

## Mental Health SONAR (Study Of Natural health product Adverse Reactions)

What are the **objectives** of the proposed team?

- 1) Active surveillance of product related adverse events (AE), such as drug, natural health product (NHP), or concurrent NHP-drug use in adolescent/pediatric mental health clinics
- 2) To develop tools to facilitate knowledge synthesis & exchange such as a database on adolescent NHP-drug combinations

What are the **biggest challenges** your proposed team has to overcome?

- We recognize the popularity of NHPs and drugs, as well as the general lack of awareness with their combined use. Thus, the challenge would be to continue to emphasize the importance of reporting of NHP-drug interactions even after the study is completed.

**Who are the key leaders** in your team?

Dr S. Vohra is Founding Director of Canada's first academic pediatric integrative medicine program, the Complementary and Alternative Research and Education (CARE). Her expertise in CAM has been recognized globally, including Health Canada, the Canadian Pediatric Society, Canadian Patient Safety Institute and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr L. Urichuk is the Director of Information & Evaluation Services for Addiction & Mental Health within Alberta Health Services and Associate Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Alberta. Her involvement in senior leadership roles will ensure key findings are shared and mental health and addiction policy recommended.

Mr M. Snaterase is the Executive Director for Addiction & Mental Health in the Edmonton Zone with Alberta Health Services. He is also an Adjunct Clinical Professor with the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Alberta. His research is psychopharmacology outcomes research, interdisciplinary models-of-care and evidence-informed treatment for clients.

**Clinical team:**

Joanne Barnes (University of Auckland), Heather Boon (University of Toronto), Ross Tsuyuki (University of Alberta), Sunita Vohra (University of Alberta), Pierre Chue (University of Alberta)

**Basic science team:**

John Arnason (Ottawa University), Brian Foster (Ottawa University), of Alberta);

Don LeGatt (University of Alberta), George Cembrowski (University of Alberta)

**Health Canada partners:** Mano Murty ;

**AHS Mental Health partners:** June Clark, Liana Urichuk, Mark Snaterase; **Study coordinators:** Candace Neczyk, Zafar Hydrie: Baljit Khamba

What expertise, skills, resources, networks or infrastructure **could your team bring** as a network collaborator ?

- Our research team has expertise in systematic reviews & active surveillance of NHP AEs, including clinical expertise to adjudicate potential AE. In addition we have the enthusiastic collaboration of participating clinics who see this as highly relevant to their practice and pharmacovigilance expertise to bring to a pan-Canadian network..

Which **organisations** are part of the team?

- University of Alberta and University of Toronto
- Addiction and Mental Health, Information and Evaluation Services, Alberta Health Services-Edmonton
- Canadian Mental Health Association - Alberta Division
- Alberta Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health
- Health Canada

How will your team **contribute to a transformation** in adolescent mental health in 5 years?

- Implement NHP and AE screening as a routine part of a medical history intake
- Promote the understanding of safety when using NHPs and drugs in combination
- Actively engage in preventing the underreporting of NHP harms thereby enhancing public safety
- Improve therapeutic outcomes in patients by reducing the risk of NHP-drug interactions
- Create a database describing data collected to be used for drug monograph updating, safety alerts issued by Health Canada, and incorporation into the Canada Vigilance database.

Who should other interested groups **contact** to learn more about you? (include phone/ e-mail)

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