



PAST CME SESSION

On December 6, 2021, Dr. Melissa Skaugset presented "Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) for Pediatrics" for a CME accredited SPRUCe learning session. Dr. Skaugset recently joined the Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at BCCH as the Emergency Department lead for POCUS. This 1 hour virtual session provided a systems-based introduction to the use of POCUS in Pediatrics, with case-based discussion. For those who were not able to attend, please email spruce@rccbc.ca for a time limited link to the presentation. The discussion which followed Dr. Skaugset's presentation highlighted the interest in POCUS among those in attendance. Many seemed interested in a hands on POCUS course, with Hands On Ultrasound Education (HOUSE) and ED Echo (EDE) identified as potential options. There is a great deal of interest in POCUS in rural medicine, with many opportunities available for learning and training. Please see the link below for more information of ongoing POCUS initiatives in rural BC.



RURAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

In the Spring of 2021, a survey was sent to rural pediatricians to capture baseline data on the current state of pediatricians and pediatrics in RSA communities across BC. In November 2021, the 2nd Annual BC Rural Health Research Exchange, a virtual half-day of rurally focused health research presentations, hosted over 100 participants with presentations from more than 30 rural health research projects. Corin MacPhail, a 3rd year UBC medical student, presented the Pediatrics survey results and findings "Realities of Rural Pediatricians: Baseline for Future Research".



To see Corin's 10-minute presentation, please click the link below and go to "Zoom Room B" at approximately 2:35 in the video. The link contains the complete research exchange with the concurrent sessions in rooms A and B.

[BC Rural Health Research Exchange \(BCRHRx\)](https://www.bccrhrx.ca)

RURAL EDUCATION ACTION PLAN (REAP)

REAP supports the training needs of physicians in rural practice, those providing rural locum supports as well as residents and medical students interested in rural medicine. For rural pediatricians and rural pediatric locums, funding is available for skills enhancement, usually through one-on-one preceptorship, with the rural skills upgrade program. Rural locum pediatricians can access funding for courses such as PALS, APLS, or POCUS through the rural locums CME program. For residents, the postgraduate rural rotation support program will provide accommodation and travel support for electives to rural service agreement (RSA) communities in the province. Additional information is available at [REAP](https://www.reap.ca).



RURAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that as a rural pediatrician, you can play a role in clinical research without needing to develop your project? Have you considered getting involved in patient-oriented clinical research which could support the care you provide to complex pediatric patients?



SPRUCe will hold an accredited CME presentation by Dr. Hal Siden (Medical Director for Canuck Place Children's Hospice and Division Head Palliative Medicine at BC Children's Hospital) who will speak on this topic. Dr. Siden is Principal Investigator of the Pain and Irritability of Unknown Origin (PIUO) Study, which aims to optimize the management of pain and irritability of children with severe neurological impairment. Dr. Siden and his research team have employed a collaborative approach to the physical examination of their study patients in more remote communities, such as Prince George, engaging pediatricians and pediatric residents in the patients' home communities. See the study website (painedetectives.org) for more information and please attend the CME session (date yet to be determined)! The PIUO Study is funded by the CHILD-BRIGHT Network. The CHILD-BRIGHT website (child-bright.ca) has information about other Canadian projects seeking participants, which may be of interest to your patients.

ACCOLADES

Congratulations to Fort St. John Pediatrician Dr. Olusegun Oyedeji for being recognized with a 2021 UBC Northern Medical Program (NMP) Clinical Teaching Award! Dr. Oyedeji is the sole pediatrician in BC's northeast. He was selected for this well-deserved award by the NMP students in Fort St. John.

Submit accolades and recognition of other BC rural pediatricians for publication in future SPRUCe newsletters by emailing spruce@rccbc.ca



RURAL ELECTIVE INFORMATION NIGHT

On December 14, Dr. Kaie Rosborough, a 3rd year UBC pediatric resident and the SPRUCe resident representative held a successful virtual evening reviewing rural pediatric electives in BC. She presented to 15 small to medium-sized communities across the province, and provided community-specific information around the clinical aspects of the rotation, housing and recreation options, and personal reflections from a number of the pediatricians. The goal of this evening was to increase knowledge about rural pediatric electives and allow residents greater comfort in trying an elective in a rural community they may not be familiar with.



COACHING AND MENTORING PROGRAM (CAMP)

I recently returned from a trip to Prince George to meet with my mentor Dr. Kirsten Miller, a community pediatrician in Prince George. The cost of this trip was supported by the UBC CPD Coaching and Mentoring Program (CAMP). The goal of CAMP is to foster connections in rural practice networks to improve clinical practice, increase confidence, and connect to rural care providers. This program is available to rural physicians, rural locum physicians and trainees interested in rural practice. Over the last 7 months, Dr. Miller and I have scheduled phone calls and 2 in-person visits to discuss numerous topics including interesting clinical cases, career goals, and other practical tips for residency and practice. During these in-person visits, I was able to practice hands-on clinical skills while also being exposed to new areas such as fee-for-service billing and office management techniques, which will help me during my future transition into practice. I was also able to spend time with my mentor outside of the clinic and hospital, over a cup of tea at a local coffee shop or on the walking trails around town. I like the flexibility of CAMP for a mentor-mentee pairs to tailor activities to meet their goals, and the ability to develop longitudinal relationships with a mentor. Participating in this mentorship program has been an informative and valuable experience for me.

[CAMP Website](https://camp.rcpd@ubc.ca)

Email: camp.rcpd@ubc.ca

Dr. Valerie Ward, UBC Pediatric Resident



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SPRUCE:
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