles innovation (leading to little expertise in the use of PET in the province and the loss of clinical trials that use PET as an outcome measure).

An extensive National Oncology PET Registry (NOPR) in the United States has rapidly collected information from tens of thousands of elderly patients who have had PET scans for indications that are considered unclear.⁵ It is hoped that information from NOPR will allow subsequent decisions to be made about whether PET should be reimbursed for these indications.

NOPR has demonstrated that data can be systematically collected from a large number of practices (>1,500). The limitations of NOPR include: the registry reported intended patient management rather than documenting changes in the care delivered; it is not known if the changes in management led to better clinical outcomes or attempted to define what outcomes are relevant in assessing a diagnostic (vs. therapeutic) intervention; and the timing and role of PET in relation to CT imaging was not measured or dictated by the registry.

The panel will discuss these issues and invite contributions from the audience.

¹ Laupacis A, Przybysz R, Keller MA. CT and MRI scanning. In Access to Health Services in Ontario. ICES Atlas 2nd Edition. Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences; 2006.

² www.ontariowaittimes.com.

³ Fisher ES, Wennberg DE, Stukel TA, Gottlieb DJ, Lucas FL, Pinder EL. The implications of regional variations in Medicare spending. Part 1: the content, quality and accessibility of care. *Ann Intern Med.*2003 Feb18;138(4):273-87.

⁴ Fisher ES, Wennberg DE, Stukel TA, Gottlieb DJ, Lucas FL, Pinder EL. The implications of regional variations in Medicare spending. Part 2: health outcomes and satisfaction with care. *Ann Intern Med.*2003 Feb18;138(4):288-98.

⁵ Hillner BE, Siegel BA, Shields AF, Liu D, Gareen IF, Hanna L, Stine SH, Coleman RE The impact of positron emission tomography (PET) on expected management during cancer treatment: findings of the National Oncologic PET Registry. *Cancer* 2009; 115: 410-418.

- 7:30 am** **Breakfast**
- 9:00 am** Introduction to the Issues – Dr. Andreas Laupacis (Panel Chair), General Internist, St. Michael's Hospital; Executive Director, Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute of St. Michael's Hospital; Professor, Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto
- 9:15 am** Experience with a PET Registry in the United States and Reflections on the Sequencing of Diagnostic Imaging Tests – Dr. Bruce Hillner, General Internist, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia
- 10:00 am** Group Discussion
- 10:30 am** **Break (Note: Check-out time is 11am)**
- 11:00 am** Assessing Appropriateness From an Internist's Point of View – Dr. John You, General Internist, McMaster University, Hamilton
- 11:20 am** Assessing Appropriateness From a Radiologist's Point of View – Dr. David Koff, Associate Professor and Chair of Radiology, McMaster University and Chief Radiologist, Hamilton Health Sciences Centre, Hamilton
- 11:40 am** Group Discussion
- 12:00 pm** Closing Remarks – Dr. Murray Krahn

Queen's Landing, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

155 Byron Street

PO Box 1180, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario Canada L0S1J0

1-888-669-5566

From Toronto:

- Take QEW to exit 44
- Take the NIAGARA STREET/RR-48/SERVICE RD. exit, EXIT 44
- Keep RIGHT at the fork in the ramp
- Stay STRAIGHT to go onto DUNLOP DR
- Turn LEFT onto RR-48/NIAGARA ST
- Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto CARLTON ST E/RR-83
- Turn LEFT onto STEWART RD/RR-86
- Turn RIGHT onto LAKESHORE RD/RR-87
- Turn RIGHT onto EAST & WEST LINE/RR-85
- Turn LEFT onto NIAGARA PKWY.0.5
- NIAGARA PKWY becomes RR-87 W
- Turn RIGHT onto WELLINGTON ST
- Turn RIGHT onto BYRON ST

From Buffalo Niagara International Airport:

- Head southwest toward Genesee St
- Slight right at RT-33 W (signs for I-90/New York Thruway/RT-33 W/Buffalo/Niagara Falls)
- Take the exit onto I-90 E/New York State Thruway E toward I-290/Niag Falls/Albany
- Take exit 50 to merge onto I-290 W/Youngmann Expy toward Niagara Falls
- Take the exit onto I-190 N toward Niagara Falls
- Partial toll road
- Entering Canada (Ontario)
- Continue straight onto Queenston-Lewiston Bridge
- Canadian Customs Inspection
- Take 405 W to Stanley Avenue
- Turn right to stay on Portage Rd, continue East on Portage
- At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto Niagara Pkwy
- The Niagara Parkway eventually becomes the main street in town
- At the four-way intersection of Wellington turn right. Then turn right on to Byron Street. The Queen's Landing will be on your left

From Niagara Falls, Ontario:

- Head east from Monroe St
- Turn left at Drummond Rd
- Turn right at Morrison St
- Turn left at Portage Rd
- Continue on St Paul Ave
- Continue on Four Mile Creek Rd
- Turn right at Niagara Stone Rd
- Continue on Mississauga St
- Turn right at Mary St
- Turn left at King St
- Turn right at Picton St

From Buffalo, NY:

- Head west on Peace Bridge - Entering Canada (Ontario)
- Continue straight to QEW
- Take exit 38 for Glendale Ave/RR-89/HWY-55 toward Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Turn right at Glendale Ave/RR-89
- Turn left at York Rd
- Turn right at Airport Rd/RR-90
- Turn right onto Niagara Stone Road/Highway 55 and follow it until you enter Niagara-on-the-Lake "Old Town" (approximately 13 kms)
- Turn right on Queen Street. This will take you through the town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Turn left on Wellington St
- Make a quick right on Byron St. The hotel will be on your left hand side, up one block

Early arrivals and late departures

Check-in time begins at 3:00pm and check out time is 11:00am. If your room can be made available prior to 3:00pm we will be happy to check you in, otherwise, we can store your luggage and you are welcome to use the hotels facilities. While you may certainly request an early check-in, we are unable to guarantee this request.

Guaranteed reservations and deposits

Credit card is required at time of reservation in order to guarantee your booking.

Accepted Credit Cards

American Express, Diners / Enroute, Discover, Mastercard, Visa

Cancellation Policy:

Cancellation will be accepted until March 20th, 2009 (A \$50 processing fee will be charged). No refund will be given after March 20th, 2009.

For further information, please contact Karen Liu, 416-946-3718, info@theta.utoronto.ca

Detailed map of NOTL

