

SPRUCe

SUSTAINING PEDIATRICS IN RURAL
AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

“DON’T JUST DO SOMETHING, STAND THERE”: CURRENT UPDATES IN BRONCHIOLITIS MANAGEMENT

SPRUCe hosted a CME accredited session
on bronchiolitis November 16, with Dr.
Claire Seaton, MRCPCH, FRCPC.

Program Director, Pediatric Hospital
Medicine Fellowship Division of General
Pediatrics and BCCH Asthma Clinic,
Department of Pediatrics BC Children’s
Hospital, Universit



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Review the current evidence for when to use HighFlow Nasal Cannula Oxygen in Bronchiolitis.
- Discuss current Bronchiolitis Guidelines and practical implications for rural pediatric practice.
- Identify risk factors for increased disease severity and practical considerations associated with transport.

To view the recorded session, [click here](#).

SAVE THE DATE NOV 5, 2023

If you are a pediatrician in an RSA community or if you provide locum coverage to an RSA community (through the RSLP program), join SPRUCe for a one day POCUS course geared specifically towards rural pediatricians. The one-day course is offered by UBC Hands On Ultrasound Education (HOUSE) and will follow the 2023 annual BC Pediatric Society conference, Children's Health Today. Plan to come to Vancouver for the 2 day BCPS conference on November 3 and 4, 2023, and stay for an additional day of hands-on POCUS learning on November 5, 2023. For information about HOUSE [click here](#)



Are you a pediatric resident who has completed a rural pediatrics elective?
Consider writing about your experience for a future SPRUCe newsletter.
Resident content and perspectives are always welcome and
we would love to hear about and share the tale of your rural elective!

For more information on SPRUCe:

WEBSITE: RCCBC.CA/SPRUCe

EMAIL: SPRUCe@RCCBC.CA

WELCOME DR. EMILIE JEAN-ST-MICHEL TO PRINCE GEORGE

I am Dr. Emilie Jean-St-Michel and I am excited to join the pediatric team in Prince George. I have relocated from Toronto, where I have worked as a staff pediatric cardiologist at the Hospital for Sick Children for the past 7 years. I am originally from northern Quebec and I am fluent in English and French. My husband and I decided to move our family to northern BC



because we love the outdoors and wanted a radical change from our life in the "big city". I am looking forward to practicing general consulting pediatrics but also very pleased to remain involved in working as a pediatric cardiologist. I will see patients from northern BC in consultation for pediatric cardiology issues, such as (but not limited to) cardiac murmurs, desaturation, syncope, chest pain, family history of cardiomyopathy and/or arrhythmias, family history of sudden death, follow up of congenital heart lesions, etc. In addition, as a member of the division of Pediatric Cardiology at BC Children's Hospital, I will, on occasion, be providing inpatient service in Vancouver. Feel free to reach out to me if you have questions about possible referrals or just to say hello!

WELCOME DR. SHARON MICHELO CHOOPA TO TERRACE

Dr Sharon Michelo Choopa studied medicine at the University of Zambia in Zambia after which she pursued postgraduate studies in Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. She obtained a Master of Medicine in Paediatrics and a Fellowship in Paediatrics from the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. She then went on to pursue a fellowship in Paediatric Nephrology at the same university and obtained a Certificate in Paediatric Nephrology from the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. She worked in Zambia thereafter for a few years as a paediatrician/nephrologist

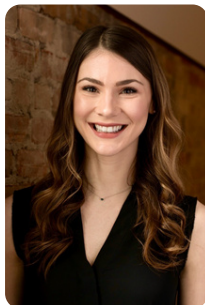


before moving to the United Kingdom where she worked for a few more years prior to moving to Canada. She loves the great outdoors and has a keen interest in paediatric nephrology.

**WELCOME TO BC
DR. CHOOPA!**

WELCOME RESIDENTS

Hi there, I'm Dr. Jacqui van Warmerdam, a pediatrics R1 and one of the two incoming SPRUCe resident representatives. Originally from a small town in Ontario called Little Britain, I completed medical school at the University of Toronto. Yet, the mountains, outdoor adventures, and rural medicine opportunities of British Columbia called my name! I am thrilled to be at UBC Pediatrics, and look forward to the many training opportunities within rural medicine to come!



Hello! My name is Dr. Justina Marianayagam and I am an R1 Pediatrics Resident at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and am thrilled to be one of the two incoming SPRUCe Resident Representatives. I am fortunate to have lived and worked across rural/remote Canada as I am originally from Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and completed medical school at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. I am looking forward to advocating for training opportunities within rural BC and expanding our reach in pediatrics across the province with the hope of 'keeping care close to home' for children and youth



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EMAIL: SPRUCe@RCCBC.CA

CONGRATULATIONS DR. KIRSTEN MILLER



Congratulations to Dr Kirsten Miller, the winner of the 2022 BC Pediatrics Society Dr Judith Hall Award. This award is presented for excellence in research, policy development, community involvement and improving the status of or empowering pediatricians. Her nominators recognized her for tireless work on the BC Pediatrics Society board, as the medical director for Pediatrics in Northern Health and for her work to improve BC's northern and rural Pediatric services. She was highlighted as an extremely effective and passionate lead for Child and Youth in Northern Health.

RURAL PRE-MEDICINE

SPRUCe had the privilege of speaking about rural pediatrics in BC with the Selkirk College Rural Pre-Medicine students via Zoom on October 6, 2022. This novel training program offers rural students the opportunity to begin their post-secondary educational journey in a rural community (in the beautiful Kootenays), working towards a career in health care. After 3 years in the RPM program, students can transfer to UBC or UNBC to complete a Bachelor's degree. RPM graduates have gone on to further training in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and more. [Click here](#) for more information.



PAEDIATRIC & CHILD HEALTH



Dr. Kirsten Miller and Dr. Valerie Ward presented the BC Pediatric Society workforce data survey at the 2022 Annual Conference of the Canadian Pediatric Society. This survey provided information about the nature of BC Community general pediatricians' work and highlighted some of the differences in work for those in large cities compared to medium or small communities. The abstract was published in the recent Pediatrics and Child Health supplement from Oct 2022.

Please see [this link](#) to view the abstract.

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ARE YOU A PEDIATRICIAN, NEUROLOGIST, OR MEDICAL GENETICIST PRACTICING IN BC?

SPRUCe is sharing information about this survey, being conducted by the BC Children's Hospital.

Calling all:

- Pediatricians and subspecialty pediatricians
- Pediatric neurologists
- Specialist physician/medical geneticists



In recent years, guidelines on the diagnosis of cerebral palsy (CP) have been published with the aim to allow earlier, accurate diagnosis. As such, we are seeking feedback from key health professionals in BC communities who provide care for children with CP in this survey that is part of a larger knowledge translation initiative to promote and facilitate early diagnosis of CP in BC. Your responses here will help us understand if current practices have changed since 2018, especially in the COVID-19 context, if perceptions differ, and allow us to design targeted support tools and educational opportunities that enable an early diagnosis of CP.

At this time, medical residents and pediatric fellows are not invited to participate.

This online survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. To thank you for your time and participation, we are offering a prize draw for two \$50 gas gift cards. Participants will have the chance to enter their name and email address at the end of the survey to win one of two gift cards.



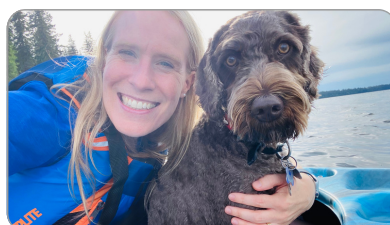
Access the survey [here](#).

REFLECTIONS ON RESIDENCY

Thank you to Dr. Rachel McDonald (Nelson), Dr. Vanessa Percy (Duncan) and Dr. Lara Malks-Jjumba (Prince George) for presenting at the recent Reflections on Residency evening on Oct 18th. Our 3 speakers reflected on their training, discussed how it prepared them to work in smaller and more remote communities, and about their first few years of practice. This evening was full of great suggestions and thoughtful encouragement. If any of the residents missed the session, please email SPRUCe@rccbc.ca for a link to the recording of the session. This is the second time we have held Reflections on Residency over the last 2 years, and we look forward to hosting a third session in the coming years.



Dr. Rachel McDonald



Dr. Lara Malks-Jjumba



Dr. Vanessa Percy

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