



# The Pandemic EVIDENCE Collaboration 2025 International Conference

Looking at the Pandemic in the Rearview Mirror:  
Successes, Failures and Unintended Consequences

**14 – 16 MAY 2025**

*Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Banff, Canada*

## Day Zero Tuesday May 13<sup>th</sup> 2025

13:00 – 15:00

EIFs EMCR Workshop - Aim to develop researchers that respond efficiently and creatively to emerging situations.  
Road Test Ideas – space to present and develop skills as an applied researcher in a multi-disciplinary group.

## Day One Wednesday May 14<sup>th</sup> 2025

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| 08:00– 08:30 | <b>Badge Collection, Coffee &amp; Poster installation</b>   |  |   |
| 08:30– 09:00 | <b>Welcome and Introduction</b><br><br><b>Dr William Ghali</b> , Vice President of Research, University of Calgary<br><b>Professor Carl Heneghan</b> , Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine & Kellogg College, University of Oxford   |  |   |
| 09:00– 10:30 | <b>Session One Panel Discussion</b><br><b>Characteristics of COVID19: Assessing the Difficulties of Research Evidence</b><br><br><b>Professor Mark Loeb</b> , Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University<br><b>Dr Oyuka Byambasuren</b> , Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare, Bond University<br><b>Dr Ken Parhar</b> , Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary<br><b>Dr Atle Fretheim</b> , Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Centre for Epidemic Interventions Research |  |   |
| 10:30 –11:00 | <b>Refreshment Break</b>  |  |   |
| 11:30– 12:45 | <b>Parallel Abstract Sessions (Oral presentations)</b>  |  |   |
|              | <b>Pillar 2 Interventions &amp; Evidence (data challenges / other)</b><br><br>Benefits and harms of remdesivir for COVID-19 in adults: Early steps in a systematic review with meta-analysis of pivotal clinical trials - <b>Marc Chretien</b>  | <b>Pillar 2 Interventions &amp; Evidence (methodological issues)</b><br><br>Randomized trials of public health and social measures for controlling pandemics: statistical challenges and opportunities - <b>Christopher James Rose</b> | <b>Pillar 3 Practice &amp; Policy</b><br><br>Side-effects of using lockdown as public health measure: Impact of COVID-19 Restrictions on Violence against Young Girls and their Mental Health in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh - <b>Rajnish Prasad</b> |

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|               | <p>School Opening Associated with Significantly Lower Test-Adjusted COVID-19 Case Rates in Children - <b>Ambarish Chandra</b></p> <p>Antidepressant prescribing trends in Northern Poland: findings from the COVID-19 pandemic - <b>Pawel Zagozdzon</b></p> <p>Applying the COM-B Model to Assess Barriers and Facilitators of the Covid-19 Pandemic Public Health Measures in Black Communities in Canada: A Qualitative Study - <b>Obidi Ezezika</b></p> | <p>Are Masks Necessary? A Challenge to Prevent COVID Transmission on a Pediatric Mental Health Acute Care Unit - <b>Jennifer Happe</b></p> <p>Prioritising Public Health and Social Measures (PHSM) evidence syntheses for a national public health agency - <b>Serena Carville</b></p> <p>Automated local lockdowns for SARS-CoV-2 epidemic control in Denmark in 2021- assessment of effect by controlled interrupted time series analysis - <b>Laura Espenhain</b></p> | <p>Exploring Norwegian public attitudes towards public health policy experiments in and outside of public health crises - <b>Ingeborg Hess Elgersma</b></p> <p>Interventions to enable or improve evidence-informed decision-making in public health and preventive medicine practice: A scoping review - <b>Emily Groot</b></p> <p>Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Adverse Event Incidence Rates in Canadian Hospitals: A Retrospective Chart Review Study - <b>Guosong Wu</b></p> |
| 12:45 – 14:00 | <b>Lunch</b>   |   |  |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | <b>Parallel Abstract Sessions (Oral Presentations &amp; Workshops)</b>   |   |  |

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|  | <p><b>Pillar 2 Interventions &amp; Evidence</b></p> <p>A Scoping Review of COVID-19 and Other Vaccination Models for Refugees and Migrants - <b>Fariba Aghajafari</b></p> <p>Controlling outbreak of infectious disease using Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs): Learning from Kerala's Response Nipah Virus Outbreak - <b>Ranjish Prasad</b></p> <p>Addressing Youth Mental Health Literacy for Pandemic and Public Health Crises: Evidence-Based Consensus Statements for the Youth MindTrack and Beyond - <b>Stephana Julia Moss</b></p> <p>Loneliness during the COVID-19 pandemic in Indigenous communities in the Northwest Territories, Canada - <b>Fariba Kolahdooz</b></p> <p>Challenges faced by health policymakers in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in Northwest Territories, Canada - <b>Se Lim Jang</b></p> | <p><b>Pillar 3 Practice &amp; Policy (methodological issues / other)</b></p> <p>Data-fetishism and politicization of science: the case study of the health narrative of Covid-19 - <b>Andrea Miconi</b></p> <p>Emergency preparedness and integrated surveillance potential of a rapid COVID-19 and TB diagnostic in Bangladesh: An adaptive response in health system governance - <b>Muhammad Asaduzzaman</b></p> <p>From 'CoWIN' to 'Vaccine Maitri' (Vaccine friendship): India's Journey in Combating COVID-19 pandemic - <b>Kamal Gulati</b></p> <p>Patient-Driven Collaboration in Long COVID Research: Enhancing Engagement and Outcomes Through Lived Experience for Long COVID Web - <b>Farwa Naqvi</b></p> | <p><b>Workshop</b></p> <p>Accelerated evidence synthesis and dashboard science for pandemic prevention and response: Lessons from real-world initiatives at the University of Calgary's Centre for Health Informatics - <b>Mairead Whelan, Danielle Southern, Harriet Ware</b></p> | <p><b>Workshop</b></p> <p>Exploration of evidence-based interventions targeted at reducing the risk of social frailty among older adults during times of public health emergencies: A focus on what, where and how to implement - <b>Jayna Holroyd-Leduc</b></p> |
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| 15:30 – 16:00                                    | <b>Refreshment Break</b>   |
| 16:00 – 17:00                                    | <b>Session Two Guest Keynote Speaker</b><br><br>Evidence-Based Medicine a Historical Outline of its Application in Clinical Medicine and its Potential in the Management of a Pandemic<br><br><b>Professor Gordon Guyatt</b> , Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University   |
| 18:00 – 19:30                                    | Welcome Reception / Poster viewing   |
| <b>Day Two Thursday May 15<sup>th</sup> 2025</b> |  |
| 08:00 – 08:30                                    | <b>Badge Collection</b>  |
| 08:30 – 10:00                                    | <b>Session Three</b><br><b>Pillar One Diagnostics and Transmission</b><br><b>The Benefits and Harms of NPIs: Methodological Standards and Study Design</b><br><br><b>Dr David Evans</b> , Meical Microbiology and Immunology Dept, University of Alberta<br><b>Dr Annette Plüddemann</b> , Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine & Kellogg College, University of Oxford<br><b>Assistant Professor Jenine Leal</b> , O'Brien institute for Public Health, University of Calgary<br><b>Professor Dominik Mertz</b> , Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University |
| 10:30 – 11:00                                    | <b>Refreshment Break</b>   |
| Breakout Room<br>KC105                           | <b>Parallel Abstract Sessions (Oral presentations)</b>   |

12:00 –12:30

### **Pillar 1 Diagnostics & Transmission**

Generative AI and unstructured audio data for precision pandemic management – **James Anibal**

Epidemiology and transmission of respiratory viruses among children attending day care: a systematic review – **Carl Heneghan**

Effectiveness of the Lolli-Methode in managing COVID-19 clusters in schools: Insights from the EuCARE project - **Giulia Doi**

### **Pillar 2 Interventions & Evidence (methodological issues / other)**

Uncovering the consequences of additional precautions on patients and healthcare workers in acute care settings: a scoping review - **Prakriti Pathania**

The impacts of COVID-19 on children's health behaviour and well-being in Northwest Territories - **Moutasem Zakkar**

Methods of Measuring and Improving Public Health and Social Measures Adherence During Pandemics: A Systematic Review

Evidence review to support a WHO guideline on public health and social measures for mitigation of pandemic and epidemic influenza - **Caitriona Murphy**

Personal protective effect of wearing surgical face masks in public spaces on self-reported respiratory

### **Pillar 2 Interventions & Evidence (data challenges)**

Evaluating Public Values on Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions for Pandemic Control - **Yuan Zhang**

Data, Policy, and Pandemic: Post-hoc Structural Breakpoint Analysis of Mortality Rates in Germany - **Christopher Germann**

Enhancing Population Compliance: Analyzing Demographic and Modifiable Factors in Public Health Emergencies

Exploring mental health and learning loss of students during the COVID-19 Pandemic: an international study within the EuCARE project - **Fedrica Bellerba**

### **Elevator Poster Pitches**

Use of Technology in Pandemic's Response – Benefits and Limitations: Some insights from adaptation of CoWIN Platform for COVID19 Vaccination in India - **Rajnish Prasad**

Antibiotic consumption and its link to the exaggeration of COVID-19 - **Muhammad Asaduzzaman**

Understanding and communicating the potential benefits and harms of non-pharmacological interventions during health emergencies: a Nigerian perspective - **James Famuyiwa**

Viral Cultures for Assessing Airborne Transmission of SARs-CoV-2: a Systematic Review Protocol - **Igho Onakpoya**

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|  |   | symptoms in adults:<br>pragmatic randomised<br>superiority trial - <b>Runar Solberg</b> |  |  |
| 12:30 – 14:00                                    | <b>Lunch</b>  |   |  |  |
| 13:30 – 14:00                                    | <b><i>Drop in Session(s) TBD</i></b>  |   |  |  |
| 14:00 –15:30                                     | <b>Session Four</b><br><b>Pillar Two Interventions and Evidence</b><br><b>Challenges in designing studies for evidence based NPIs in a pandemic</b><br><br><b>Dr Mark Jones</b> , Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare, Bond University<br><b>Dr Georgia Richards</b> , Kings College London & University of Oxford<br><b>Dr Lars Hemkens</b> , University of Basel<br><b>Dr Jessica Bartoszko</b> , Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University |   |  |  |
| 15:30 –16:00                                     | Refreshment Break / Poster viewing  |   |  |  |
| 16:00 – 17:30                                    | <b>Levels of Evidence for Interventions During a Pandemic</b>   |   |  |  |
| 18:30 – 21:00                                    | <b>Conference Dinner</b>  |   |  |  |
| <b>Day Three Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> 2025</b> |   |   |  |  |
| 08:30 – 09:00                                    | <b>Badge Collection</b>   |   |  |  |

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| 09:00 – 10:30 | <b>Session Five</b><br><b>Pillar Three Practice and Policy</b><br><b>Why we need EBM to facilitate informed policy in a pandemic</b><br><br><b>Dr Sara Gandini</b> , Department of Experimental Oncology in the European Institute of Oncology (IEO)<br><b>Verna Yiu</b> , Provost and Vice-President, University of Alberta<br><b>Salma Abdalla</b> , School of Public Health, Washington University St Louis |   |   |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | <b>Refreshment Break</b>   |   |   |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | <b>Parallel Abstract Sessions (Seminars)</b>   |   |   |
|               | Translating evidence into policy and practice: An evidence informed Public Health and Social Measures work programme – <b>Serena Carville</b>  | Exploring the importance of perspective in study design to assess the effects or impacts of non-pharmacological interventions during public health emergencies – <b>Tara Schuller</b> | Building Bridges Across Canada: Advancing Post-COVID Condition Research, Awareness, and Management Through Long COVID Web – <b>Doug Gross</b> |
| 12:00 – 13:00 | <b>Lunch</b>   |   |   |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | <b>Closing Session</b><br><b>Hopes and Ideas for the Future: providing better evidence in a pandemic</b><br><br><b>Professor Didier Pittet</b> , Director, infection Control Programme, University Hospital of Geneva<br><b>Dr Ramona Ludolph</b> , Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness and Prevention Department, World Health Organization  |   |   |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | <b>Coffee – Safe Journey home</b>  |   |   |



## Posters

Effectiveness of non-pharmaceutical interventions as implemented in the UK during the COVID-19 pandemic: a rapid review of experimental, epidemiological and mathematical modelling studies - **Ruth McQuillan**

Use of Technology in Pandemic's Response – Benefits and Limitations: Some insights from adaptation of CoWIN Platform for COVID19 Vaccination in India - **Rajnish Prasad**

Antibiotic consumption and its link to the exaggeration of COVID-19 - **Muhammad Asaduzzaman**

Understanding and communicating the potential benefits and harms of non-pharmacological interventions during health emergencies: a Nigerian perspective - **James Famuyiwa**

Viral Cultures for Assessing Airborne Transmission of SARs-CoV-2: a Systematic Review Protocol - **Igho Onakpoya**

Evaluation of the Norwegian national tool for observation of infection prevention measures in healthcare (NOST) – a cluster randomized trial - **Petter Elstrøm**

Return-to-work for People Living with Long COVID: A Scoping Review of Interventions and Recommendations - **Doug Gross**

Capacities and Vulnerabilities of Non-health Essential Workers from Visible Minority Communities to Cope with Mental Health Effects during the COVID-19 Pandemic - **Nashit Chowdhury**

Post-COVID-19 Condition Impact on the Canadian Healthcare Workforce: A Living Systematic Review and Agent-Based Modelling Project - **Madison Mc Guire**

Gaps In Using Immunological Markers to Study Interventions: Insights from the COVID-19 Pandemic - **Nicole Shaver**

Reporting quality of diagnostic accuracy studies for viral infections of enhanced pandemic potential: protocol for a meta-epidemiologic systematic review and meta-regression - **Adam Komorowski**

Development of a risk of bias tool for quality assessment of studies of the transmission of respiratory viruses - **Adam Komorowski**

Modelled evidence addressing non-pharmacological interventions for viral respiratory infections: A scoping review protocol - **Jessica Bartoszko**

Assessing the effectiveness of continuous masking policies in reducing transmission of respiratory infections: A systematic review - **Qandeel Shafqat**

Inequalities in Scotland's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic - **Kieren Egan**

The Utility of Trending Serial Cycle Threshold Values for SARS-COV-2 Allowing for Early De-Isolation and Cost Savings from Unnecessary Use of PPE and Bed Blocking - **Jessalyn Almond**

Correlating SARS-CoV-2 Infectivity in Clinical Samples with Cycle Threshold Values - **David Evans**

Evaluating the effectiveness of the enhanced masking directive in acute care hospitals in Alberta, Canada during the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 respiratory seasons - **Jenine Leal**

Protocol: Benefits and harms of herbal medicines for preventing and treating acute respiratory infections: an overview of systematic reviews - **Fariba Aghajafari**

Evidence from Alberta - How hospital-based respiratory surveillance adapted through the COVID-19 pandemic - **Jennifer Ellison**

Disparity in the global evidence base for the effectiveness of public health and social measures during influenza and COVID-19 pandemics - **Wey Wey Lim**

Rapid acceleration of digital health technologies in a pandemic: a double-edged sword - **Rosie Cooper**