# Winter 2016 Epidemiology Seminar Series Jointly hosted by:

Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health & Global Health Programs

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## Julia von Oettingen, MD, PhD, MMSc

Pediatric endocrinologist, Montreal Children's Hospital and Assistant Professor, McGill University

Approach to global care delivery of pediatric non-communicable diseases – the example of pediatric endocrine care

Monday, 4 April 2016 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm - McIntyre Medical Building 3655 promenade Sir William Osler - Meakins - Rm 521

#### ALL ARE WELCOME

#### Abstract:

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) contribute significantly to the global burden of diseases. However, care delivery models in most resource-limited settings remain tailored to acute and infectious diseases. In many low- and middle-income countries, lack of economic resources, political instability and fragmented health care systems contribute to a poorly developed chronic disease infrastructure. Social determinants of health including high rates of poverty and low literacy render difficult the introduction of the concept of chronic diseases in childhood, and result in low levels of community awareness. Further challenges include insufficient medical expertise, lack of diagnostic testing tools, and suboptimal therapeutic options, manifesting as overall poor delivery of care. New models of pediatric chronic care delivery are required that address current flaws in health care infrastructure, access to diagnosis and continuity of care, access to essential medicines, maintenance of supply chains, and access to adequately trained health care professionals.

Using Haiti and the delivery of pediatric endocrine and diabetes care as an example, this talk will illustrate challenges and present strategies to improve pediatric chronic diseases care delivery in resource-limited settings. One pediatric chronic disease center's care delivery model will be highlighted, followed by discussion of a Pediatric Endocrine Society (PES) supported Pediatric Endocrinology Education Program *for* Haiti (PEEP-H), aimed at providing teaching in pediatric endocrinology at all levels of training, and establishment of subspecialty remote consultation services. The importance of local, national and international collaborations will be emphasized, including with non-governmental organizations, Haiti's medical schools, pediatric residency programs, professional associations, and the Ministry of Health. Lastly, monitoring and evaluation of care delivery models and interventions will be discussed.

#### **Objectives:**

- 1. To provide an overview of current challenges global care delivery of pediatric chronic diseases.
- 2. To present a chronic disease care delivery model using the example of pediatric endocrine and diabetes care
- 3. To highlight the importance of monitoring and evaluation when establishing new care delivery models



### Department of and Occupational Health



#### Bio:



Dr. Julia von Oettingen is a pediatric endocrinologist at the Montreal Children's Hospital and Assistant Professor at McGill University. She obtained her MD (2008) and PhD (2009) degrees from the University of Leipzig medical school in Germany, and a master of medical sciences degree (2015) from Harvard Medical School. She completed her residency in pediatrics at the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, and her fellowship in pediatric endocrinology at Boston Children's Hospital, both in Boston, USA, Dr. von Oettingen has been working in Liberia and Haiti to establish pediatric diabetes care, and is a site adviser to the International Diabetes Federation's Life for a Child program in Liberia and Haiti. She is the founding medical director of a pediatric chronic

care center in Haiti, and technical adviser for pediatric endocrinology to Partners in Health. Her clinical and research interests are diabetes and endocrine conditions in non-Caucasian populations, and chronic care delivery in resource limited settings. Dr. von Oettingen is fluent in German, English, French, Spanish and conversational in Portuguese, Persian and Creole.