



Osteoporosis Canada

Ostéoporose Canada

February 2009

SAC Link

Osteoporosis Canada's Scientific Advisory Council

Happy Heart Month!

Executive Committee: Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou (Chair), Dr. William Leslie (Vice Chair), Dr. Stephanie Atkinson, Dr. Angela Cheung, Dr. Sophie Jamal, Dr. Stephanie Kaiser, Dr. Brent Kvern, Dr. Suzanne Morin, Dr. Kerry Siminoski

Guidelines Committee: Dr. William Leslie, Dr. Jacques Brown, Dr. Angela Cheung, Dr. Anthony Hodsman, Dr. Kerry Siminoski, Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou, Dr. Sophie Jamal

Research Committee: Dr. Angela Cheung, Dr. Stephanie Atkinson, Dr. Jane Aubin, Dr. David Goltzman, Dr. David Hanley, Dr. Sophie Jamal, Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou

Nominating Committee: Dr. Stephanie Kaiser, Dr. Jacques Brown, Dr. Anthony Hodsman, Dr. Suzanne Morin, Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou

STAFF SUPPORT TO SAC

Dr. Famida Jiwa
Vice-President, Operations

Lorilain Gamalinda
Clinical Coordinator

The focus of the paper will be on care gaps (osteoporosis assessment and treatment gaps), highlighting the need for improved knowledge translation and transfer. Knowledge translation strategies will be developed based on the results coming from the proposed two systematic reviews (on absolute fracture risk assessment and on osteoporosis treatment).

In order to maximize the impact of the paper, the group will seek to collaborate with a number of related organizations. However, special attention will be given to family physicians and radiologists, the two groups who will most likely utilize the document.

To help support the Best Practices Working Group, Osteoporosis Canada has employed the services of several consultants with expertise in project management, medical writing, literature search and data abstraction. Elke Henneberg of Communication ebmed Inc. will coordinate the whole project. Loretta Hillier, Tamara Rader, Nicole Zytaruk and Christina Lacchetti will assist in the literature search, data abstraction and medical writing.

The entire Scientific Advisory Council will be updated regularly as to the progress of this important initiative.

Another scheduled face-to-face occurred on February 8, 2009, in Toronto.

The Best Practices Paper: Targeting Fractures and Osteoporosis



November 22, 2008. Toronto.

The Best Practices Working Group was formed to develop a best practices paper targeting fractures and osteoporosis.

The group met face-to-face at the BMO Institute for Learning, Toronto. It is led by Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou (SAC Chair) and Dr. William Leslie (SAC Vice-Chair). Other members of the group include the following SAC consultants: Dr. Stephanie Atkinson, Dr. Jacques Brown, Dr. Angela Cheung, Dr. Sidney Feldman, Dr. David Goltzman, Dr. David Hanley, Dr. Anthony Hodsman, Dr. Sophie Jamal, Dr. Stephanie Kaiser, Dr. Brent Kvern, Dr. Suzanne Morin, Dr. Kerry Siminoski and Dr. Ann Cranney. Marg MacDonnell (COPN Chair) has been invited to partake in this initiative to provide patient perspective.

During the meeting, the group finalized a one-page document that will serve as the blueprint of the project. Different aspects of the process in developing the paper were also thoroughly discussed.





Osteoporosis Canada

Ostéoporose Canada

February 2009

SAC Link

Osteoporosis Canada's Scientific Advisory Council

Canadian Bone Consensus Conference

The Canadian Bone Consensus Conference is being organized by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research-Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis (CIHR-IMHA) in partnership with Osteoporosis Canada (OC), with an aim to drive the research agenda for osteoporosis in Canada in the next five years. The event will be held on November 9 - 11, 2009.

Osteoporosis Canada (OC) is represented in the Planning Committee by SAC Research Chair Dr. Angela Cheung and OC Vice President for Operations Dr. Famida Jiwa. The expected outcomes of the conference are as follows:

1. Provide a forum for Canadian bone researchers and partners, including government, NGOs, private sector, and consumer representatives, to identify gaps and opportunities, and funding mechanisms in bone health research;
2. Engage researchers and partners in a process of prioritizing bone health research areas and questions that will make a difference to the health of Canadians, and helping to establish the tools and mechanisms for addressing these research questions;
3. Promote opportunities for building multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral teams to engage in research and knowledge translation in bone health.

In preparation for this event, Osteoporosis Canada has conducted an osteoporosis survey of researchers and clinicians. The feedback that will be gathered from this survey will help refine the framework of the conference.

Other OC-affiliated members of the Planning Committee are: Dr. Earl Bogoch (SAC), Dr. Jane Aubin (SAC), Dr. Robert Josse (SAC), Dr. Gillian Hawker (former SAC) and Ina Ilse (COPN).



Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

Through recent advocacy efforts of Osteoporosis Canada (OC), the Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) has now links with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), in its many projects and initiatives related to osteoporosis surveillance.

The following SAC consultants are members of PHAC's Osteoporosis Expert Working Group: Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou, Dr. William Leslie, Dr. Suzanne Morin, Dr. Susan Jaglal, Dr. David Hanley, Dr. Jacques Brown, Dr. Stephanie Kaiser, Dr. Kerry Siminoski, Dr. Ann Cranney and Dr. David Kendler.

In their October 20th, 2008 face-to-face meeting in Toronto, discussions included (1) update on the osteoporosis feasibility studies framework being worked on by Dr. Jaglal in coordination with the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES); (2) the different works being led by Dr. Leslie such as validation of various osteoporosis case definitions, update on the calibration of the FRAX-WHO Risk Assessment Tool, and peer-reviewed publications using Canadian hip fracture rates; (3) development of a list of potential indicators for osteoporosis surveillance using population based surveys. The group met again on February 9, 2009.

Breaking Barriers Not Bones (The Osteoporosis Canada Report Card)

Through the commitment and contributions of many individuals, the first ever National Report Card of Osteoporosis Canada was developed and made possible.

In keeping with its mission and vision, in 2007, OC established a committee to report on the status of osteoporosis care in Canada by gathering data in three areas:

- Access to bone mineral density (BMD) testing through publicly-funded system.
- Access to osteoporosis medication through provincial/territorial public drug plans.
- Examples of provincially/territorially-funded initiatives in risk reduction, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis.

Breaking Barriers, Not Bones: 2008 National Report Card on Osteoporosis Care gives a comprehensive assessment and grading of access to BMD testing and osteoporosis medications on provincial/territorial drug benefit plans across the country. More importantly, it provides recommendations on how the gaps in improving osteoporosis care can be improved.



The Report Card was launched at Canada AM Health and Medical and was also captured in print on the OC website, Global News and Le Soleil. The advocacy has started with a training session in Vancouver, BC and a meeting with the Ministry of Health in Victoria, BC already held subsequently.

In response to the Report Card, Osteoporosis Canada has also received meeting invitations from the Ministry of Health at Alberta (Jan. 27th, 2009), Ministry of Health at Saskatchewan (Feb. 13th, 2009), Ministry of Health at Newfoundland/Labrador and Ministry of Health at Manitoba (currently being set up).

Acknowledgements:

Report Card Committee (Dr. Famida Jiwa - Chair, Julie M. Foley, Dr. Diane Theriault, Dr. Kerry Siminoski, Dr. Suzanne Morin, Renu Kapoor, Elda Clarke, Marg MacDonell)

SAC Report Card Sub-Committee (Dr. Kerry Siminoski - Chair, Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou, Dr. Suzanne Morin, Dr. Stephanie Kaiser, Dr. William Leslie)

Officers and Members of the OC Board of Directors, the Scientific Advisory Council, the Operations Advisory Council, Osteoporosis Canada Chapters across the country and the Canadian Osteoporosis Patient Network

Unrestricted grants from our partners in the pharmaceutical industry.