



## Fall 2013

### September

16 September, 2013

[Samy Suissa](#), James McGill Professor of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Medicine, McGill University Director, CentreFor Clinical Epidemiology, Lady Davis Research Institute - Jewish General Hospital

**Topic:** *Safety trials of long-acting beta-agonists in asthma: methodological issues*

**Objectives:**

1. To review observational and randomized studies of beta-agonist safety in asthma
2. To introduce and define non-inferiority randomized trials
3. To discuss methodological issues with recently launched safety trials in asthma

23 September, 2013

[Moshe Ben-Shoshan](#), Assistant Professor, Division of Pediatric Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Department of Pediatrics, McGill University Health Center

**Topic:** *Anaphylaxis : triggers, management and natural history in Canadians : lessons from the C-CARE study*

**Objectives:**

1. To assess the rate of food-induced anaphylaxis by surveying EMS and ED across Canada
2. To describe the management of anaphylactic reactions both inside and outside health care facilities and potential determinants of management
3. To assess factors that might affect the development of severe anaphylactic reactions (e.g., sociodemographic and co-morbidities)
4. To determine the natural history of food-induced anaphylaxis, including resolution rates, and trends in severity

30 September, 2013

**Ariane Marelli**, Director, McGill Adult Unit for Congenital Heart Disease (MAUDE Unit), Professor of Medicine, McGill University

**Topic:** *Changing Demographics of Congenital Heart Disease Patients - Impact on Health Services and Policy*



**Objectives:**

1. To understand the changing epidemiology of congenital heart disease (CHD)
2. To understand the impact of changing demographics of CHD on health services utilization
3. To understand the impact of changing demographics of CHD policy and quality of congenital heart disease care

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## October

**7 October, 2013**

**Helen Tremlett**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine (Neurology) and associate member of Health Care and Epidemiology, University of British Columbia, Canada. Funding: MS Society of Canada and The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (Scholar Award)

**Topic:** Using population-based data linkage to investigate MS epidemiology: recent findings from British Columbia, Canada

**Objectives:** This presentation will outline how harnessing population-based data-linkages can be a powerful approach to furthering our understanding of MS. Using this approach, the following questions will be addressed.

1. Are pregnancy outcomes worse for women with MS?
2. What's the cancer risk in MS?
3. How does MS impact life expectancy?
4. Do the disease modifying drugs impact long-term disease progression in clinical practice?

**14 October, 2013**

No seminar -- Thanksgiving

**21 October, 2013**

**Ian Shrier**, Associate Professor, Centre for Clinical Epidemiology Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research, Jewish General Hospital, McGill University

**Topic:** Causal approach to adherence-based analyses: A comparison of intention-to-treat, per protocol, as treated and other alternative analytical strategies



## Objectives:

1. To understand that although the intention-to-treat analysis is useful from a policy perspective, it is much less useful from a patient perspective.
2. To understand the underlying assumptions and limitations of the Per Protocol and As Treated analyses
3. To learn the basic concepts used in calculating the complier average causal effect through both the Principal Stratification and Instrumental Variable approaches

**28 October, 2013**

**Vanessa Dumeaux**, Assistant Professor at the Department of Oncology, McGill University and Senior Research Fellow at the University of Tromso (Norway)

**Topic:** Blood transcriptional signature in breast cancer

## Objectives:

1. To harness the host response as a screening strategy for breast cancer
  2. To investigate the molecular processes involved in the systemic response of the host in breast cancer
  3. To correlate the local and systemic molecular changes associated with breast cancer
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## November

**4 November, 2013**

**Ashley Naimi**, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Dept of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health, McGill University

**Topic :** The mediating role of inter-pregnancy interval in the relation between maternal education and preterm birth: g-estimation of the controlled direct effect under incomplete mediator interventions

## Objectives:

1. Assess whether the well-known relation between maternal education and preterm birth is mediated by inter-pregnancy intervals
2. Review causal mediation analysis in epidemiologic research
3. Introduce a novel method to estimate the controlled direct effect under incomplete hypothetical interventions



**11 Novembre 2013**

**Jonathan Afilalo**, Assistant Professor, McGill University, Divisions of Cardiology and Clinical Epidemiology

**Topic :** Evaluating the Incremental Value of Novel Predictors in Cardiac Surgery

**Objectives:**

1. To explore the limitations inherent to existing risk prediction models
2. To review strategies to evaluate a new predictor's incremental value
3. To discuss specific examples pertaining to frailty and echocardiography in the setting cardiac surgery

**18 November, 2013**

**Anne Andermann**, Associate Professor, St. Mary's Hospital, Department of Family Medicine

**Topic :** Evidence for Health: From Patient Choice to Global Policy

**Objectives:**

1. Understand how decision-making can influence health at the individual, population and global levels
2. Explain how to make more transparent and nuanced decisions for health that consider the multiple contextual issues and value judgments involved
3. Discuss the facilitators and barriers in using evidence to make better informed decisions

**25 November, 2013**

**Jonathan Kimmelman**, Associate Professor in Biomedical Ethics at McGill University

**Topic:** Efficiency in Clinical Translation: Scientific, Moral, and Policy Dimensions

**Objectives:**

1. Describe basic principles of clinical trial ethics, as well as newer dimensions not well captured in standard policies
2. Describe process and methodologies used to test and develop new drugs, from preclinical testing through to pivotal trials
3. Describe various ways that inefficiencies can be embedded within trials or within broader research programs, and the institutions that have some jurisdiction over addressing these inefficiencies



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## December

2 December, 2013

[Eric Latimer](#), Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, and Associate Member of the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health at McGill University

**Topic:** Results of a randomized trial of Housing First for homeless people with mental illness

**Objectives:**

1. Understand the design of the pan-Canadian Housing First trial
2. Learn how effective the intervention was at housing homeless people, compared to usual care
3. Learn how cost-effective the intervention was