

April 2018 - March 2019

The Drug Evaluation Alliance of Nova Scotia (DEANS) provides Nova Scotia with a structure to identify, develop, implement, and evaluate educational interventions that address drug utilization issues in Nova Scotia (NS). These educational interventions are often, but not always, coordinated with policy interventions in the NS Pharmacare programs to facilitate change and to provide the rationale for change.

Most DEANS interventions are multi-faceted and inter-professional, using delivery methods such as live online classrooms, didactic presentations, small-group workshops, and academic detailing to disseminate evidence on best practices. To measure the impact of interventions, DEANS establishes linkages with academic evaluators and encourages evaluations that generate new evidence to inform drug policy.

DEANS is coordinated by a volunteer Management Committee which oversees all activities and is responsible for establishing and managing partnerships. Much of the success of DEANS is due to its ability to build a framework of key partnerships and to engage these partners in the implementation and evaluation of initiatives.

### **Health Technology Assessment**

DEANS continues to pursue ways to encourage the use of health technology assessment as a bridge between research and clinical decision-making.

The *Katie* Program, which was launched in 2009, continues to support innovative methods of transferring knowledge from learning activities to clinical practice. The aim of the *Katie* program is to encourage all learners to be critical learners. Educational tools have been developed to help learners enhance their critical appraisal skills.

Workshops were developed to encourage presenters to incorporate *Katie* principles in their presentations and to encourage moderators to pose *Katie* questions during the question and answer portion of educational programs. Moderators are encouraged to access the tool “*Tips for Moderators*”. The goal of this tool is to help session moderators engage the audience and facilitate learning.

As in previous years, *Katie* principles were incorporated into the Dalhousie Continuing Pharmacy Education Refresher (October 2018) and the Dalhousie Medical Refresher Course (November/December 2018). For information about *Katie* and to access *Katie* tools, go to: <http://katie.dal.ca/>

### **Epinephrine in Anaphylaxis**

In 2017/18, the Academic Detailing Service (ADS) developed an educational intervention “*Epinephrine in Anaphylaxis*”. The topic addresses the following: How to define and diagnose anaphylaxis, including identifying anaphylaxis triggers; treatment, including epinephrine route of administration and dose; care following an event; and developing a practice plan.

The detailers began their educational visits in October 2017 and continued in 2018/19. Detailers completed 243 visits with 428 family physicians, 39 medical residents, 51 nurse practitioners, 55 nurses, 3 pharmacists and 18 other health care providers. In addition, the topic was presented: by teleconference to representatives from the NS Department of Health and Wellness, including Chief Medical Officer Dr. Robert Strang, and the PEI Ministry of Health (April 2018); and in person to emergency room physicians at the Halifax Infirmary (June 2018) and to the Annual meeting

of Office Practice Nurses (October 2018).

All materials are published online and are available through the following link:

<http://www.medicine.dal/departments/core-units/cpd/programs/academic-detailing-service.html>.

### **Choices Before Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain**

In 2018/19, the Academic Detailing Service (ADS) developed an educational intervention “*Choices Before Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain*”. This topic provides an update of the evidence for choices of non-opioid drugs to be considered for managing chronic non-cancer pain prior to considering opioids. The specific conditions included are neuropathic pain, fibromyalgia, chronic low back pain and osteoarthritis. The outcomes considered are pain relief and improvement in function.

The detailers began their educational visits in May 2018. During 2018/19, the detailers completed 110 visits: 234 family physicians; 17 medical students; 30 nurse practitioners; 20 nurses; 3 pharmacists; and 4 other health care professionals. In addition, the topic was presented to pharmacists by webinar through Continuing Pharmacy Education (February 2019), and at the Dalhousie Spring Medical Refresher (March 2019).

All materials are published online and are available through the following link:

<http://www.medicine.dal/departments/core-units/cpd/programs/academic-detailing-service.html>.

### **Antibiotics: Why and Why Not 2018**

In 2018/19, the Academic Detailing Service (ADS) developed an educational intervention “*Antibiotics: Why and Why Not 2018*”. This topic focuses on the diagnosis and management of conditions commonly treated in the community, including upper and lower respiratory tract, genitourinary, and skin and soft tissue infections.

The detailers began their educational visits in

January 2019, and completed 244 visits with 234 family physicians, 17 medical students, 30 nurse practitioners, 20 nurses, 3 pharmacists and 4 other health care professionals in the remainder of 2018/19.

All materials are published online and are available through the following link:

<http://www.medicine.dal/departments/core-units/cpd/programs/academic-detailing-service.html>.

### **Opioid Toolkit**

In 2018/19, DEANS embarked upon a multi-stage program to support educational initiatives related to the Provincial Opioid Strategy. The objective of the educational strategy is to foster prescriber engagement in practice change around opioid prescribing. The educational initiatives will complement existing program and strategies developed in Nova Scotia and nationally, including the current Canadian Opioid Guidelines, 2017. Positive, measurable outcomes will include a reduction in new opioid prescriptions of longer than 3 – 7 days and a reduction in the concurrent prescribing of opioids and benzodiazepines in the elderly.

The first stage of the stepwise approach has been the development of a toolkit focused on acute ambulatory pain management, choices before opioids. This is an important first step because long term opioid use frequently begins with use for the treatment of acute pain. The toolkit will include links to patient handouts, videos for co-viewing, templates, charts and diagnostic tools, while integrating knowledge of the National and Nova Scotia’s Use and Overdose Framework for Opioids. Components of the toolkit include: principles in acute pain management and evidence summaries on drugs and treatments for specific acute pain conditions; tips for writing opioid prescriptions; problematic use delineation; and talking points for discussions with patients.

Work commenced in early 2018/19 with planning meetings to identify the key focus areas, including five specific acute pain conditions, musculoskeletal, dental, acute and subacute low

back pain, migraine, and minor trauma and post-surgical (post-discharge), and risk assessment for the non-opioid, pharmacological alternatives (NSAIDs and acetaminophen). In summer 2018, the Drug Evaluation Unit began conducting literature searches and data collection. The unit on the management of post-surgical dental pain built on work developed on behalf of the Dalhousie Faculty of Dentistry, including a plenary session at the Fall Continuing Education event held in September 2018.

Development of the toolkit continued throughout 2018/19 and is ongoing. To date, standardized templates for collation of evidence have been created for two levels of evidence presentation: a high-level summary of key messages and recommendations; and a detailed background evidence document. The toolkit includes evidence addressing prescribing for specific conditions and drug specific information to aid appropriate, safe prescribing of non-opioid medications. The evidence to support recommendations has been primarily derived from systematic reviews with meta-analyses and randomized controlled trials. In addition, links to existing tools will support practitioners with appropriate prescribing and patient information.

### **Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing**

Choosing Wisely is a global movement to advance dialogue around avoiding unnecessary tests and treatments, and to promote smart and effective decision making. Choosing Wisely Canada was launched in April 2014 and Choosing Wisely Nova Scotia in November 2017. Eleven of the first 150 topics on Choosing Wisely Canada's lists were topics previously developed and delivered by the Dalhousie ADS.

As reported previously, the inaugural Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference took place in October 2015 and was held at the Membertou Conference Centre in Cape Breton. The second, in October 2016, was held at White Point Beach Resort, NS, the third in October 2017 at Oak Island, NS and the fourth October 12 – 14, 2018 at the Digby Pines Resort, Digby NS. The fifth annual conference is planned for October 25

– 27, 2019 and will be held at Fox Harb'r Resort, Wallace NS.

The format of this interprofessional, interactive and case-based conference, with a registration cap of 50 participants, has been very successful. Conference content is co-developed by pharmacists and physicians, and is presented in carefully crafted cases introduced by a physician or pharmacist to include details that introduce therapeutic uncertainty. The evidence review and synthesis is presented by a pharmacist with specific attention to details required to address the needs of the patient(s) presented in the case. A physician-pharmacist pair presents a range of therapeutic options for each case to stimulate interprofessional discussion of treatment approaches in these challenging cases.

Topics at the 2018 conference included: chronic pain management; drug therapies in COPD; thiazide diuretics; drug therapies in ADD; lipid-lowering therapies; SGLT2 inhibitors in T2DM.

### **Optimizing Therapy Through Collaboration: Linking Local Primary Care Clinician Perspectives around Deprescribing with Behaviour Change Techniques**

Deprescribing is the planned and supervised process of dose reduction or stopping of medication(s) that may be causing harm or no longer providing benefit. This area of study is gaining momentum across the country with the goal of optimizing medication use and minimizing medication morbidity.

DEANS has provided funding support for pharmacy students to assist the Optimizing Therapy through Collaboration (OPTx) team with deprescribing projects. The initiative started in the spring of 2017 and is ongoing.

The team has completed two background studies: 1) a scoping review and 2) a qualitative study. The scoping review found 44 studies published between 2002 and 2018 that evaluated deprescribing strategies in primary care. Identified interventions were categorized using the

Behaviour Change Techniques (BCTs) taxonomy. The qualitative study involved one-on-one interviews and focus groups with primary care providers (family physicians, nurse practitioners and pharmacists) in Nova Scotia around the influences on deprescribing in their practice. The interviews and focus groups were coded using the Theoretical Domains Framework version 2 (TDF(v2)).

The results of the two studies were combined by linking the TDF domains with intervention functions to identify applicable BCTs from the published literature to determine gaps in research and areas of the BCW that may have potential benefits in the design of future deprescribing strategies. More information on the BCW is available at:

<https://implementationscience.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1748-5908-6-42>

The team has received a Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation Knowledge Sharing Support Award (KSSA) to support the hosting of a knowledge exchange event to share the results of the two studies with local stakeholders (citizens/patients, primary care providers, policy and health services) and to have the stakeholders prioritize potential deprescribing strategies for implementation in primary care in Nova Scotia. The event is expected to take place in June 2019. The results generated at this event will be shared widely.

### **STOPP-START Criteria**

The STOPP-START criteria are evidence-based sets of explicit criteria developed to facilitate screening for potentially inappropriate prescribing in older persons. STOPP refers to **S**creening **T**ool of **O**lder **P**erson's potentially inappropriate **P**rescriptions and START to **S**creening **T**ool to **A**lert doctors to the **R**ight **T**reatment. These criteria were developed in Ireland using a modified Delphi process that involved 18 experts in geriatric pharmacotherapy from across the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Antipsychotic medications are often prescribed to older adults. These medications have safety

concerns requiring careful consideration of risks and benefits for each patient. The STOPP criteria identifies antipsychotic use in those with a history of falls as potentially inappropriate.

As reported previously, a team of Nova Scotia researchers, funded partly by DEANS, studied antipsychotic drug dispensations to Nova Scotia older adults. The objectives of this study were: to identify trends in antipsychotic dispensations and to investigate adherence to this specific STOPP criteria. The researchers then examined trends, predictors, and adherence with this STOPP criteria by identifying continued antipsychotic use following a fall-related hospitalization.

The findings indicated that despite the recommendations of quality indicators such as the STOPP criteria, antipsychotics are often continued in individuals at a high risk of falling. Future investigations are needed to determine reasons for lack of concordance with this antipsychotic STOPP criteria and to develop interventions at the health team, system, and policy levels to improve concordance when appropriate. The results of this study were presented at the 33rd International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology and Therapeutic Risk Management poster session and are published in *Current Therapeutic Research* 89 (2018) 27–36.

Work on this initiative continues. The next step is to examine usage among nursing home residents.

### ***Sleepwell: An Initiative to Transform Insomnia Treatment***

As previously reported, SleepWell was originally proposed in 2013 as a platform and initiative to reduce the inappropriate use of sedative-hypnotics while guiding individuals with insomnia to an alternative, evidence-based, safer non-pharmacological treatment options. At its outset, with its inaugural web presence ([sleepwellns.ca](http://sleepwellns.ca)) and toolkit to raise awareness of the initiative, *SleepWell Nova Scotia* was somewhat ahead of its time.

The initiative has evolved and has been rebranded as *Sleepwell* for a wider reach. The new website

(mysleepwell.ca) was launched May 5, 2018. It is now fully updated and includes innovative content and a set of tools and links to support its goals of reducing benzodiazepine receptor agonist (BZRA) use across Nova Scotia and elsewhere in Canada. A key component is the inclusion of information about cognitive-behavioural therapy for insomnia (CBTi), which is recommended as first-line therapy for insomnia. Website analytics has revealed that *mysleepwell.ca* had 19,300 visitors and nearly 30,000 sessions between May 2018 and March 31, 2019, with the highest per capita rate of users coming from the Maritime provinces.

Sleepwell has become a widely recognized and utilized resource across Canada by various organizations and the public. It has been featured at conferences by the Canadian Deprescribing Network (CaDeN), the Canadian Association of Geriatric Psychiatry, the Canadian Coalition for Seniors Mental Health. The initiative has also received the attention of the mainstream media, including CBC call-in shows and reports published in *Chatelaine*, *Readers Digest* and *CBC News*.

Work on this initiative is ongoing, with plans to submit a proposal for the fall 2019 CIHR project grant fund.

### **Farewells and Welcomes**

In 2018/19, DEANS said farewell to Dr. Alicia Williams and welcomed Dr. Matt Grandy as the representative from Dalhousie Family Medicine, and welcomed Ms. Lillian Berry, the new pharmacist consultant with the NS Prescription Monitoring Program. The Academic Detailing Service welcomed three new detailers: Ms. Denise Brownell, Mr. Andrew Redden and Mr. Bill Skinner.

In July 2018, Ms. Kim Kelly retired from the Drug Evaluation Unit (DEU). We wish Kim all the very best in her retirement, but we will miss her! In fall 2018, the DEU welcomed Ms. Arezou Teimouri and Ms. Michele ten Brink to the team.

### **Publications/Presentations**

Allen M, Baxter E. "Approach to and Risk Stratification in Chronic Pain Management". *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS October 13, 2018.

Allen M, Baxter, E. "Cannabinoids: A Tool in the CNCP Toolbox" *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

Allen M, Fleming I. "Your Cases from Choices in CNCP" *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

Allen M, Rodney-Cail N. "Naltrexone in Alcohol and Opioid Use Disorder" *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

Antibiotics: Why and Why Not. Dalhousie CPD Academic Detailing Service, December 2018.  
<http://www.medicine.dal.ca/departments/core-units/cpd/programs/academic-detailing-service.html>

Bai I, Isenor, Kennie-Kaulbach N, Whelan AM, Reeve E, Kits O, Helwig M, Burgess S, Burge F. Alignment of Primary Care Deprescribing Strategies to the Nova Scotia Context using Components of the Behaviour Change Wheel. *Crossroads Interdisciplinary Health Research Conference, Dalhousie University*. Halifax NS, March 16, 2019.

Baxter E, Fleming I. Choices before Opioids for CNCP. Webinar, Continuing Pharmacy Education, Halifax NS, February 27, 2019.

Baxter E, McLean-Veysey P, Fleming I. Academic Detailing: Vision to Visit. *2018 CADTH Symposium*, Halifax NS, April 17, 2018.

Berry L, Crabtree K, McPeake H. "NS PMP First Prescription Initiative". *Opioids for Acute Pain Workshop*. Halifax NS, November 9, 2018.

Black E, Neville H, Losier M, Harrison M, Abbass K, Slayter K, Johnston L, Sketris I. Antimicrobial Use at Acute Care Hospitals in Nova Scotia: A Point Prevalence Survey. *Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*, 71(4):234-42.

Black EK, MacDonald L, Sketris I, Neville HL. Healthcare Providers' Perceptions of Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship at Acute Care Hospitals in Nova Scotia. Poster session at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Qualitative Health Research Conference, Halifax NS, October 2018.

Choices Before Opioids for CNCP. Dalhousie CPD Academic Detailing Service, April 2018. <http://www.medicine.dal.ca/departments/core-units/cpd/programs/academic-detailing-service.html>

Cormier R, Isenor J, Kennie-Kaulbach N, Helwig M, Salsbury L, Reeve E, Martin-Misener R, Burge F, Burgess S, Whelan AM. Characterization of Deprescribing Strategies in Primary Care and Mapping to the Behaviour Change Wheel: A Scoping Review. Poster presentation. *Annual Pharmacy Research Day, Dalhousie University*. Halifax NS, September 29, 2018.

Fleming I. Epinephrine in Anaphylaxis. Teleconference, to NS Department of Health and Wellness, PEI Ministry of Health. April 6, 2018. and To Emergency Department physicians, Halifax Infirmary, Halifax NS, June 13, 2018.

Fleming I. Academic Detailing as a Method of Getting Evidence into Practice. Meeting sponsored by the *Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement*. Charlottetown, PEI, October 30, 2018.

Fleming I, Baxter E. Choices Before Opioids for CNCP. *Dalhousie University Continuing Professional Development Spring Refresher*. Halifax NS, March 7, 2019.

Fleming I, Moses B. "The Flozins Quest for Clarity" *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS,

October 13, 2018.

Gardner D. Mental Health and Addictions care – is Pharmacy Ready? *Anne Hiltz Memorial Lecture. Pharmacy Department Research and Education Conference*. Nova Scotia Health Authority, Halifax NS. October 13, 2018.

Gardner D. The Truth about Insomnia and Sleeping Pills. *Retired Teachers of Nova Scotia*. Dartmouth NS, October 10, 2018.

Gardner D. Sleepwell. *Seniors Advisory Council*. Department of Seniors, Government of Nova Scotia. Halifax NS. April 26, 2018.

Gardner D, Tannenbaum C, Turner J, Murphy A, Coleman K, Caetano P. Deprescribing by Policy. Panel Presentation. *2018 Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) Symposium*, Halifax NS. April 16, 2018.

Gardner D, Murphy A, Berryman B, Herbin J (moderator). Promoting Medication Safety: Inspiring Initiatives from Nova Scotia. *CaDeN Community Champions. Canadian Deprescribing Network Webinar Series*. August 15, 2018.

Gardner D, Davidson J. Sleep Medicine Update: What's New in the World of Sleep Medicine. *92nd Dalhousie University Continuing Professional Development Fall Refresher*. Halifax NS, December 6, 2018.

Isenor J, Kennie-Kaulbach N on behalf of the OPTx team. Healthcare Providers' Views around Deprescribing in Nova Scotia. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*. 2019. Available at: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1609406918819362>

Isenor J, Kennie-Kaulbach N, Salsbury LE, Martin-Misener R, Burge F, Burgess S, MacLean H, Kits O, Reeve E, Whelan A. Healthcare Providers' Views around Deprescribing in Nova Scotia. Poster presentation. *Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada/Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference*, Ottawa, ON,

June 13, 2018.

Isenor J, Kennie-Kaulbach N, Martin-Misener R, Burge F, Reeve E, Kits O, Burgess RS, Cormier R, Whelan AM. Healthcare Providers' Views around Deprescribing in Nova Scotia. *2018 Qualitative Health Research Conference*, Halifax NS, October 29, 2018.

Jimoh K. Trends in Dispensed Opioid Analgesics by Dentists in Nova Scotia. Poster presentation, *International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology (ISPE), 2018 Mid-year meeting*, Toronto ON, April 2018.

Jimoh K. Pattern of Opioid Prescription by Dentists in Nova Scotia. Interview, *Canadian Dental Association, Oasis*, September 5, 2018. <https://oasisdiscussions.ca/2018/09/05/pattern-of-opioid-prescription-by-dentists-in-nova-scotia/>

Kennie-Kaulbach N, Isenor JE, Cormier R, Salsbury L, Martin-Misener R, Burge F, Burgess S, MacLean H, Kits O, Reeve E, Whelan AM. Healthcare Providers' Views around Deprescribing in Nova Scotia. *2018 Primary Health Care Research Day*, Dartmouth NS, June 4, 2018.

LeBlanc C. Breaking News: The Canadian CT Head Rule and New Transfusion Guideline Case Review. *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 14, 2018.

LeBlanc C. Minute to Win it. *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

LeBlanc C. Beware of the Second Visit. *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

LeBlanc C. Opioids: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. *Mini Medical School 2018*, Halifax NS, November 2018.

LeBlanc C. Office Emergencies. *92nd Dalhousie*

*University Continuing Professional Development Fall Refresher*. Halifax NS, December 6, 2018.

LeBlanc C, Campbell S, Hughes D. Conflict of interest, clinical decision-making and appropriate testing and treatment. *Professional Competencies unit for UGME*, Faculty of Medicine Dalhousie University. Halifax NS, October 12, 2018.

MacDonald L, Black, Neville HL, Abbass KA, Johnston BL, Slayter KL, Sketris I. Healthcare Providers' Perceptions of Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship at Acute Care Hospitals in Nova Scotia. Poster Session, *Infectious Diseases Research Day, Canadian Center for Vaccinology Annual Symposium*, Halifax NS, April 2018.

McLean-Veysey P. Pharmacoeconomics, Health Economic Costs and Consequences. Presentation to 3<sup>rd</sup> year pharmacy students, Dalhousie College of Pharmacy, Halifax NS, October 4, 2018.

McLean-Veysey P. Useful EBM Links. *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

McLean-Veysey P. Appraising Studies with a Critical Lens. Webinar, *Dalhousie Continuing Professional Development*, Halifax NS, November 1, 2018.

McLean-Veysey P. Optimizing Opioid Prescribing for Acute Pain: Drug Evaluation Unit Activities. *Opioids for Acute Pain Workshop* Halifax NS, November 9, 2018.

McLean-Veysey P, Allen M, Fraser J, Brady J, Lee C, Jimoh K. Presentation and Panel Discussion, Reducing Dentists' Contribution to the Opioid Crisis. *Continuing Dental Education, Faculty of Dentistry Fall Refresher*. Halifax NS, September 29, 2018.

McLean-Veysey P, Moses B. LDL – How Low can You Go? *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

McLean-Veysey P, Moses B. Thiazide Type or

Thiazide – like? *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

McLean-Veysey P, Moses B. Triple Crown in COPD Therapy. *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

Moses B, Fleming J. Shining Lyme Light. *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS, October 13, 2018.

Murphy AL, Ataya R, Himmelman D, O'Reilly C, Rosen A, Salfacor-Carulla L, Martin-Misener R, Burge F, Kutcher S, Gardner DM. Community Pharmacists' Experiences and people at Risk of Suicide in Canada and Australia: A Thematic Analysis. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*. 2018 Nov;53(11):1173-1184. Doi: 10.1007/s00127-018-1553-7. Epub 2018 Jun 23, PMID: 29936597

Murphy AL, O'Reilly CL, Ataya R, Doucette SP, Martin-Misener R, Rosen A, Gardner DM. A Survey of Canadian and Australian Pharmacists' stigma of suicide. *SAGE Open Medicine*. 2019 Jan 14; doi: 10.1177/2050312118820344. eCollection 2019. PMID:30728964

Peltekian S, Murphy AL, Martin-Misener R, Kutcher S, Gardner D. Gender User Behaviour on a Men's Mental Health Self-help Website. Oral Presentation, 29<sup>th</sup> *Dalhousie Psychiatry Research Day*. Halifax NS. November 2018.

Reeve E, Farrell B, Thompson W, Herrmann N, Sketris I, Magin PJ, Chenoweth L, Gorman M, Quirke L, Bethune G, Hilmer SN. Deprescribing cholinesterase inhibitors and memantine in dementia: guideline summary. *The Medical Journal of Australia*, 2019 Mar;210(4):174-179. doi: 10.5694/mja2.50015. Epub 2019 Feb 16.

Rodney-Cail N, Chandler J. Drugs for ADD: Adolescents to Adults? *Dalhousie University Choosing Wisely with Academic Detailing Conference*, Digby, NS October 13, 2018.

Rodney-Cail N, Fleming I. Epinephrine in Anaphylaxis. *Annual Meeting of Office Practice Nurses*, Windsor NS, October 20, 2018.

Staple L, MacIntyre J, Murphy NG, Beed S, LeBlanc C. Organ and Tissue Donation from Poisoned Patients in the Emergency Department: A Canadian Emergency Physician Survey. *Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine*. 2019 Jan 21(4): 47 – 54. doi: 10.1017/cem.2018.43. Epub 2018 Apr 10.

Trenaman SC, Hill-Taylor B, Matheson K, Gardner DM, Sketris I. Antipsychotic Drug Dispensations in Older Adults, including Continuation after a Fall-related Hospitalization: Identifying Prescriptions Criteria using the Nova Scotia Seniors' Pharmacare Program and Canadian Institute for Health's Discharge Databases. *Current Therapeutic Research-Clinical and Experimental*, Aug31:89:27-36. doi:10.1016/j.curtheres.2018.002. eCollection 2018 PMID: 30294400.

Vallis M, Cassidy B, Rabheru K, Gardner D. New Horizons in Health Behaviour Change: A Hands-on Workshop with Novel CGT-based Tools. Gardner: Sleepwell without Sleeping Pills. It's No Dream. *CAGP-CCSMH Annual Scientific Meeting. Pre-Conference Course. Canadian Association of Geriatric Psychiatry*. Halifax NS. October 11, 2018.



### **DEANS Management Committee**

- Ms. Lisa Farrell, (Chair) Liaison Officer, Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health
- Ms. Pam McLean-Veysey, Team Leader, Drug Evaluation Unit, QEII Health Sciences Centre
- Dr. Connie LeBlanc, Continuing Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University
- Dr. Edie Baxter, Continuing Professional Development, Department of Family Medicine, Dalhousie University
- Dr. Alicia Williams, Department of Family Medicine, Dalhousie University
- Dr. Mathew Grandy, Department of Family Medicine, Dalhousie University
- Dr. Ingrid Sketris, College of Pharmacy, Dalhousie University
- Ms. Diane Harpell, Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia
- Ms. Susan Mansour, College of Pharmacy, Dalhousie University
- Dr. David Gardner, College of Pharmacy, Dalhousie University
- Mr. Kevin Lynch, Manager, Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program
- Ms. Heather McPeake, Manager, Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program
- Ms. Lillian Berry, Pharmacist Consultant, Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program
- Ms. Jennifer Ross Makhan, Regional Pharmacist, First Nations and Inuit Health, Health Canada

For more information about DEANS, go to <http://novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare/drug-evaluation-alliance-of-nova-scotia.asp>

To suggest topics or issues, contact Judith Fisher at [judith.fisher@novascotia.ca](mailto:judith.fisher@novascotia.ca)