



At St. Peter's Hospital

## Breaking News. . .Specialized Geriatric Services

Welcome to the RGPc Newsletter. Breaking News brings you current information related to Specialized Geriatric Services (SGS) while offering our Regions a venue for sharing news, events and initiatives with others. If you have news to share please email [jhorvat@stpetes.ca](mailto:jhorvat@stpetes.ca)

Issue 16

April Newsletter 2006

### Highlight on the Office of Applied Research

#### Special points of interest:

- Highlight on RGPc's Office of Applied Research
- RGPc Update
- Education Calendar for April
- Recommended Reading List

**Please email this newsletter to all appropriate contacts & networks. If you would like to be added to our distribution list, please contact Jenifer Horvat:**

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#### Social Forecasting of Demand for Rehabilitation for Ontario's Elderly.

RGP central's Director of Evaluation and Research, Dr. David Lewis, is working on a study called "Social Forecasting of Demand for Rehabilitation for Ontario's Elderly." The study is funded by a peer-reviewed grant from the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation, which administers the funding on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The study team includes Denise Connelly PhD, BScPT, from the University of Western Ontario, Christine Knott MSc PhD(C) and Nomusa Mngoma PhD(C) from the RGP in Kingston, and William Molloy MB, MRCP(I), FRCP(C), a geriatrician and the RGPc Chair. Research Assistants are Ruth Breau BA, and Gail Coulas BA MA PhD (C).

Rehabilitation of elderly clients presents some unique aspects: rehabilitation is not usually oriented to vocational or return-to-work outcomes, and may be directed at prevention of decline rather than restoration. The geriatric client frequently presents multiple diagnoses in combination with varying attitudes and processes of aging, which, if unaddressed, may lead to inordinate loss of independence, self esteem, and quality of life.

The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care has embarked on a transformation agenda, including the development of Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN's) and Family Health Teams (FHT's). A key element of this agenda includes the development of new forecasting models.

In this project, we explore and clarify the issues surrounding the demand for rehabilitative services across the continuum of care, focusing on the population of elderly



patients ( $\geq 65$  years of age) in Ontario for the next decade and beyond. The objective is to develop reliable estimates of demand for rehabilitative services, based on a systematic literature review and environmental scan. The study will employ social forecasting methodology to discover

- The incidence and the prevalence of these conditions among the elderly population of Ontario.
  - The extent to which age-associated comorbidities including cognitive impairment, musculoskeletal conditions, and mood disorders, affect access to and outcomes of rehabilitation.
  - The life course needs for rehabilitative care of people with these conditions.
  - Are these needs convergent, so that rehabilitation can be delivered following a uniform template, or do they vary by condition and/ or client type.
  - Current practice for the organization of rehabilitation in these conditions.
  - Foreseeable changes and their impact on health care transformation.
- Rehabilitative resource needs for specific

## Office of Applied Research, Cont'd...

conditions. The project will be designed around a structured review and summary of published and unpublished literature, an environmental scan of existing rehabilitation services and projections into the medium and long term.

This study is an exercise in social forecasting using combination or judgmental techniques (that is, a juxtaposition of a systematic literature review for historical data and so-called "Delphi analysis" for consensus on future trends). Combining forecasts compensates for deficiencies in any one forecasting technique. There is substantial evidence to demonstrate that combining forecasts produces gains in accuracy.

Specifically, the team is using "informed forecasting," a combination of historical data and expert opinion. This technique generally produces higher quality forecasts than can be attained from a single source. As usually practiced, expert opinion is sought in a group environment such as a "consensus workshop." This can fail because some participants are better resourced (in terms of control of the setting or persuasive skills), and because of the phenomenon of groupthink. The Delphi technique resolves the problems of face-to-face confrontation in the group by preserving individual, confidential responses. It proceeds in a well-defined sequence.

Opinion is being sought from a substantial number of individuals drawn from government, academic, and clinical areas:

- In the first round, now underway, the participants are provided with background data and surveyed for their predictions. You can find the background data on our website at [www.rgpc.ca](http://www.rgpc.ca)
- Responses are collated and provided to each respondent.
- Respondents comment on extreme views and defend or modify their original opinion based on what the other participants have written. Again, results are collated and reported.
- In the final round, participants are asked to reassess their original opinion in view of those presented by other participants.
- This final round is collated, blended with data from other sources, analyzed and reported.

### About RGPc Research and Evaluation

David Lewis has headed RGPc's Research and Evaluation section since its inception in September 2004. He received his PhD in Sociology from McMaster University in 1996. He has been an assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine (Division of Geriatrics) since 2003 and in the Department of Family Medicine since 2005. His research interests focus on health services research for the elderly, population health, health outcomes measurement, the broad determinants of health/ social stratification, quality and evaluation, and organizational behaviour. He is primary or co-investigator on several peer-reviewed grants with a total of over \$4 million in funding.

### Publications

**2005** (in press) Lewis DL, Brazil K, Krueger P. The Impact of Financial Compensation on Treatment Outcomes for Chronic Pain. Tepperman L (ed). *Sociology in Canada*. Oxford University Press (book chapter).

**2005** Coulas G, Abernathy T, Lewis DL. *Aging of Vulnerable Populations*. Hamilton: Hamilton-Wentworth District Health Council.

**2005** Coulas G, Abernathy T, Lewis DL. *Transition and Convergence in Vulnerable Populations*. Hamilton: Hamilton-Wentworth District Health Council.

**2006** (in press) Kanji J, Molloy, MB DW, Standish TI, Lewis DL, Chivers R. Reliability and validity of the AB Clock Test (ABCT): an objective approach to scoring the clock drawing test. *McMaster University Medical Journal* (article)

**2006** (in press) Cunje A, Molloy DW, Standish TI, Lewis DL. *Alternate Forms of Logical Mem-*

ory and Verbal Fluency Tasks for Repeated Testing in Early Cognitive Changes. *International Psychogeriatrics* (article)

**2006** (in press) O'Donnell MJ, Lewis DL, Dubois S, Standish TI, Bédard M, Molloy DW. Behavioural and psychological symptoms in community-dwelling elderly persons with cognitive impairment and dementia: Prevalence and factor analysis. *Clinical Gerontologist* (article).

**2005** (in press) Lewis DL, Jewell D, Turpie I, Patterson C, McCoy B, Baxter J. Translating Evidence into Practice: The Case of Dementia Guidelines in Specialized Geriatric Services. *Canadian Journal on Aging* (article).

**2006** Kupferschmidt A, Lewis DL, Molloy DW, Standish TIM, Babineau T. Using Duration of Memory Loss to Improve Differentiation of Mild Cognitive Impairment from Normal Cognition. *Int J Geriatr Psychiatry* 2005; 21: 189-190.

Published online in 2005 at Wiley InterScience ([www.interscience.wiley.com](http://www.interscience.wiley.com)). DOI: 10.1002/gps.1442

**2005** (invited) Molloy DW, Standish T, Lewis DL. Screening for mild cognitive impairment: comparing the MMSE and the ABCS. *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, Volume 50, Number 1, January 2005.

## Presentations

**2006** (forthcoming) Kupferschmidt AL, Lewis DL, Molloy DW, Standish TIM, Babineau TR. Functional and Behavioural Profile of Seniors with Mild Cognitive Impairment and Normal Cognition. *Canadian Geriatrics Society*, Vancouver BC, April 20th-22, 2006. Poster

**2005** Lewis DL, Brazil K, Krueger P. The impact of financial compensation on treatment outcomes for chronic pain: A test of the money matters' thesis." *Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association*, London ON. May 31 to June 03. Paper.

**2005** Kupferschmidt A, Lewis DL, Molloy DW, Standish TIM, Babineau T. Duration of Memory Loss and the AB Cognitive Screen: Improving Differentiation of Mild Cognitive Impairment from Normal Cognition. *McMaster University Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences Research Day*, Hamilton ON, April 13, 2005. Poster

**2005** Kupferschmidt A, Lewis DL, Molloy DW, Standish TIM, Babineau T. Using Duration of Memory Loss to Improve Differentiation of Mild Cognitive Impairment from Normal Cognition. *Canadian Association on Gerontology*, Halifax, NS. Oct 17, 2005. Paper

**2005** Kupferschmidt A, Lewis DL, Molloy DW, Standish TIM, Babineau T. Duration of Memory Loss and the AB Cognitive Screen: Improving Differentiation of Mild Cognitive Impairment from Normal Cognition. *Canadian Geriatrics Society*, Halifax, NS. May 26, 2005. Poster

**2005** RGP's of Ontario (Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, Kingston, London) Geriatric Emergency Management: Improving care to frail seniors. *Ontario Gerontology Association, Annual Meeting*, Toronto ON April 9, 2005. Symposium.

**2005** Lewis DL, Abernathy T. Discharge Planning and Outcomes. *Ontario Gerontology Association, Annual Meeting*, Toronto ON April 9, 2005.

**Many thanks to Dr. David Lewis for providing this update from the RGPc Office of Applied Research. Please watch for an update from Hamilton in May.**



# RGPC Education Calendar

## April 2006

For more information, please visit the Education calendar online: [www.rgpc.ca](http://www.rgpc.ca)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Geriatric medicine Grand Rounds	8
9	10	11	12 Dementia Information Series for family caregivers	13	14	15
16	17	18 Aging & Developmental Delay	19 Dementia Information Series for family caregivers	20	21	22
23/30	24	25 Cholinergic transmission in vascular dementia: Implications for pathogenesis and treatment.	26 Dementia Information Series for family caregivers	27	28	29

# Long Term Care Resource Centre

April 2006

## Recommended Reading List

Compiled by Shannon Buckley

**“When you absolutely positively have to know, ask a librarian!”  
American Library Association (ALA)**

Dupuis, S. et al (2005) Creating open environments in long-term care settings: an examination of influencing factors. *Therapeutic Recreation Journal*, 39(4), 277-

Ward-Griffin, C. et al (2006) Perspectives of women with dementia receiving care from their adult daughters. *Canadian Journal of Nursing Research*, 38(1), 120-

Ward, R. et al (2006) What is dementia care? 3. Seeing patterns – making sense. *Journal of Dementia Care*, 14(2), 22-

Thorgrimsen, L. et al (2006) The use of aromatherapy in dementia care. *Journal of Dementia Care*, 14(2), 33-

Fournier, D. et al (2006) The challenges of implementing an electronic medical record system in a long-term care facility. *Geriatric Nursing*, 27(1), 28-

Wang, K.L. & Hermann, C. (2006) Pilot study to test the effectiveness of healing touch on agitation in people with dementia. *Geriatric Nursing*, 27(1), 34-

Kolanowski, A. et al (2006) Factors that relate to activity engagement in nursing home residents. *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias*, 21(1), 15-

Kapp, M.B. (2006) Informed consent implications of diagnostic evaluation for dementia. *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias*, 21(1), 24-

Smith, J. et al (2006) Use of the 'STRATIFY' falls risk assessment in patients recovering from acute stroke. *Age and Ageing*, 35(2), 138-

Ervin, N.E. (2006) Does patient satisfaction contribute to nursing care quality? *Journal of Nursing Administration*, 36(3), 126-

Engelke, M.K. et al (2006) Collaborative strategies to enhance research and evidence-based practice. *Journal of Nursing Administration*, 36(3), 131-

McNally, K. & Lukens, R. (2006) Leadership development: an external-internal coaching partnership. *Journal of Nursing Administration*, 36(3), 155-

Holcomb, S.S. (2006) Identification and treatment of different types of lymphedema. *Advances in Skin and Wound Care*, 19(2), 103-

Posthauer, M.E. (2006) Hydration: does it play a role in wound healing? *Advances in Skin and Wound Care*, 19(2), 74-

Doughty, D.B. (2006) Strategies for minimizing chronic wound pain. *Advances in Skin and Wound Care*, 19(2), 82-

Various authors (2006) Recognizing diversity. *Long Term Care*, 16(1), 13-

Babic, S. (2006) Demystifying ethics. *Long Term Care*, 16(1), 22-

Gottlieb-Tanaka, D. (2006) Helping residents with dementia express themselves creatively. *Long Term Care*, 16(1), 4-

Coristine, R. (2006) Transition planning: people with developmental disabilities age too! *Long Term Care*, 16(1), 6-

McLaren, S. (2006) The substance abuse challenge. *Long Term Care*, 16(1), 9

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