



September 2015 Newsletter

8th Annual Summit of the Knowledge Network in Rural and Remote Dementia Care Saskatoon, SK



**Oct. 27 – Wine & cheese
poster session (7 - 10 pm)**

**Oct. 28 – Conference
(8 am - 4:30 pm)**

Contact debra.morgan@usask.ca for more details.

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Dallas Seitz, MD FRCPC
Assistant Professor & Clinician Scientist
Division of Geriatric Psychiatry
Queen's University



Dr. Jayna Holroyd-Leduc, MD FRCPC
Associate Professor, University of Calgary
Scientific Director of the Alberta Seniors Health
Strategic Clinical Network

Spotlight on Leslie Holfeld



Leslie Holfeld, pictured in the Rural and Remote Memory Clinic, Saskatoon

Leslie is a registered nurse who has held the position of Rural and Remote Memory Clinic coordinator since the clinic was first established in 2004. As part of this role, Leslie books patient appointments and

conducts pre-clinic assessments. She also coordinates the many procedures done on clinic day and guides patients through their all-day visit. Leslie fields phone calls from patients and caregivers dealing with issues related to dementia and directs them to appropriate resources if required. She also coordinates follow-up telehealth appointments between patients and telehealth sites. In addition, Leslie regularly refers patients and caregivers to the Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan and ensures that the Learning Series telehealth sessions are publicized.

RaDAR team video

A 3-minute of RaDAR's (Team 20's) research program in Sun Country Health Region can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/channels/ccna>. The video was developed by Duane Minish, Debra Morgan, and Julie Kosteniuk.

RaDAR in Sun Country Health Region

Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in a baseline interview. We recently completed Phase 1 with a total of 32 baseline interviews in Sun Country, including 9 decision-makers, 5 patients/caregivers, and 18 PHC team members.

The objective of Phase 1 was to learn more about individuals' views regarding dementia assessment, diagnosis, and management, particularly current gaps and strengths in care pathways in the health region. We expect that strengths in care pathways will increase as a result of our 5-year research partnership with the health region.

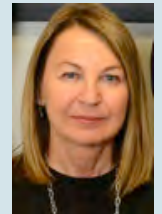
Our core project in Phase 2 is now underway. In the coming months, one Primary Health Care team in the health region will take part in an Information Session and Education Session with Dr. Dallas Seitz and the RaDAR team. These sessions will allow the PHC team to learn more about PC-DATA (Primary Care Dementia Assessment and Treatment Algorithm), a set of knowledge tools for health care professionals based on recommendations from the Canadian Consensus Conference on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Dementia.

RaDAR will then work with the first PHC team to implement and evaluate PC-DATA and additional best practices in dementia care.



Dr. Debra Morgan (right) is the RaDAR team lead and co-lead of CCNA Team 20 focused on dementia care in rural and Indigenous populations.

- CCNA (**Canadian Consortium in Neurodegeneration in Aging**) is based at the Lady Davis Institute of the Jewish General Hospital, McGill University.
- CCNA brings together 340 researchers across 20 research teams, organized into 3 themes (prevention, treatment, care).
- Other care-oriented CCNA teams are examining issues of dementia and multi-morbidity, gerontechnology, driving, caregiving, and the health care system.



RaDAR Rounds offered by **skype**

RaDAR Rounds are presented by RaDAR team members at the University of Saskatchewan. The Rounds offers an excellent opportunity to learn about the latest SK-based research in dementia care.

Please note that Rounds will resume after Summit 8. If you would like to receive notice of upcoming presentations, please contact debra.morgan@usask.ca

What's on the RaDAR?

World Alzheimer Report 2015

Alzheimer's Disease International has released their annual Alzheimer Report (2015), with a focus this year on the epidemiology and costs of dementia. The report authors estimate that in 2015, 47 million people are living with dementia globally, a number that is projected to double every 20 years. <http://www.alz.co.uk/research/world-report-2015>

Update on a national dementia strategy

Mimi Lowi-Young, Alzheimer Society of Canada CEO, called on federal party candidates to voice their support for a national dementia strategy in a recent Maclean's article. Mrs. Lowi-Young noted, "Other G8 countries are rising to the challenge posed by dementia. In February of this year, Prime Minister David Cameron unveiled a plan for the United Kingdom by announcing government funding for research worth more than \$600 million in Canadian dollars over five years." See the full article at <http://goo.gl/U7Cy77>.

Recent publications by RaDAR team members

Dementia-related work activities of home care nurses and aides: frequency, perceived competence, and continuing education priorities. *Educational Gerontology* (Debra Morgan et al. 2015)

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/03601277.2015.1083390>

Predictors of completion of executive-functioning tasks in a memory clinic dementia sample. *Applied Neuropsychology: Adult* (Joe Enright et al. 2015)

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/23279095.2014.992070>

Attitudes toward physical activity and exercise: comparison of memory clinic patients and their caregivers and prediction of activity levels. *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity* (Megan O'Connell et al. 2015).

<http://europemc.org/abstract/med/24451476>

RBANS Embedded Measures of Suboptimal effort in dementia: effort scale has a lower failure rate than the effort index. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology* (Rachel Burton et al. 2015).

<http://acn.oxfordjournals.org/content/30/1/1.short>

Contact rural.dementia@usask.ca if you would like a copy of a publication that is not available online.

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

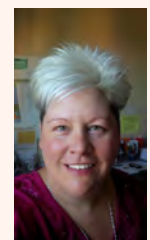
Sun Country Resource Centre
kmcfadden@alzheimer.sk.ca

1-306-842-2273

1-800-263-3367

Dementia Helpline: 1-877-949-4141

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



The RaDAR newsletter is prepared by Dr. Julie Kosteniuk and Dr. Debra Morgan at the *Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture*, University of Saskatchewan. Please direct inquiries to julie.kosteniuk@usask.ca (306-966-8773) or debra.morgan@usask.ca (306-966-7905).