Dr. Fred Bryans Faculty Forum 2022

Quality Improvement to Advance Women’s Health

Thursday, March 31st, 2022
9:00 am to 5:30 pm
Sage Restaurant at UBC
(6331 Crescent Rd, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1)

FACULTY OF MEDICINE
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Accredited by UBC CPD

Accreditation 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 event is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and has been approved by UBC CPD for up to 6.75 MOC Section 1 Group Learning credits. Each physician should claim only those credits accrued through participation in the activity.
Dr. Fred Bryans Faculty Forum Program

9:00 to 9:30  Registration and Coffee/Tea

9:30 to 9:40  Welcome – Gavin Stuart, Interim Department Head

9:40 to 10:40  Keynote Address: “Beyond Theories to Results: Driving Quality Improvement in Healthcare”
Moderator: Janice Kwon, Professor and Vice Head, UBC OBGYN
Christine Shea, Program Director for the Quality Improvement and Patient Safety MSc - Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the University of Toronto

10:40 to 11:40  Workshop: “Key quality improvement tools to start approaching a QI project”
Moderator: Regina-Maria Renner, Clinical Associate Professor, UBC OBGYN
Justin McGinnis, Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Gynaecologic Oncology, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC
Bethina Abrahams, Manager PQI, Quality, Safety & Outcome Improvement, Provincial Health Services Authority

11:40 to 12:40  Registration and Networking Lunch

12:40 to 12:50  Welcome – Janice Kwon, Vice Head of Obstetrics and Gynecology

12:50 to 14:10  Faculty presentations
Moderator: Kirsten Grabowska, Clinical Assistant Professor, UBC OBGYN
- “Penicillin Allergy De-labelling in pregnancy: a PQI-driven project snowballing into a research initiative” Chelsea Elwood
- “PAS: Plan, Attack, Succeed” Natasha Simula
- “Cervical preparation for second trimester surgical abortion – a quality improvement project” Regina Renner and Ashley Mucsi

14:10 to 14:30  “Is my project QI or Research” – Holly Longstaff, Director, Privacy and Access, PHSA Research and New Initiatives

14:30 to 15:30  Workshop: Knowledge Generating Projects – how to uptake evidence-based practice and research into regular use by practitioners and policymakers
Moderator: Lori A. Brotto, Professor, UBC OBGYN
Sarah Munro, Scientist - Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences (CHÉOS); Assistant Professor, Division of General Gynaecology & Obstetrics, Division of Gynaecologic Specialties, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC
Erica Phelps, Physician Advisor for the PQI Program in Fraser Health; Clinical Instructor, Division of General Gynaecology & Obstetrics, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC

15:30 to 15:50  Coffee and Networking Break
15:50 to 17:10

**Faculty presentations**

*Moderator: Larisse Melo, Interim Research Program Manager (BCW)*

- “Improving Access to Care in the Community for Individuals with Vulvodynia” *Melanie Altas*
- “Precision oncology in endometrial cancer” *Amy Jamieson*
- “Maternal deaths in rural Pakistan and Mozambique” *Marianne Vidler*

17:10 to 17:20

**Evaluation Completion**

17:20 to 17:30

**General Discussion & Closing Remarks**

**Faculty Forum Objectives**

- To highlight the opportunities and innovation that Quality Improvement can bring to our specialty;
- To showcase the spectrum of research of our faculty;
- To share lessons learned from engaging with community members, practitioners and policy makers;
- To cultivate new collaborations across specialties.

**Workshop Objectives: “Key quality improvement tools to start approaching a QI project”**

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Describe what a Quality Improvement project is; and
- Identify what resources are available to start approaching a QI project.

**Workshop Objectives: “Knowledge Generating Projects - how to uptake evidence-based practice and research into regular use by practitioners and policymakers”**

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Describe terms such as “Knowledge Generating Projects” and “Implementation Science”
- Identify common barriers to implementation of best evidence in practice and policy;
- Identify case examples of effective practice change in OBGYN care from the BC context; and
- Explain how to accelerate the impact of research evidence.

**Dr. Fred Bryans Faculty Forum Planning Committee**

**Lori Brotto**, PhD, Professor, Division of Gynaecologic Specialties, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC; Canada Research Chair in Women’s Sexual Health; Executive Director, Women’s Health Research Institute  
**Chelsea Elwood**, MD, FRCSC, Clinical Assistant Professor, Reproductive Infectious Diseases, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Rosemarie Garcia**, Administrative Assistant, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Kirsten Grabowska**, MD, FRCSC, Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, UBC  
**Nicole Koenig**, Research Program Manager - SPH, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Janice S. Kwon**, MD, FRCSC, MPH, Professor and Vice Head, Division of Gynaecologic Oncology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, UBC  
**Gary Nakhuda**, MD, FACOG, Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, UBC  
**Sheona Mitchell-Foster**, MD, FRCSC, MPH. Assistant Professor, Division of General Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Regina Renner**, MD, MPH, FACOG, Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Gynaecologic Oncology & Obstetrics, Division of Gynaecologic Specialties, UBC  
**Gavin Stuart**, MD, FRCSC, Professor, Division of Gynaecologic Oncology and Acting Department Head, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Nicole Todd**, MD, FRCSC, Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Gynaecologic Specialties, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Ilona Ugortsev**, Research Program Manager – VGH, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Larisse Melo**, (Chair), Interim Research Program Manager, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Gary Nakhuda**, MD, FACOG, Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, UBC  
**Sheona Mitchell-Foster**, MD, FRCSC, MPH. Assistant Professor, Division of General Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
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**Nicole Todd**, MD, FRCSC, Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Gynaecologic Specialties, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC  
**Ilona Ugortsev**, Research Program Manager – VGH, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, UBC
Guest Speakers

Christine Shea is the Program Director for the Quality Improvement and Patient Safety MSc, an assistant professor and a Fellow at the Centre for Sustainable Health Systems in the Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (IHPME) at the University of Toronto. She teaches across IHPME on leadership and change in healthcare, patient safety and improvement science.

Christine received a Masters in educational psychology and a PhD in organisational psychology and patient safety from the University of Manchester, UK. She completed a two-year post-doctorate in patient safety and safety culture in the Human Performance Management Unit, in Industrial Engineering and Innovation Sciences at the Eindhoven University of Technology, the Netherlands.

While based in the UK Christine consulted globally on safety, risk and improvement exploring the management and organisation of work in high reliability organisations in health care, European and Middle Eastern air traffic control, military aircraft systems and incident investigations in aviation, rail and health care.

Bethina Abrahams is the Manager of PQI, Quality, Safety & Outcome Improvement for the Provincial Health Services Authority. Bethina has worked in the area of healthcare redesign and quality improvement, with a special focus on physician engagement for over ten years. She began her career leading regional-wide quality collaboratives, modelled on the IHI Breakthrough Series framework. Her initial focus was on primary care and improving proactive access and management for patients with chronic diseases. During this time she also partnered with Vancouver Native Health to deliver a patient self-management program for people living with HIV/AIDS. She then supported the Shared Care Committee of BC, bringing family physicians and specialists together to improve access to specialty care and transitions in care for patients. Her projects there ran the gamut from working on the delivery of a new orthopaedic care model to supporting communities to set up local action teams focused on child and youth mental health. Currently, Bethina manages the Physician Quality Improvement Program at the Provincial Health Services Authority (through a partnership with the Specialist Services Committee of BC), where she co-developed a quality improvement curriculum for physicians and where she works on quality improvement initiatives in specialized healthcare services including cancer care, mental health, corrections, emergency health services, women’s healthcare, and paediatric services. She is also an IHI Improvement Advisor.

Holly Longstaff is responsible for guiding the development, recommendation and implementation of innovative approaches to privacy policy and practice to build accountable information stewardship and privacy conscious practices that enable the execution of PHSA’s expanded mandate and the conduct of health research. She advises on the privacy requirements relating to new and expanded provincial initiatives working closely with PHSA’s Information, Access and Privacy, and Legal Services teams. She also provides leadership in developing and implementing governance mechanisms to enable nimble, multidisciplinary review of privacy and security requirements for new and
expanded initiatives and research, including province-wide platforms and systems, digital and information technologies, and data access/sharing. Holly is a PhD level trained ethicist and research consultant. She serves as the ethicist on the BC Cancer Research Ethics Board and a US-based IRB. She has worked as a consultant for Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and the CIHR Ethics Office and her work has been published in a variety of journals including CMAJ, Trends in Neurosciences and Cell Stem Cell.

Faculty Speakers

**Justin McGinnis** is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the UBC Division of Gynecologic Oncology. After completing a Master of Science degree in Quality Improvement & Patient Safety at the University of Toronto, Dr. McGinnis completed the VCH PLQI program in 2021 and remains actively involved in leading quality projects at VCH and BC Cancer.

**Chelsea Elwood** completed her B.M.Sc. and M.Sc. in Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Western Ontario and then completed a Reproductive Infectious Disease fellowship at the University of British Columbia after her medical training in OB/GYN at UBC. In addition to providing a general OB/GYN, Dr. Elwood is able to provide care and consultative services for women with reproductive tract infections. She is actively engaged as a translational researcher in both basic science and clinical research focusing on the vaginal microbiome in women’s health. She is also a member of the SOGC Infectious Disease committee whose role is to make recommendations in reproductive care as it relates to infectious diseases.

**Natasha Simula** is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of British Columbia. She graduated from medical school and did her specialty training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at UBC. Dr Simula has a clinical practice in general Obstetrics and Gynecology at Royal Columbian Hospital and she is a member of the recently inaugurated Placenta Accreta Spectrum Clinic at RCH. She has conducted a retrospective review on outcomes of placenta accreta patients at RCH and is now collaborating with the team on prospective research as well as quality improvement.

**Regina-Maria Renner** is a Clinical Associate Professor at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of UBC where she first joined in December 2012. She was the Fellowship Co-Director of the Family Planning Fellowship at UBC 2015-2020. In March 2013 she also joined the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital.

She has been a member of the Contraception and Abortion Research Team since 2011. Her recent research has focused on in implementation of mifepristone for medical abortion in Canada and she currently is the principal investigator on a CIHR grant to survey Canadian abortion providers. Her prior research in pain management of first trimester surgical abortion has led to a Cochrane review and several randomized controlled trials on this topic.
Ashley Mucsi completed an undergraduate degree, Master’s of Science degree and Medical school at the University of Calgary. She completed residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at McMaster University in 2020. She then went on to complete the 1 year Advanced Training Program in Family Planning at the University of British Columbia. She is currently residing in Vancouver, BC.

Sarah B Munro is an Assistant Professor with the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at the University of British Columbia and the Knowledge Translation Program Head with the Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences. Using qualitative and knowledge translation methods, she investigates the factors that influence implementation of evidence-based innovations in health services and systems, with a focus on improving equity and access to sexual and reproductive health care for underserved populations. Her program of research is supported by a Michael Smith Health Research BC Scholar Award and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Erica Phelps (she, her) is a general Ob/Gyn in Langley and started there in 2007 after finishing medical school and residency at UBC. She started her journey in Quality Improvement with the first Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) Cohort in 2015 and has since done further training with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) as an Improvement Advisor in 2019. She currently is the Physician Advisor for the PQI Program in FH and the Physician QI Lead for Langley Memorial Hospital.

Melanie Altas is a Gynaecologist and Sexual Medicine Physician in Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. She is Director of the BC Centre for Vulvar Health, and a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of OB/GYN at University of British Columbia. Her clinical practice is dedicated to addressing vulvovaginal dermatoses and vulvar pain conditions from a biopsychosocial perspective. As a consultant gynaecologist for the BC Cancer Agency, she also specializes in providing care for women with sexual medicine and menopausal concerns during and after cancer treatment. Dr. Altas is passionate about knowledge translation and improving access to care for patients in the community.

Amy Jamieson is from New Zealand and recently finished her clinical fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology where she trained in Sydney, Christchurch, and Vancouver. She is currently working as a translational research fellow with UBC/OVCARE and joined the team in Vancouver as a Gynecologic Oncologist in 2021.
Marianne Vidler is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at UBC. Her research focus is on pregnancy complications and maternal mortality in resources constrained settings. She completed her doctoral degree in Reproductive and Developmental Science and UBC. Her doctoral research focused on community knowledge, attitudes and practices related to pre-eclampsia and obstetric care in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Moderators & Facilitators

Gavin Stuart is a Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He served as the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine from September 2003 to September 2015 and UBC’s Vice-Provost Health from 2009 to 2016. Gavin is an active teacher, clinician and researcher. His clinical research and publications are in the area of gynecologic cancer, including population-based screening programs and the conduct of clinical trials as therapeutic interventions in gynecologic cancer. Gavin has held multiple leadership positions in the field: past Chair of the Gynecologic Cancer Intergroup, leading international trials with several national cooperative groups; Co-Chair of the Gynecology Site Committee of the NCI Canada; and past President of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology/La Societe de Gyneco-Oncologie du Canada (GOC). In 2009, he received the Presidential Medal Award from the GOC. Gavin has been active in leadership roles in many national and U.S. committees on medical education, health human resource planning and evidence-based guideline development. In 2010, he was elected to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

Janice Kwon is a Gynecologic Oncologist, Vice Head and Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UBC. She serves as Chair of the Priority and Evaluations Committee at BC Cancer, the Research & Outcomes Evaluation Committee for the BC Cancer Surgery Network, and the National BRCA Collaborative. Her expertise is in cost-effectiveness analyses of testing criteria and risk-reducing interventions for hereditary cancer syndromes. She currently holds a MSFHR Health Professional Investigator Award.

Kirsten Grabowska completed residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of British Columbia, and fellowship in Maternal Fetal Medicine at the University of Calgary. She now works primarily in the Fraser Health Authority. Her research activities in the past 5 years have included epidemiologic study of women with cardiac disorders during pregnancy, collaborating with the Maternal Legacy group as the site lead for Fraser Health, and ultrasound diagnosis of placenta accreta spectrum.
Lori A. Brotto is a Professor in the UBC Department of Ob/Gyn, Executive Director of the Women’s Health Research Institute, and holds a Canada Research Chair in Women’s Sexual Health. Her research focuses on women’s sexual health, and she has a passion for knowledge translation informed by good patient engagement.

Larisse Melo is the Interim Research Manager of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at BC Women’s Hospital. Larisse has a BSc and MSc in Human Nutrition, and has worked in maternal-child health research since 2011. Larisse has been at UBC since 2017, where she led nutrition research projects and worked as a Sessional Lecturer. Larisse joined the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 2021, working with residents, clinicians, researchers and graduate level trainees to support their research and research training.