

# 10th Annual McMaster Child Health Conference

The McMaster Child Health Conference 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 10th year, the conference invited the Hamilton community to explore the theme “Caring for the Future: Addressing Chronic Illness in Pediatric Populations” at McMaster University on March 22nd, 2025. Keynote speakers and workshop leaders covered a range of topics, including the transition from pediatric to adult care, and the lived experience of patients with chronic illness.



### **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.

### **Community Clinician Management Patterns of Childhood Dyslipidemia**

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

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[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.





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# MCHC 2024-25 Planning Team



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