

SPRUCE

SUSTAINING PEDIATRICS IN RURAL
AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

UPCOMING ACCREDITED CME: PAIN & IRRITABILITY OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN

SEPTEMBER 29, 2022
7:30PM VIA ZOOM
RESCHEDULED FROM MAY 17, 2022

Join SPRUCe for a CME accredited session with Dr. Hal Siden, Medical Director for Canuck Place Children's Hospice and Division Head Palliative Medicine at BC Children's Hospital.

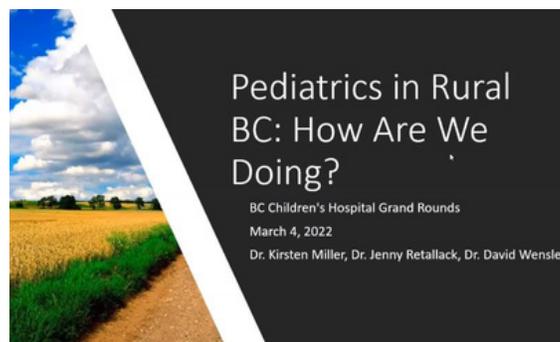


LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Describe the problem of pain & irritability in children with neurological differences.
- Review a current study of a clinical pathway to address the problem.
- Discuss n-of-1 study methodology and be introduced to an example study on gabapentin.
- Discuss opportunities for community-based research participation.

To register for the session, [click here](#).

PEDIATRIC GRAND ROUNDS ON RURAL PEDIATRICS



Did you catch the Grand Rounds on the topic of Rural Pediatrics? SPRUCe Co-Leads Dr. Kirsten Miller and Dr. Jenny Retallack, along with Dr. David Wensley (Lead of the CHARLiE, Real Time Virtual Support Pathway) presented on the topic "Pediatrics in Rural BC: How Are We Doing?" on March 4, 2022 as part of the BC Children's Hospital Grand Rounds series.

To watch the recording, [click here](#).

For more information on SPRUCe:

WEBSITE: RCCBC.CA/SPRUCE

EMAIL: SPRUCE@RCCBC.CA

CHILD HEALTH ADVICE IN REAL-TIME ELECTRONICALLY (CHARLIE)

Have you connected with CHARLiE (Child Health Advice in Real-time Electronically)?

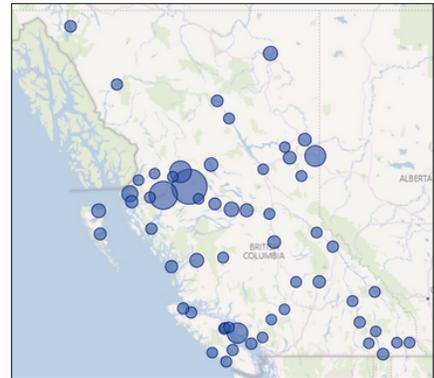


Real-Time
Virtual Support

This Real Time Virtual Support (RTVS) pathway provides 24/7 support via Zoom allowing urgent specialized pediatric support for rural health care providers, including rural pediatricians and rural pediatric locum physicians.

More information on CHARLiE, how to access the pathway, and how to add it to your Zoom contacts is available at:

[CHARLiE webpage](#)



The size of the blue dot indicates the number of calls made to CHARLiE from that community.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATES (IMGS) IN PEDIATRICS

The IMG program funds pediatric residency training positions in exchange for a 3 year return-of-service commitment to RSA communities which have been identified to be in need. The program has expanded from one IMG pediatric resident per year to two (starting in July 2022).

SPRUce has made it a priority to support the UBC Pediatrics Residency Training Program in ensuring that IMG residents have opportunities to experience rural pediatric practice. The 2022 IMG pediatric graduate, Dr. James Toft, will be starting practice in Prince George in September 2022 with a commitment to support rural outreach clinics in Dawson Creek. The 2021 IMG Pediatric graduate, Dr. Luisa Flohr, is relocating to Sechelt this summer after having taken a parental leave.



Dr. James Toft



Dr. Luisa Flohr

If any rural pediatricians would like to learn more about the IMG pediatric program, contact [SPRUce](#).

For more information on SPRUCe:

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REFLECTIONS ON RESIDENCY

SPRUCE will be hosting another Reflections on Residency session in the fall of 2022. In this session, we will hear from three recent pediatric graduates, Dr. Rachel McDonald, Dr. Vanessa Percy and Dr. Lara Malks-Jjumba, each now practicing in a small to medium size communities outside the lower mainland.

We have asked our speakers to reflect on their training, and identify rotations that prepared them for rural community practice but also to highlight areas in which they wished they had more experience prior to starting.

Additional details to come.

RURAL PEDIATRIC LOCUM ROUND TABLE

SPRUCE recently hosted round table discussions with thirteen rural locum pediatricians who provided support to 6 different RSA communities over the past 18 months. These meetings allowed a review of the locum experiences and identification of common themes related to rural locum work. These themes will be circulated back to the locum physicians to confirm accuracy, and then shared with the host communities with the goal to support lasting locum relationships with rural communities in need.

Stay tuned for more information!

ACCOLADES



Congratulations to our medical co-lead Dr. Jenny Retallack for receiving two faculty awards at the UBC Department of Pediatric Annual Graduation & Awards Banquet 2021-2022.

- 2021-2022 Clinical Associate of the Year Award—awarded to a hospital-based pediatrician (clinical associate) pediatrician who has led by example and excelled in patient care, resident education, and resident support.
- 2021-2022 Teacher of the Year Award—awarded to an instructor chosen by the Undergraduate Education Program for outstanding educational contribution in Pediatrics.

MEDICAL CO-LEADS FOR SPRUCE PRESENT TO THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL ISSUES (JSC)



An objective of SPRUCE is to inform government and policy-makers about the status of rural pediatrics in BC. To this end, SPRUCE co-leads Dr. Jenny Retallack and Dr. Kirsten Miller presented to the JSC to share information about the number of rural pediatricians, the number of vacant positions for rural pediatricians, and to describe how SPRUCE is developing strategies to support the provision of rural pediatric service in BC.

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