



January 2016 Newsletter

RaDAR in Sun Country Health Region

Update

In December, **Dr. Dallas Seitz** provided an information session via telehealth that was well attended by health care professionals across Sun Country Health Region. The topic of the information session was **PC-DATA (Primary Care Dementia Assessment and Treatment Algorithm)**, a set of knowledge tools for effectively diagnosing and managing patients with dementia. Dr. Seitz, a geriatric psychiatrist at Queen's University, developed PC-DATA to assist health care providers (family physicians, nurse practitioners, and others) with the often complex process of caring for individuals with dementia.



Dr. Dallas Seitz, MD FRCP
Geriatric Psychiatrist
Queen's University



Dr. Megan O'Connell
Neuropsychologist
U of S

Also in December, the **Kipling Primary Health Care team** took part in a PC-DATA education session with Dr. Dallas Seitz and the RaDAR team. In the session, Dr. Seitz provided an overview of PC-DATA followed by an in-depth discussion of effective strategies for patient care among members of the Kipling PHC team and Dr. Seitz, **Dr. Andrew Kirk**, and **Dr. Megan O'Connell** (neurologist and neuropsychologist with the RaDAR team).



Dr. Andrew Kirk
Neurologist
U of S

RaDAR continues to work with the Kipling PHC team to implement and evaluate PC-DATA and other best practices in dementia care. In the coming months, RaDAR will also work with the Sun Country Health Region Dementia Working Group to invite the next PHC team to join the RaDAR project.

For more information about the RaDAR project or PC-DATA, contact debra.morgan@usask.ca or call Dr. Morgan at 306-966-7905.

Every fall, Dr. Debra Morgan hosts the **Summit of the Knowledge Network**



Summit 8 Recap
(Oct 27-28, 2015)

in Rural and Remote Dementia Care. This year, keynote speaker and geriatric psychiatrist **Dr. Dallas Seitz** spoke about the importance of dementia in primary care and the Primary Care Assessment and Treatment Algorithm (**PC-DATA**) - a set of knowledge tools that he developed for health care professionals. Keynote speaker and geriatrician **Dr. Jayna Holroyd-Leduc** gave an overview of dementia care in Alberta, focusing on depression case finding and elder friendly care in hospitals.

Over 70 participants took part in a small groups where they had an opportunity to discuss the details of **adapting PC-DATA for rural SK primary health care teams**, followed by a reporting back session of the entire group.

In the afternoon, we presented a new Summit feature, a panel session called **On the RaDAR-New Dementia Initiatives**. Over 70 Summit participants had an opportunity to hear updates on innovative dementia programs across the province, including Dementia Advisory Networks (Joanne Bracken, CEO Alzheimer Society of SK), a rural memory clinic in Kelsey Trail Health Region (Tanis Broner, Primary Care Nurse Practitioner), and SK dementia assessment neighborhoods and outreach teams (Jean Nelson and Tracy Danylyshen-Laycock, Project Managers).

Contact duane.minish@usask.ca for more information.

Spotlight on Allison Cammer



Allison Cammer is a registered dietitian at the Rural and Remote Memory Clinic and member of the RaDAR team.

She completed a Master of Science degree in Community Health and Epidemiology and is currently a doctoral candidate in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at the U of S. Her PhD research focuses on nutrition care for long-term care residents who have dementia.

Originally from a farm in Webb, SK, Allison co-chairs Saskatchewan Dietitians Association's Professional Conduct Committee and is the past chair of Dietitian Canada's Saskatchewan long-term care action group.



Dr. Debra Morgan is the lead of the RaDAR team, which is focused on improving care for individuals with dementia and their families in rural and remote areas.

The RaDAR team is currently conducting partnering with the Sun Country Health Region to introduce new strategies for dementia care in primary health care teams.

Congratulations to Dr. Debra Morgan, recipient of the 2015 Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation's Achievement Award for her research in the field of rural dementia health care!



Dr. Debra Morgan

What's on our RaDAR?

January is Alzheimer's Awareness Month

"The Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan is inviting all Saskatchewanians, of all ages to #BecomeAFriend and #MakeMemoriesMatter. A Dementia Friend is someone who decides to learn more about dementia and how to support people living with the disease."

Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com>
Become a Dementia Friend: dementiafriends.ca

Canada Needs a National Dementia Plan

"There are some key challenges across the country that need addressing for starters. Accessibility to assessment, diagnosis, treatment and comprehensive continuity of care is a major challenge in all jurisdictions across the country."

Read more here: <http://www.huffingtonpost.ca>

Alzheimer's Disease 10 Warning Signs

"Whether you're experiencing possible symptoms or are concerned for someone, the Alzheimer Society has developed the following list of signs to look for":

Read more here: <http://www.alzheimer.ca/en/sk>

Taking the Farm to Patients with Dementia

"It's not often a menagerie of animals can be seen roaming around a Sheffield nursing home. But goats, guinea pigs, chickens, ducks, and ferrets all made a special visit to Wood Hill House" Read more here:

<http://www.thestar.co.uk/news>

Bilokreli Family Trust Fund



The RaDAR team would thank the Bilokreli Family for their recent donation of \$25,000 each year for three years. These funds will be dedicated to supporting the ongoing research and knowledge exchange activities of the RaDAR Program.

RaDAR Rounds offered by skype

RaDAR Rounds are presented by RaDAR team members at the University of Saskatchewan.

The Rounds offer an excellent opportunity to learn about the latest SK-based research in dementia care. If you would like to receive notice of upcoming presentations, please contact debra.morgan@usask.ca

Recent publications by RaDAR team members

Availability and primary health care orientation of dementia-related services in rural Saskatchewan, Canada. *Home Health Care Services Quarterly* (Debra Morgan et al. 2015)

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf>

Incidence and prevalence of dementia in linked administrative health data in Saskatchewan, Canada: A retrospective cohort study. *BioMed Central Geriatrics* (Julie Kosteniuk et al. 2015)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>

Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan

First Link®

First Link is an early intervention service designed to connect individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's disease or another dementia with services and support as soon as possible after diagnosis.

If you are a health care professional, please see our **First Link** information and download the **First Link Agency Referral Form**.

Karrie McFadden, First Link Coordinator

Sun Country Resource Centre
kmcfadden@alzheimer.sk.ca

1-306-842-2273

1-800-263-3367

Dementia Helpline: 1-877-949-4141

<http://www.alzheimer.ca/sk>



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