Canadian Society of Transplantation Pediatric Group Newsletter

# Pediatric Presse





@CST peds



#### **Email address:**

pediatricgroup@cst-transplant.ca

## **CST PEDS AGM SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT**



### SAMANTHA J. ANTHONY

Dr. Anthony is a Health Clinician Scientist in the Child Health Evaluative Sciences Program of the Research Institute at the Hospital for Sick Children. She has nearly 20 vears of experience in the SickKids Transplant and Regenerative Medicine Centre as a Social Worker and is an Assistant Professor in the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto. Dr. Anthony is also an Investigator with the Canadian Donation Transplantation Research Program.

Dr. Anthony has been recognized for her dedication to clinical practice and the application of research for improved patient

outcomes. Her program of research centres on establishing an evidence-based foundation for successful psychosocial adaptation and enhanced quality of life for individuals with chronic disease, with a specific focus on pediatric solid-organ transplantation. Dr. Anthony has received national academic scholarships and has obtained highly competitive grants and research awards, including funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program, Canadian Society of Transplantation, Enduring Hearts and International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation.

### **ISSUE 11: FALL 2019**

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Canadian Transplantation Summit Banff, Alberta

October 16-19, 2019 View the website <u>here</u>.

International Transplantation Science Meeting

Clearwater, Florida

November 10-13, 2019 View the website <u>here.</u>

International Society for Organ Donation and Procurement (ISODP 2019) Dubai, UAE

November 14-16, 2019 View the website <u>here.</u>

Annual Transplant Nursing Symposium Orlando, Florida

November 15-18, 2019 View the website here.

40th Annual Meeting of International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT2020) Montreal, Quebec

April 22-25, 2020 View the website here.

28th International Congress of the Transplantation Society (TTS2020) Seoul, South Korea

September 12-16, 2020 View the website here.

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### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2019

BANFF ARTS CENTRE, ROOM: KC301

### **CST PEDS AGM PROGRAM**

6:00 pm	Meet & Greet - Wine and cheese will be served	
6:25 pm	Welcome	Lorraine Hamiwka
6:30 pm	Keynote Presentation: Capturing the Patients Voice: Implementing Patient-Reported Outcome Measures into Clinical Practice in Pediatric Solid-Organ Transplantation	Samantha Anthony
7:00 pm	Buffet Dinner	
7:25 pm	Trainee Abstract Basic Science: ABO-antibody detection: Development of a complete ABO A and B bead-based assay	Morgan Sosniuk
7:35 pm	Trainee Abstract Clinical Science: De-novo donor specific antibody development is decreased in patients with thymectomy at an early age	Anne Halpin
7:45 pm	Canadian Pediatric Donation Initiative	Meagan Mahoney
7:55 pm	Kidney Class II Canadian Matching Registry	Tom Blydt-Hansen
8:10 pm	Business Meeting	Lorraine Hamiwka

# **TRAVEL BURSARY WINNERS**

### Lydia Kohut, MLT

Lydia Kohut is the supervisor the clinical histocompatibility (HLA) laboratory in Alberta Public Laboratories. This clinical HLA laboratory supports transplant testing for all the Edmonton-based transplants, including the heart, lung, liver, and kidney pediatric transplant programs.

She trained at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and has worked in many areas of the laboratory such as point of care testing, the core hematology and special chemistry laboratories, and also as a research technologist for pharmaceutical companies. She joined the HLA laboratory in 2005. Through her years in HLA she has performed all aspects of HLA testing including typing by serology and DNA, antibody detection, and crossmatching.





#### Julie Strong, RN BN

Julie is the recipient coordinator for the Transplant Manitoba-Pediatric Kidney Program at the Children's Hospital, Health Sciences Center in Winnipeg. She has worked in all areas of nephrology but found her passion in kidney transplant. Julie has a special interest in the development of educational materials and the facilitation of learning for children, youth and families experiencing CKD and moving to transplant. Along with colleagues at the Children's Hospital, she developed and launched the Kidney Twins© CKD educational materials and recently completed a pre-transplant educational program. She has also published the "Little Heroes: How we live with Kidney disease" book and was a chapter contributor (Nursing care of the child with a genitourinary disorder), in the first Canadian edition of "Canadian Essentials of Pediatric Nursing". Julie's role in the pediatric transplant program also includes program

development, process improvement and quality initiatives projects. Julie is the founding nurse and staunch supporter of kidney camp for children in Manitoba and has attended camp as a volunteer nurse for over 22 years.



## **TRAINEE ABSTRACT AWARD WINNERS**

### Morgan Sosniuk, BSc Hons Basic Science Abstract Winner

Abstract title: ABO-antibody detection: Development of a complete ABO A and B bead-based assay

Morgan Sosniuk recently graduated with her BSc Hons in Immunology and Infection with First Class Honors from the University of Alberta this past June, and was awarded the Dean's Silver Medal in Science. She has been doing transplant immunology research under the supervision of Dr. Lori West for the past 5 years, with a focus on pediatric transplant immunology. Her honors thesis focused on the establishment of a bead-based assay for ABO-



antibody detection. Morgan currently attends the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary and is in her first year of the MD program.



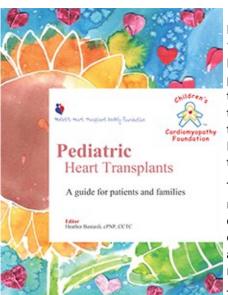
# Anne Halpin, MLT, MSc, CHS Clinical Science Abstract Winner

Abstract title: De-novo donor specific antibody development is decreased in patients with thymectomy at an early age

Anne Halpin is a PhD student in the laboratory of Dr. Lori West, Department of Pediatrics, University of Alberta. Anne is also the Laboratory Scientist in the Clinical Histocompatibility Laboratory, University of Alberta Hospital, and an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology. She has expertise in the field of clinical HLA testing including antibody detection and analysis, HLA typing, and crossmatch. Her research

interests include HLA and non-HLA antibodies in pediatric heart transplant recipients, impact of thymectomy in immune function, change in HLA antibodies following the implantation of mechanical circulatory device, and development of solid-phase detection platforms to measure ABO antibodies in ABO-incompatible transplantation. Ms. Halpin is a member of the American Society of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI), previous Program Director of the ASHI Proficiency Testing Program, and current ASHI Board member. Anne is a trainee within the Canadian Donation and Transplantation Research Program (CDTRP) and the CST.

# **PEDIATRIC HEART TRANSPLANT GUIDE**



In the Spring of 2019, the Canadian Society of Transplantation Pediatric Group endorsed the 'Pediatric Heart Transplant guide for patients and families' written and produced by the Pediatric Heart Transplant Society (PHTS). The PHTS was established in 1993 with the primary purpose of establishing and maintaining a prospective, event driven database for heart transplantation, to encourage and stimulate basic and clinical research and to promote new therapeutic strategies in pediatric heart transplantation. The guide was originally written by the PHTS group and edited by Anne Dipchand in 2013, this current version was edited by Heather Bastardi and a multidisciplinary team of experts in the field of Pediatric Heart transplantation.

The guide starts by introducing patients and their families to the members of the multidisciplinary team, discusses the transplant evaluation process and introduces the concept of the waitlist and waiting period. Details about the surgery and ICU stay are then explored. The final part of the guide focuses on life after heart transplant including details about clinic visits, regular investigations, the need for lifelong immunosuppression medications and the potential complications that are screened for regularly.

This guide is intended to provide education to patients and their families as they navigate the world of heart transplantation both before and following transplant. It is well written and an excellent resource not only for patients and their families but for other members of the team involved with their care. We were happy to be able to endorse this guide.

Paperback copies are available to order through the PHTS website <a href="here.">here.</a>



# **CST PED GROUP EXECUTIVE ELECTION**

The CST Pediatric Group is holding an election for Committee members by electronic (email) voting from Sept 28 – Oct 11, 2019. The positions up for election are:

**Chair:** Main point of contact for group, leads teleconferences and Annual AGM, liaises with Secretary/ Treasurer and Chair-Elect to coordinate meetings and activities.

**Chair-elect:** Assumes role of Chair when term ends, assists with coordination of meetings, attends monthly teleconference meetings and participates in activities as needed.

Member-at-Large: Attends monthly teleconference meetings and participates in activities as needed

All positions are for 2-year terms, starting October 2019.

A candidate must meet the following criteria:

- 1. A full member in good standing (Physician/Allied Health)
- 2. Involved in the field of pediatric transplantation

Please send any nominations (with statement of intent of nomination and 250 word biosketch) to <u>Lorraine Hamiwka</u> and/or <u>Chia Wei Teoh</u> by September 25, 2019. The results of the vote will be announced at the Paediatric Group Annual General Meeting on October 17, 2019

We represent the Canadian pediatric transplant community to advance the practice and science of transplantation for the benefit of Canadian children and society.

# **CST AT IPTA 2019 HIGHLIGHT**

The CST Pediatric Group sponsored a session at the International Pediatric Transplantation Association Congress held in Vancouver on May 5, 2019. Here are a few photos from the session entitled "Frailty as a Concept in Pediatric Transplantation"



**Lorraine Hamiwka,** Chair of the CST Pediatric Group, welcomes the panel and audience to the session.



**Aviva Goldberg**, from Winnipeg, presented on decision making and family support.



**Eberhard Lurz**, from Germany, leads the panel discussion after his talk on assessing frailty in the pediatric transplant candidate.



**Inez Martincevic,** from Toronto, gives the perspective of PT/OT on frailty in pediatric transplantation.



Questions, comments, or to submit anything for future publications, please email: <a href="mailto:pediatricgroup@cst-transplant.ca">pediatricgroup@cst-transplant.ca</a>
To remove your name from our mailing list, please <a href="mailto:click here">click here</a>