

DRUG SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS NETWORK (DSEN) NEWSLETTER

Winter 2012-13

Volume 3, Number 2

In This Issue:

**-MESSAGE FROM
THE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

-UPCOMING EVENTS

-EVENTS

**-DSEN FUNDING
NEWS**

**-RECENT DSEN
FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES**

-GOVERNANCE

**-SELECTED
PUBLICATIONS BY
DSEN FUNDED
RESEARCHERS**

Message from the DSEN Executive Director: **Dr. Robert Peterson**



The fall was a busy and productive time for the Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network. We fully engaged in Integrated Knowledge Translation with the Third Semi-Annual Network Meeting that was held on October 19th, 2012. With a number of Queries being answered by the DSEN researchers and results reported back to decision makers, we wanted to get suggestions regarding dissemination tools that would be adapted to different knowledge users (e.g.: decision makers, other researchers, clinicians, patients groups, etc.). In a session moderated by Dr. Sharon Straus, participants to the Network Meeting worked together in small groups to evaluate different dissemination tools and several good ideas were explored to harmonize and develop reporting processes and formats. We are looking forward to our Fourth Semi-Annual Network Meeting scheduled for March 22, 2013 and have an agenda that will emphasize decision makers' needs as well as explore other international examples of DSEN-like networks .

The DSEN Coordinating Office workshop abstract has been accepted for the next CADTH Symposium (May 5, 2013) at which time the DSEN staff and researchers will provide a hands-on, interactive simulation of the entire DSEN Query procedure leading to an in-depth understanding of the templates, timelines, and funding processes.

On the funding front, seven new queries were opened to Research Teams' applications through the DSEN Targeted Research Rapid Funding tool. Additionally, DSEN offered Fellowship support (priority

announcement) of up to \$60,000 for a maximum of five years for clinical research applications addressing the DSEN mandate.



Robert Peterson MD, PhD, MPH
Executive Director, Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network

Upcoming Events

DSEN Special Session at the 2013 CADTH Symposium, May 5th, St. John's, NL

DSEN is offering a **Special By Invitation Only Session** at the 2013 CADTH Symposium on the morning of Sunday, May 5. This session, **Put the Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network to Work for You!**, will provide a hands-on, interactive simulation of the entire Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network (DSEN) query procedure, leading to an in-depth understanding of the strengths and limitations of the research methods, the DSEN query submission template, timelines, and funding procedures. Led by DSEN staff and researchers, the workshop will use examples of successful query submissions.

Please send a note to symposium@cadth.ca if you are interested in attending. This is a complimentary session with limited seating so please let CADTH know of your interest as soon as possible.

CADTH's preliminary program for the 2013 Symposium is now available on their website, www.cadth.ca/en/events/cadth-2013-sympos/program.

We look forward to seeing you in St. John's, NL from May 5-7!

Events

Third Semi-Annual Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network meeting (October 19th, 2012)

In accordance with the collaborative nature of the DSEN structure, the DSEN Coordinating Office holds semi-annual network meetings to facilitate knowledge translation (KT) and sharing of best practices amongst Collaborating Centres.

DSEN held the 3rd event of the series on October 19, 2012 in Ottawa to bring decision makers, DSEN funded researchers, and trainees together to gain common understanding of the integration of KT in research, and to enhance Network functioning. The meeting was attended by 56 participants.

The main objectives of this meeting were:

- To provide an occasion for discussion on KT approaches
- To inform Network members of barriers and facilitators to integrated KT and KT Funding Opportunities
- To support a culture of KT within the DSEN program
- To provide network-wide interaction between DSEN funded researchers and decision makers
- To update participants on recent developments and upcoming plans and activities
- To introduce the DSEN funded New Investigators to the DSEN community

The morning session was dedicated to progress report presentations by DSEN's teams, and a presentation by CIHR Knowledge Translation Senior Advisor Kiera Keown, on CIHR's perspective on, and funding opportunities in Integrated KT. The lunch break was an opportunity for the newly DSEN-funded New Investigators to make poster presentations of their work. The afternoon, moderated by Dr. Sharon Straus, was entirely devoted to KT, with a break-out session wherein small groups explored five KT tools/strategies, followed by a reporting and plenary discussion session, and a panel summary.

The Fourth Semi-Annual Network Meeting is planned for March 22nd, 2013, and the Third Semi-Annual Meeting Report is available on the DSEN website at: <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/46302.html>.

Priorities 2012, Vancouver (September 16-19, 2012)

Priorities 2012 is the biennial conference of the International Society on Priorities in Health Care (ISPHC). DSEN's Diane Forbes participated along with other CIHR representatives to a session on priority setting entitled: "Setting Priorities in Health Research: Examples from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

- Diane Forbes MA, DC, Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Jacqueline Tetroe MA, Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Andrea Smith BA, Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Zena Sharman PhD, Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Based on the concept of integrated knowledge translation (iKT) CIHR seeks to align the research and decision making processes to support the roughly 30% of funding opportunities targeted for high priority research. Priority setting is a critical step of this iKT cycle. Priority setting processes unite decision-makers and researchers before the research begins by asking: what are the research needs of decision makers? And how can those needs inform and shape the research agenda?

Diane explained the priority setting process developed by DSEN in order to constantly engage in iKT to fund priority informed research leading to evidence-informed policy and practice through strong relationships, open dialogue, trust, respect and the identification of shared goals.

Social and Administration Pharmacy Educators of Canada (SAPEC), Montreal (October 11, 2012).

Diane Forbes presented DSEN before the SAPEC in Montreal with emphasis on the “Capacity Building” arm of the DSEN initiative, more specifically on the development of human resource capacity for post-marketed drugs comparative effectiveness.

DSEN FUNDING NEWS

DSEN funds five new Queries in Network Meta-Analysis through the Rapid Funding for DSEN Targeted Research tool. Each team will receive a maximum of \$100,000 for up to one year:

- **Moher, David, Antihypertensive Pharmacotherapies and their Effect on Clinical Outcomes: A Systematic Review**
- **Straus, Sharon, Comparative Safety and Effectiveness of Medications for Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes**
- **Straus, Sharon, Safety of 5-HT3 Antagonists**
- **Wells, George, A Network Meta-Analysis of Atypical Antipsychotics for Schizophrenia**
- **Wells, George, A Network Meta-Analysis of Combined Pharmacologic and Behavioural Interventions for Smoking Cessation**

RECENT DSEN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

More information about those funding opportunities can be found on the [CHR's website](#)

PRIORITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DSEN Priority Announcements offer additional sources of funding for applications that are relevant to specific DSEN research priority areas. Applications are submitted through the open funding opportunity.

- **Fellowship: Post Market Drug Safety and Effectiveness (2013)**
Application Deadline: February 1st, 2013

The Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network (DSEN) will provide funding for clinical research that is relevant to its mandate.

RAPID FUNDING

- **Rapid Funding for DSEN Targeted Research - Network Meta-Analysis**
Application Deadline: January 15th, 2013
This funding opportunity is open to Research Teams already receiving platform funding from DSEN. Each Query coming from decision makers is considered as a funding tool. Three Queries are presently opened to the meta-analysis methodology:
 - Quetiapine and Cardiomyopathy, using a meta-analysis approach
 - Levetiracetam and Developmental Toxicity, using a meta-analysis approach
 - Risperidone, using a meta-analysis approach

- **Rapid Funding for DSEN Targeted Research – Prospective Studies**
Application Deadline: January 15th, 2013
This funding opportunity is open for Research Teams already receiving platform funding from DSEN. Each Query coming from decision makers is considered as a funding tool. Three Queries are presently opened to the prospective study methodology:

- **Active Surveillance:**
 - 5-HT₂ Antagonists (Antiemetics) and Cardiac Safety

- **Comparative Effectiveness (The applicant must respond to all three Queries within the submitted application)**
 - Tiazide diuretics
 - Diabetes questions
 - Serotonin reuptake inhibitors and risks of fracture

GOVERNANCE

Announcements

The DSEN Coordinating Office would like to welcome new members to the DSEN Steering Committee (DSEN SC). Dr. Jane E. Aubin, Chief Scientific Officer and Vice-President, Research and Knowledge Translation, CIHR, accepted the role of Chair of the Steering Committee. Ms. Barbara Walman, Assistant Deputy Minister, British Columbia Ministry of Health, Pharmaceutical Services, is now representing the Provinces and Territories on the committee.

Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network Steering Committee

The DSEN Steering Committee (DSEN SC) met in Ottawa on November 23, 2012. Dr. Peterson presented an update on the DSEN Queries and announced that to date seven queries are completed and results reported back to the decision makers. One of those completed queries was reported to the provinces through CADTH. Seven new Queries were tabled for addition to the Prioritized Research Agenda.

The DSEN Coordinating Office also presented a draft dashboard illustrating the activities undertaken by the Network. Comments and suggestions from the DSEN SC members were noted and will be included in a subsequent version of the dashboard.

The participation of the DSEN SC members was requested for interviews related to the 2013 DSEN Program Evaluation. The structured interviews will be conducted on a one-on-one basis, either by phone or in person.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS FROM DSEN FUNDED RESEARCHERS

- Wells, G., Coyle, D., Cameron, C., Steiner, S., Coyle, K., Kelly, S., Tang, A., Healey, J., Hsieh, SC., van Berkomp, J., Safety, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of new oral anticoagulants (NOAC) compared to warfarin in preventing stroke and other cardiovascular events in patients with atrial fibrillation – a systematic review and network meta-analysis.
http://www.cadth.ca/media/pdf/NOAC_Therapeutic_Review_final_report.pdf
- Suissa, S., Henry, D., Caetano, P., Dormuth, C., Ernst, P., Hemmelgarn, B., LeLorier, J., Levy, A., Martens, P., Paterson, M., Platt, R., Sketris, I., & Teare, G., CNODES: The Canadian Network for Observational Drug Effect Studies, *Open Medicine*, 2012, vol. 6, #4, p. 134-140.
<http://www.openmedicine.ca/article/view/559/480>
- Brunham LR, Lansberg PJ, Zhang L, Miao F, Carter C, Hovingh GK, Visscher H, Jukema JW, Stalenhoef AF, Ross CJ, Carleton BC, Kastelein JJ, Hayden MR., Differential effect of the rs4149056 variant in SLCO1B1 on myopathy associated with simvastatin and atorvastatin, *Pharmacogenomics J.* 2012 Jun;12(3):233-7.
<http://www.nature.com/tpj/journal/v12/n3/full/tpj201092a.html>
- Visscher H, Ross CJ, Rassekh SR, Barhdadi A, Dubé MP, Al-Saloos H, Sandor GS, Caron HN, van Dalen EC, Kremer LC, van der Pal HJ, Brown AM, Rogers PC, Phillips MS, Rieder MJ, Carleton BC, Hayden MR; Canadian Pharmacogenomics Network for Drug Safety Consortium, Pharmacogenomic prediction of anthracycline-induced cardiotoxicity in children, *J Clin Oncol.* 2012 May 1;30(13):1422-8.
<http://hwmaint.jco.ascopubs.org/cgi/reprint/JCO.2010.34.3467v1>

- Kelly LE, Rieder M, van den Anker J, Malkin B, Ross C, Neely MN, Carleton B, Hayden MR, Madadi P, Koren G., More codeine fatalities after tonsillectomy in North American children, *Pediatrics*. 2012 May;129(5):e1343-7.
- Visscher H, Amstutz U, Sistonen J, Ross CJ, Hayden MR, Carleton BC., Pharmacogenomics of cardiovascular drugs and adverse effects in pediatrics, *J Cardiovasc Pharmacol*. 2011 Sep;58(3):228-39.