



8th Annual McMaster Child Health Conference

The McMaster Child Health Conference (MCHC) is an annual symposium for stakeholders, faculty, and students from multiple disciplines to discuss issues, policies, and novel research relevant to child health and development. For their 8th year, the conference invited the Hamilton community to explore the theme “Food for Thought: Nutrition & Health in Child Development” at the first in-person conference since the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 11, 2023. Keynote speakers and workshop leaders covered a range of topics from consequences of maternal nutritional on perinatal development to food insecurity among children in Hamilton, and more!

POSTER PRESENTATION WINNER

LAY SUMMARY

Button batteries: A growing danger in your home

YASMINE MADAN[1], NIKOLAUS E WOLTER[1]

[1]DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY – HEAD AND NECK SURGERY, HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

There have been more button battery (BB) ingestions in Ontario last year than ever before. This is a world wide trend. BBs are found in many household electronics, including TV remotes, key fobs, and children’s toys. When ingested by a child, they can cause serious injury or death. When a BB gets lodged in a child’s esophagus, the saliva triggers a current flow, leading to a chemical reaction that burns the tissue. This process starts in 15 minutes and severe injury can occur in as little as two hours. Rapid removal is key to avoiding serious injury, but burning can continue to occur after surgical removal of the BB. Even ‘dead’ BBs can have enough energy to cause injury. The majority of BBs are obtained directly from the devices or found loose in the home. Most BB ingestions are unwitnessed,⁶ and the symptoms resemble common viral illnesses. Because of this, they are a diagnostic challenge, and are often initially misdiagnosed. If a child is suspected to have ingested a BB within the last 12 hours, giving them honey could be lifesaving. Honey reduces burns by creating a physical barrier between the BB and esophageal tissue. BB ingestions are a preventable occurrence, but many people are unaware of their dangers. To help understand what the public knows about BBs and tailor future primary prevention efforts we performed a social media based survey to gauge public awareness. Our results provided insight for knowledge gaps including: the presentation of injury, the importance of honey after ingestion, discarding of BBs properly, and wrapping them in tape before discarding them.





POSTER PRESENTATION SUBMISSIONS
LAY SUMMARY

Youth Life Satisfaction and Social Interaction during the COVID-19 Pandemic

LINDA T. DUONG^[1,2], DR. RUTH REPCHUCK^[1,2], DR. KATHOLIKI GEORGIADES^[1,2]

*[1] DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIOURAL NEUROSCIENCE, FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, MCMASTER UNIVERSITY
[2] OFFORD CENTRE FOR CHILD STUDIES*

The COVID-19 pandemic limited socialization for children in Ontario. This study compared youth life satisfaction between lockdown and reopening, while investigating the influence of social interaction on well-being. Data from 281 youth at 2 time points from the COVID-19 Ontario Provincial Assessment and Tracking of Child and Family Health (ON:PATH) were analyzed. Life satisfaction was lowest during lockdown. Increased in-person interaction predicted better life satisfaction at all time points. Virtual interactions were negatively correlated with life satisfaction—particularly during reopening. These findings demonstrate a need to increase youth access to in-person school- and community-based socialization to improve long-term well-being.

“You can learn from each other ... and grow as a person”: The experiences of adolescent thoracic transplant recipients participating in the iPeer2Peer support mentorship program

MEGAN LIANG^[1,2], JIA LIN^[2], IZABELLE SIQUEIRA^[2], SARAH POL^[2], DR. SAMANTHA J. ANTHONY^[2,3]

*[1] FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, MCMASTER UNIVERSITY
[2] CHILD HEALTH EVALUATIVE SCIENCES, THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN
[3] TEMERTY FACULTY OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES*

Adolescent thoracic transplant recipients require life-long medical follow-up and are at increased risk of psychosocial challenges and impaired functioning. This may impact one’s sense of self, identity, and disease self-management. Peer support can promote positive health outcomes in adolescent chronic illness populations by providing emotional guidance through expressions of empathy, appraisal through affirming one’s feelings, and informational support through advice-giving. iPeer2Peer is an online peer mentorship program where trained young adult mentors provide peer support to adolescent mentees with the same chronic illness. This qualitative study explores the experiences of adolescent thoracic transplant recipients participating in the iPeer2Peer program.



POSTER PRESENTATION SUBMISSIONS
LAY SUMMARY

Community Clinician Management Patterns of Childhood Dyslipidemia

KATHERINE N. TOM[1], NATASHA DESILVA[2], ALICIA POLACK[3], KARISHMA SINGH[1], CHARLES KEOWN-STONEMAN[4], JONATHON MAGUIRE[4], CATHERINE BIRKEN [3], DR. PETER D. WONG[3]

[1] MICHAEL G. DEGROOTE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MCMaster UNIVERSITY

[2] FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, WESTERN UNIVERSITY

[3] HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN

[4] LI KA SHING KNOWLEDGE INSTITUTE, UNITY HEALTH TORONTO

Childhood dyslipidemia refers to abnormal blood lipid levels in children and increases risk for cardiovascular disease in adulthood. Our goal was to describe how primary care physicians manage childhood dyslipidemia. We reviewed the medical records of otherwise healthy children with abnormal blood lipid levels. We wanted to see how many physicians engaged in each management practice such as informing families, repeating bloodwork and making referrals to specialists. We found that physicians rarely identified abnormal lipid levels or started early management. Our results would support increasing awareness about recent guidelines for childhood dyslipidemia screening and management to improve patient care.

The Association Between Childhood Neighbourhood Crime Exposure and Atherosclerosis Burden; A Retrospective Cohort Study in the city of London, Ontario.

ADITYA SIKAND, JOY CHOWDHURY, UTKARSH CHAUDHRY, MELISSA TIANQI WANG, NOAH KIM, SHAHBHANO MIRZA, ARDAVAN BEHROUZ, DR. DR. MAHMOUD REZA AZARPAZHOOH

[1] STROKE PREVENTION AND ATHEROSCLEROSIS RESEARCH CENTRE, WESTERN UNIVERSITY

According to the World Health Organization, 85% of premature deaths are associated with cardiovascular health, which relate to environmental stressors. Through observing the neighbourhood crime rates of patients during childhood at the SPARC cardiovascular clinic, we can observe associations between the stressors of living in areas with a high crime rate and atherosclerosis. Our study is a retrospective cohort study that examines crime rates in the city of London, Ontario and pairs them with patients that lived in that area during their childhood. We hope that this study will provide more insight towards creating healthy living environments for children.



POSTER PRESENTATION SUBMISSIONS

LAY SUMMARY

Avoidance of Emergent Intubation in Extreme Preterm Neonates during Transition using Non-invasive Intermittent Positive Pressure Ventilation and Nasal Interface

NOSHEEN AKHTAR, AMAN HEMAI, DR. MICHELLE BACZYNSKI, EMAN HASHIM, BRITTANY LINDSAY

[1]DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS; DEPARTMENT OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY, MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

Typically, extremely preterm babies require ventilation to support spontaneous breathing after birth. Endotracheal intubation, a form of invasive mechanical ventilation, is used when other forms of noninvasive modes, such as positive pressure ventilation (PPV), are ineffective. However, using invasive measures results in an increased risk of neurological injury or under-developed lungs. Barriers to effective PPV administration, such as mask leak, contribute to the need for endotracheal intubation. Given the high intubation rates in extremely preterm births and the consequences of intubation, Mount Sinai Hospital implemented a strategy for PPV management; our study examines whether this strategy reduced emergent intubation rates.



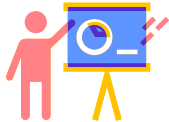
MCMASTER CHILD
HEALTH CONFERENCE

MCHC 2023 Planning Team



Co-Chairs

Izzah Khairi, Nicole Shen



Speaker Coordinators

Akash Uddandam, Delaney Ringer, Jaden Lo



Logistics & Registration Coordinators

Courtney Robb, Seth Ybema, Nic Mitchell



Research Coordinators

Sabrina Sefton, Keshvi Bhatt, Madelyn Stanley-Rainbow



Marketing & Promotions Coordinators

Julia Tikhonov, Jiwon Hwang, Kahono Hirasawa



Finance & Sponsorship Coordinators

Ryan Phan, Serena Wei