Department of Family Practice

October 2018 Research Development Rounds

Stefan Grzybowski  Nisrine El Amiri    Urvee Karve

“Building Better Care in Rural British Columbia”

Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2018

Time: 0800 AM - 0900 AM

Location: Department of Family Practice Boardroom, #3132, 5950 University Blvd. or by VC:

Note: Use a computer. Mobile devices (smart phones, tablets) are not supported.

1. **Web-browser**: In Chrome browser, go to [http://meet.vc.ubc.ca](http://meet.vc.ubc.ca) and enter the 5 digit conference/bridge ID ([30322](http://meet.vc.ubc.ca)). For instructions and troubleshooting, see the [Web Browser User Guide](http://meet.vc.ubc.ca).

2. **Skype for Business**: enter `<5-digit ID>@vc.ubc.ca` to join the meeting. Note: Your personal Skype is not compatible with Skype for Business. Refer to the [troubleshooting guide](http://meet.vc.ubc.ca).

3. **Telephone (Audio-bridge)**: Dial toll-free phone number, 1-844-521-0666, International Dial-in Number is 236-521-0666 followed by the 5 digit ID ([30322](http://meet.vc.ubc.ca)), followed by #

4. MedIT Service Desk (Monday-Friday, 7am-5pm): For remote technical assistance during the session, please call 1-877-266-0666
ABSTRACT

Many rural communities across Canada are facing challenges to the sustainability of core emergency and acute care health services, primarily due to limitations with medical and nursing staffing. Data related to service efficacy and effectiveness are not well organized. Most of Canada still relies on reporting by large geopolitical areas (local health areas) that do not always relate natural catchment population outcomes to community hospital services. Re-organizing rural health services' outcome reporting by the characteristics of geographically defined catchment populations would facilitate better planning, systemic quality improvement and stronger continuing professional development for health professionals. It may also serve to inform the transformation of core health services in larger communities. The Rural Health Services Research Network of BC has completed a set of catchment maps for rural BC community hospitals and a list of the postal codes that align with the defined areas, to facilitate linkage to population health data. This data can be used to support local quality improvement and research subject to protection of patient privacy and ethics guidelines. If cohort analysis is underpowered, communities can be stratified by service level. The methods and assumptions used to map the catchments, link the appropriate postal codes, and define local service levels will be presented. Challenges to the process will be discussed.

BIOGRAPHIES

**Stefan Grzybowski** is a family physician researcher and co-principal investigator of the Rural Maternity Care Research Program, funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Prior to moving to UBC, he practiced as a family physician for twelve years on the Queen Charlotte Islands/Haida Gwaii. Dr. Grzybowski’s focus has been on advancing the rural maternity care research agenda in order to better understand the needs of parturient women and their families, care providers and policy makers. Current funded studies include determining the costs associated with different levels of maternity services in rural BC and comparing selected population-based maternity and newborn outcomes by residence stratified across service levels in 3 Canadian provinces using a parallel research strategy. Dr. Grzybowski is a Senior Scholar with the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, Professor in the Department of Family Practice at UBC, co-director of the Centre for Rural Health Research, and director of the Rural Health Services Research Network of BC.

**Nisrine El Amiri** obtained her Bachelor of Science degree from McGill University in Montreal and her Master of Public Health degree from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. She has also completed the Canadian Disaster and Humanitarian Response Training Program as well as training by the United Nations, Medecins Sans Frontieres and other agencies. Nisrine was previously employed by the BC Center for Disease Control and the Public Health Agency of Canada.
Passionate about improving access to healthcare for communities in rural and remote regions and supporting rural health services researchers, Nisrine joined RHSRNbc in May 2017 as the Research Coordinator.

**Urvee Karve** is an undergraduate student at UBC majoring in Geography (Environment and Sustainability). She is really interested in contributing to the new GIS project to build catchment maps for rural BC and how this could better rural health. Since she is passionate about sustainability she wants to help better the quality of life in rural BC by understanding more about rural health and the availability of high quality facilities, as well as their sphere of influence. Other than her passion for Geography, she enjoys volunteering at BC SPCA (animal shelter), hiking, painting and dancing.

**Certification statement**

The University of British Columbia Division of Continuing Professional Development (UBC CPD) is fully accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Continuing Medical Education (CACME) to provide study credits for continuing medical education for physicians. This program meets the certification criteria of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been certified by UBC CPD for up to 1.0 Mainpro+ Group Learning credits. Each physician should claim only those credits he/she actually spent in the activity.