



CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR DIETETIC RESEARCH LA FONDATION CANADIENNE DE LA RECHERCHE EN DIETETIQUE

CFDR announces new research support

November 1, 2013- The Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research (CFDR) is pleased to announce funding to support research in nutrition and dietetic practice. The funds were released under two programs: the Annual Grants program, and partnership with CIHR through the Small Health Organizations Partnership Program.

Two research projects were approved for funding in the second round of CFDR's 2013 annual grants competition. Here, the researchers provide details about their projects.

Can we reduce the risk of inpatient malnutrition by adopting safety screening?

Principal Investigator: Lenora Duhn, RN, MSc, Nursing Research, Kingston General Hospital and Angela Hollett, BSc, RD, Clinical Nutrition, Kingston General Hospital

This study will test a safety screening strategy that engages members of the inter-professional care team to work collaboratively to consistently and reliably identify and intervene in moderate-high risk patients, before they become malnourished. The findings from the study will serve to enhance the practice of healthcare practitioners and contribute to their provision of safe, quality care to the advantage of patients and their families.

Do child and parents' perceptions of the quality of life in families of different ethnicities influence dietary adherence to the gluten free diet and nutritional intake in children with Celiac Disease?

Principal Investigator: Diana Mager, PhD, RD Department of Pediatrics, University of Alberta

The objective of this study is to determine whether the child/parents' perception of quality of life influence their dietary adherence and nutritional intake in children with celiac disease, who are on the gluten free diet (GFD). This project will address a critical gap in the literature by directly focusing on health, nutrition, Quality of Life and socio-demographic factors that influence dietary adherence to the GFD, in ethnically diverse and vulnerable populations. Results from this study will contribute to the development of evidence-based dietetic interventions for children with Celiac Disease and their families.

In addition to providing grants to fund research CFDR supports new researchers. In partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) CFDR supported two Masters Students this Fall. The Masters awards were available through the Small Health Organizations Partnership Program (SHOPP). These awards administered by CIHR are intended to provide special recognition and support to students who are pursuing a Master's degree in a health related field in Canada. Students at the University of Alberta and the University of Sherbrooke were approved for funding this fall. Their research projects are described below.

Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research.

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Can we prevent and manage childhood obesity by working with parents in primary care?

Principal Investigator: Jillian LS Avis, BA, Department of Pediatrics, University of Alberta

Supervisor: Geoff DC Ball, PhD, RD, Department of Pediatrics, University of Alberta

With researchers, clinicians, and decision-makers working in partnership with a local primary care clinic in Edmonton, the team will develop and test a brief web-based screening program. The program is designed to motivate parents to prevent childhood obesity by connecting them with community-based services and resources that emphasize healthy eating and physical activity. Findings from this developmental study will inform a future clinical trial to test intervention effectiveness.

Can we develop new perspectives/approaches for health care professionals for responding to the social inequalities in the health of the population?

Principal Investigator: Caroline H. Wang, RD, Department of Community Health, University of Sherbrooke

This research focuses on the approaches that health care professionals can develop to approach social inequalities which affect the health of their patients. Using a participatory approach based on focus groups, this study aims to describe and understand self-perception of barriers to health and their possible solutions as viewed by underprivileged patients served by a family health team. Results from this study will provide a better understanding of underprivileged patients' realities as part of a needed reformulation of intervention strategies to maintain and improve health in the population.

The Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research was created in 1991 by Dietitians of Canada to support applied nutrition and dietetic practice research. Thanks to the generous support of corporate donors and individual members of Dietitians of Canada, CFDR has awarded research grants annually since 1993. To date, CFDR has funded more than 100 research teams across the country, awarding more than \$ 1,500,000 in grants, and has supported four Masters students through the SHOPP program in the past three years. The CFDR research program supports the Foundation's mission: *Enhancing the health of Canadians by contributing new knowledge about food and nutrition.*

- 30 -

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