

# Building International Partnerships in HIV and Rehabilitation: Canada-UK HIV Rehabilitation Research Collaborative (CUHRRC)

CWGHR Annual General Meeting  
Sunday June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Toronto, Ontario

*Funded By:* The Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
Public Health Agency of Canada



Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation

Groupe de travail canadien sur le VIH et la réinsertion sociale

# Background

- Canada and UK – facing similar issues including challenges accessing rehabilitation services, social participation issues, income and employment, concurrent health conditions faced by those aging such as diabetes, osteoarthritis, and cardiac disease.
  - UK – well established HIV and rehabilitation clinical system
  - Canada – well established research foundation fostered by CWGHR.
- Opportunities existed to bridge areas of research and practice.

# CUHRRC Meeting – October 2009

- Successfully obtained CIHR Meeting Grant Funding (Spring 2009)

Kelly O'Brien, -McMaster University

Will Chegwidden (OT) – Barts and the London

Patty Solomon- McMaster University

Catherine Worthington- University of Calgary

Elisse Zack – CWGHR

Francisco Ibanez-Carrasco – OTHN

Chloe Orkin – Barts and the London

- Community-Clinical-Academic Collaborative
- First step in bridging widespread clinical knowledge in the UK with the strong research foundation on HIV and rehabilitation in Canada.



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# CUHRRC Meeting – October 2009

**Meeting Goal:** To develop an international collaborative research agenda that will address research priorities in HIV and rehabilitation by establishing partnerships with researchers, clinicians, policy makers, and community organizations in Canada and the UK.

## **Specific objectives:**

- 1) Knowledge transfer and exchange on HIV and rehabilitation research and service delivery.
- 2) Developing 1-2 international research proposals for the CUHRRC.



# CUHRRC Meeting Participants

- CUHRRC Meeting

25 participants

- 18 participants (13 from the UK and 5 from Canada) attended the three day meeting in person.
- 7 participants joined via videoconference in Toronto (n=5) and Halifax (n=2).



Combination of researchers, rehabilitation professionals (occupational therapists, physical therapists), physicians, people living with HIV, and representatives from community organizations from the UK and Canada.

# CUHRRC Team

## Canada

Larry Baxter  
Jacquie Gahagan  
Francisco Ibanez-Carrasco  
Brenda Merritt  
Stephanie Nixon  
Kelly O'Brien  
Greg Robinson  
Patty Solomon  
Sheila Thomas  
Catherine Worthington  
Elisse Zack

## UK

Anita Atwal  
Will Chegwidan  
Kirsti Duke  
Patriic Gayle  
Kim Hawkins  
Camilla Hawkins  
Steph Hemmings  
Esther McDonnell  
Jenny Nochese  
Simon Rackstraw

**Research, CBR, CWGHR**



**HIV and Rehabilitation: Clinical  
Expertise (7 HIV clinicians)**

# CUHRRC Outcomes

Research objectives to pursue....

- 1) To explore a) the prevalence of disability among PHAs, b) access to and use of related rehabilitation services, and c) living wellness strategies adopted, from the perspective of PHAs.
- 2) To describe the models of rehabilitation service delivery in Canada and UK (policy analysis).
- 3) Research bank of ideas (fatigue, aging adults, impact of exercise program in UK).

Catalyst Grant Submitted to CIHR - April 2010

To develop the survey instruments and sampling strategy to carry out the survey

# CUHRRC Next Steps...

- Sustainability – ongoing teleconferences
- Interest from Canada and UK community
- Exploring funding opportunities
- New partnerships – researchers in UK
- CWHGR – Funding from PHAC for CUHRRC Coordination



Public Health  
Agency of Canada

Agence de santé  
publique du Canada

## International

### HIV knowledge exchange

A HIV rehabilitation research collaborative has recently been established at international meeting. **Will Chegwidden** reports

For more information (or a copy of the final report):

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416-978-0565

Chegwidden, W. OTNews. December 2009.

<http://www.cot.co.uk/MainWebSite/Resources/Document/International%20HIV%20knowledge%20exchange.pdf>