



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 13th 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 14th 2025

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

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

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

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**

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

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

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 Wen Lim**

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