IMPACT, Canada’s Immunization Monitoring Program ACTive, is a national surveillance initiative managed by the Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS) and carried out by the IMPACT network of infectious disease specialists and nurse monitors. Surveillance is supported primarily by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). The information collected complements existing national surveillance systems; supports public health action; informs policy dialogue with federal, provincial and territorial governments and other national stakeholders; and assists in meeting Canada’s international immunization commitments. Please share this newsletter. You can also subscribe at [www.cps.ca/en/impact](http://www.cps.ca/en/impact).

**Surveillance update**

**Respiratory Syncytial Virus**

Our network will conduct a third year of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) surveillance. The data from the first year (2017-2018) were used to inform the second year of surveillance which was conducted from November 2018 through June 2019 at 12 IMPACT centers. RSV specimens from 2 participating centers were collected and tested at the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) to identify the circulating strain of RSV. In 2019-2020, the surveillance will be conducted from October 2019 to June 2020 and specimens from several participating centers will be collected and tested at the NML. The data generated from this study will continue to inform the National Advisory Committee on Immunization regarding the burden of RSV for future recommendations on RSV vaccines. Year one data were recently presented at the International Neonatal and Maternal Immunization Symposium [http://www.inmis.org/](http://www.inmis.org/) (poster 81).
Publications and presentations

IMPACT is now entering its 29th year of surveillance. The IMPACT team has produced an impressive, long list of peer-reviewed publications (71) and scientific presentations (129) presented both nationally and internationally. The most up-to-date list can be found at https://www.cps.ca/en/impact. Over the past 29 years, the team has also participated in many other knowledge translation activities that are not on the official list, including mentoring other international IMPACT-like groups.

Simran Sandhu, Amanda Shane, Christina Bancej, Wendy Vaudry, Joanne Embree, April Killikelly, Matthew Tunis, Althea House, Julie Bettinger, Nicole Le Saux, Joanne Langley, Marc Lebel, Shaun Morris, Jesse Papenburg, Joan Robinson, Manish Sadarangani, Dorothy Moore, Taj Jadavji, Dat Tran, Scott Halperin on behalf of the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Canadian Immunization Monitoring Program ACTive. The Epidemiology of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Amongst the Hospitalized Paediatric Population in Canada, 2017-2018. Poster presentation at the 5th International Neonatal and Maternal Immunization Symposium (INMIS) in Vancouver, British Colombia, on September 15-17, 2019.

Canada Communicable Disease Report updates

Vaccine safety surveillance report in Canada: Reports to CAEFISS, 2017:

PHAC updates

Biannual reports for 2018 are posted on the vaccine safety website

Influenza updates

1) NACI Statement on Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2019-2020

2) Flu watch provides Canadians with a weekly update on the status of the Canadian influenza season. The 2019-2020 season started on Sunday, August 25, 2019 and will end on Saturday, August 22, 2020:
3) Pocket guide for health care providers


4) ID News (CCDR June 2019)
2018/2019 influenza vaccine had low late-season effectiveness against the A (H3N2) influenza vaccine


Children under 10 years of age were more affected by the influenza A (H1N1) virus in 2018/19


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**Welcome to new team members**

A warm welcome to the following new IMPACT team members:
* Lauren Lee, new back-up Medical Scrutineer at BC Children’s Hospital
* Wendy Klassen, new data research assistant
* Dr. Cora Constantinescu, new Co-Investigator at Alberta Children’s Hospital in Calgary
* Dr. Catherine Burton, new Co-Investigator at Stollery Children’s Hospital in Edmonton
* Kristal Sneesby, new back-up monitor in Winnipeg

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**With great appreciation to**

Dr. Rupesh Chawla (Co-Investigator in Calgary), Sarah McCann (scrutineer at data center), Cecilia Jankowski (clinical secretary) and Michelle Breton (backup monitor in Winnipeg) for their contribution over the many years in our network.

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**Center site update**

Shauna Richards is now the new lead monitor at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon and Chris Cadman will take on the back-up monitor.
Canadian websites, recent updates and professional development opportunities

- Immunize Canada - Immunize Canada has gone green; all resources are available online, they will be kept free and can be printed for promotional use at: [www.immunize.ca](http://www.immunize.ca) and [imunize.ca/influenza-campaign](http://imunize.ca/influenza-campaign)
- Canadian Association for Immunization Research and Evaluation (CAIRE): [www.caire.ca](http://www.caire.ca)
- Canadian Immunization Research Network: [www.cirnetwork.ca](http://www.cirnetwork.ca)
- CANVax: [www.canvax.ca](http://www.canvax.ca) (First online issue of “CANVax Boost” is now available) CANVax develops content and resources to support and inform the work of public health professionals in improving vaccine acceptance and uptake (The Webinars series are available at [https://canvax.ca/canvax-webinar-series](https://canvax.ca/canvax-webinar-series))
- The Can Immunize App has many resources available to help you track and give you further information: [www.canimmunize.ca/en/home](http://www.canimmunize.ca/en/home)

Canadian Paediatric Society

- Canadian Paediatric Surveillance Program (CPSP): [www.cpsp.cps.ca](http://www.cpsp.cps.ca)
- Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS): [www.cps.ca](http://www.cps.ca)
  CPS’ recommendations for the 2019/2020 influenza season (practice point written by Dr. Dorothy Moore)

International

- United States: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html)
- Immunization Action Coalition: [www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org)
  [https://vaccine-safety-training.org/investigation/](https://vaccine-safety-training.org/investigation/)
- Australia:
  - National Centre for Immunization Research and Surveillance: [www.ncirs.edu.au/](http://www.ncirs.edu.au/)
**Current IMPACT team contacts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Centre</th>
<th>Lead/Backup Nurse Monitor</th>
<th>Investigator</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IWK Health Centre Halifax, N.S.</td>
<td>Andrea Hudgin/Karen Branscombe</td>
<td>Dr. Karina Top</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Trish Smith/Heather Samson</td>
<td>Dr. Scott Halperin (Network Co-PI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Le Centre Mère-Enfant Soleil Québec City, Que.</td>
<td>Lynn Poirier/Marie-France Nolin</td>
<td>Dr. Roseline Thibeault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hospital for Sick Children Toronto, Ont.</td>
<td>Suganya Lee/Kim Simpson</td>
<td>Dr. Shaun Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg, Man.</td>
<td>Debbie Coté/Kristal Sneesby</td>
<td>Dr. Joanne Embree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.C. Children’s Hospital Vancouver, B.C.</td>
<td>Ivor Chee/Jasmine Wong</td>
<td>Dr. Manish Sadarangani</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Dr. Laura Sauvé (Co-Inv)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa, Ont.</td>
<td>Chantal Bergeron/Jennifer Bowes</td>
<td>Dr. Nicole Le Saux</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alberta Children’s Hospital Calgary, Alta.</td>
<td>Shannon Pyra/Eileen Pyra</td>
<td>Dr. Taj Jadavji</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Dr. Cora Constantinescu (Co-Inv)</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Montreal Children’s Hospital, Montreal, Que.</td>
<td>Lorraine Piché/Diane Delli Colli</td>
<td>Dr. Jesse Papenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Health Janeway St. John’s, NL</td>
<td>Debbie Harnum/Krista Rideout</td>
<td>Dr. Natalie Bridger</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Dr. Cheryl Foo (Co-Inv)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHU Sainte-Justine Montreal, Que.</td>
<td>Sophie Bouchard/Lisa-Angela Ouellet</td>
<td>Dr. Marc Lebel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stollery Children’s Hospital Edmonton, Alta.</td>
<td>Barb Neufeld/Chris Bon</td>
<td>Dr. Wendy Vaudry (Network Co-PI)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Dr. Catherine Burton (Co-inv)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal University Hospital Saskatoon, Sask.</td>
<td>Shauna Richards/Chris Cadman</td>
<td>Dr. Ben Tan</td>
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<td>Dr. Athena McConnell (Co-Inv)</td>
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</table>

**Other contacts:**

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)
Jennifer Pennock (Director, Vaccine and Immunization Program Surveillance Division); Helen Anyoti (Vaccine Safety); Christina Bancej (Chief, Surveillance, Assessment and Response Section); Susan Squires (Acting Chief, Vaccine-Preventable Diseases)

Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS): Marie Adèle Davis (Executive Director); Melanie Laffin Thibodeau (Manager, Surveillance)

IMPACT Data Centre: Dr. Julie Bettinger (Epidemiologist & Data Centre Chief); Kim Marty (Data Manager); Jennifer Mark (Assistant Data Coordinator); May Ahmed (Main Lead Medical Scrutineer); Lauren Lee (back-up Medical Scrutineer); Wendy Klassen (Data Research Assistant)

McGill University Vaccine Study Center: Annick Audet (IMPACT Nurse Monitor Liaison)

To connect with an IMPACT centre please contact Annick Audet by email at Annick.Audet@MUHC.MCGILL.CA

Canadian Center for Vaccinology (CCfV): Natalie Giorgis (newsletter formatting)
Traduction Le bout de la langue, inc.: Dominique Paré (French translator)