

# RESEARCH POSTERS

Nick Skladnev



# Design Tips

- “Elevator pitch”
- Lure
- Bait & Hook
- Line



# Development steps

## > Conceptualise

- Audience
- Guidelines
- Materials

## > Development

- Sizing
- Outline of content
- Design
- Layout & flow

## > Review

- Outside perspective & feedback

# COVID era considerations – Digital Posters

- > Take advantage of zoom function
- > Embedded audio/video
- > Hyperlinks



## Tips for Designing Effective Presentations

*A poster with the main title in 1½" sans serif*

Developed by D. Stong, C. Dwyer, W. Kelly, B. Immel, and K. Wink  
with materials donated by Perin State Educational Technology Services

Get the audience's attention and communicate your message quickly and succinctly.



**A** successful person doesn't just act and react; he or she acts and reacts intelligently, a knowledge of the situation is key to doing the right thing. The rest is a by-product.

### Planning

**Easy to install**  
 Simple to install, no programming necessary.  
 No wiring required.

### Developing a Layout

Give your imagination things to do  
 Give a girl a long time. Repeat and  
 repeat  
 Give a girl a memory  
 Give a girl a future  
 Try to bring 40% of the power you thought of  
 into the world.  
 (and you can do it) (and you can)  
 (and you can) (and you can) (and you can)

### Selecting Fonts and Using Text

[illegible]

Produce up to 100% less waste and more value.

Choosing and  
Using Color

• Provides a color screen  
 • Deep background white, green and  
 • red color help distinguish between  
 the results  
 • The single, rounded color spectrum  
 • Easy access to all color at any  
 one location and screen



<sup>1</sup> "Glad" is the infinitive of the verb "to be glad." "Glad" means "happy." It is used with "to" to form the infinitive. "Glad" is used to express a feeling of happiness or satisfaction.

## Judith A. Chavkin

Remember, the following should be closely followed with exactly these 3 changes of 1/2 inch.

1. Title of the activity
2. Location: state
3. Collaborators, advisors, and support team
4. Funding sources
5. Expected/actual number of (a) the program providers/beneficiaries trained; (b) outputs or deliverables generated
6. Objectives
  - i. Objectives in the field
  - ii. Objectives in relation to general objectives
7. Results
8. Implementation of study and research team
9. Discussion for future research



Viewers reading this line demonstrate the poster's success!

# Continuous positive airway pressure treatment and systemic inflammation in obstructive sleep apnoea: a systematic review and meta-analysis

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<sup>1</sup>Sydney Medical Program, The University of Sydney; <sup>2</sup>Centre for Big Data Research in Health, University of New South Wales.

## BACKGROUND

- Obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA) is an increasingly prevalent condition of sleep disordered breathing that has been shown to exacerbate systemic inflammation, which in turn contributes to the plethora of metabolic and cardiovascular sequelae associated with OSA.
- There has been interest in determining whether the mainstay of therapy for OSA, continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP), can also reduce levels of systemic inflammation, though existing evidence is mixed.

## OBJECTIVE

- This systematic review and meta-analysis took advantage of newly published randomised controlled trials (RCTs) in order to further elucidate the effect of CPAP therapy on inflammatory biomarkers in OSA.

## METHODS

- Systematic review:** MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL, and CENTRAL databases, along with relevant reference lists were searched for RCTs up to 6th March 2018.
- Studies were restricted to OSA patients with an apnoea-hypopnoea index  $\geq 5$  via polysomnography, undergoing CPAP treatment of  $\geq 4$  weeks, and with inflammatory biomarkers obtained both pre- and post-treatment.
- Primary Outcomes:** Serum levels of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL6, IL10, and CRP.
- Meta-analysis:** using Review Manager version 5.3.
- 12 statistic for heterogeneity and sensitivity analyses conducted.
- Risk of bias assessed using Egger's & Begg's test, and Cochrane tool for risk of bias reporting in RCTs.

## RESULTS

- A total of ten studies involving 1,417 OSA patients were included in the meta-analysis. Eight studies were pooled for CRP, six for IL6, four for TNF- $\alpha$ , and one for IL10.
- Meta-analysis was inappropriate on IL10 as only one study was identified.
- There was significant heterogeneity detected in CRP post-treatment (df=7, p=0.0001, I<sup>2</sup>=90%) which was identified by sensitivity analyses to be due to three individual studies. There was no significant heterogeneity detected in any other endpoints.
- Risk of bias assessments detected no significant bias in any of the primary outcomes, and the quality of included articles was high overall.

## RESULTS

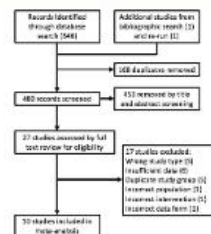


Figure 1. Flow diagram depicting study selection.

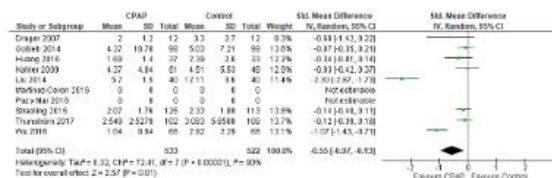


Figure 2. End of study comparison of CRP levels between CPAP and control groups.

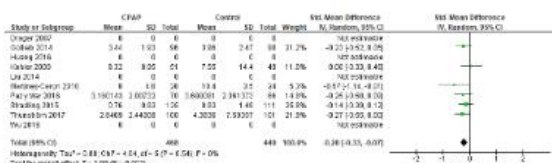


Figure 3. End of study comparison of IL6 levels between CPAP and control groups.

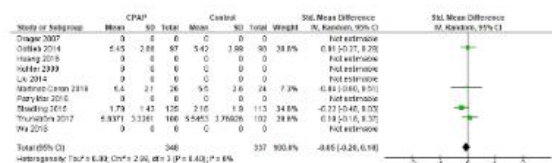


Figure 4. End of study comparison of TNFα levels between CPAP and control groups.

## CONCLUSION

CPAP therapy can suppress levels of the inflammatory biomarkers CRP and IL6 in patients with OSA. Though given the variability amongst studies, further investigation is warranted.

# Neuroprotective pre-conditioning with dietary saffron: how much and how come?

Nicholas Skladnev, Jonathan Stone, Dan Johnstone

Discipline of Physiology, University of Sydney

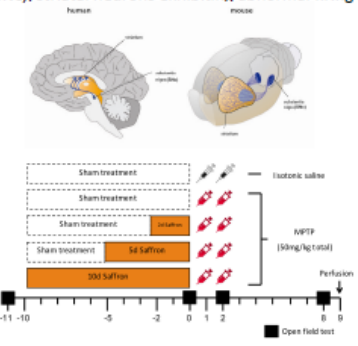
## Introduction

- Neurodegenerative diseases continue to rise in prevalence but remain without effective treatment
- Novel neuroprotectants are thus needed to slow or stop disease progression
- Rapidly growing body of laboratory and clinical evidence for the ability of saffron to stabilise degeneration
- Recently demonstrated neuroprotective effect in MPTP neurotoxin model of Parkinson's disease (PD)
- Dose response relationships and underlying protective mechanisms are yet to be elucidated, and are the subject of this research



## Methods

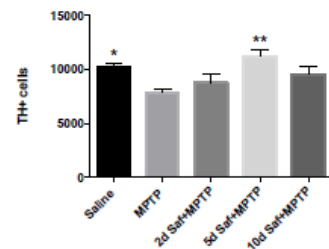
- Disease model** – MPTP mouse model of PD
- Treatment regime** – Pre-conditioning with dietary saffron (0.01% via water supply) for 2, 5, or 10 days
- Outcome measures:** Open field tests (OFT) for assessing locomotive deficit; immunohistochemistry (TH) for dopaminergic neurons in substantia nigra (SNc), striatal neurons exhibiting abnormal firing (Fos)



## Results

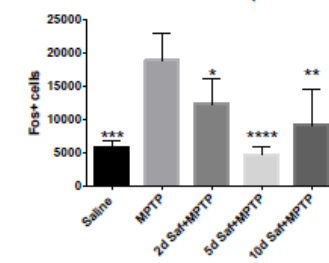
### Can saffron mitigate dopaminergic cell loss in the SNc?

- MPTP intoxication causes significant reduction (~20%) of dopaminergic cells compared to saline controls (p=0.01)
- 5 days saffron preconditioning best attenuates dopaminergic cell loss (p=0.001)



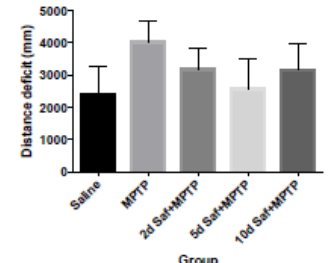
### Can saffron mitigate increased abnormal firing activity in the striatum?

- MPTP intoxication causes significant increases (~300%) in Fos expressing cells
- All saffron doses significantly mitigate this increase (p<0.05)
- However, 5 days saffron pre-conditioning shows the strongest protective effect (~75% reduction) against MPTP



### Can saffron mitigate locomotive deficits?

- Changes in total distance travelled pre vs post-injections
- Trend seems to match cellular pathology, but non-significant



\* = p<0.05, \*\* = p<0.01, \*\*\* = p<0.001, \*\*\*\* = p<0.0001, versus MPTP

## Conclusions

- Saffron can protect against MPTP-induced Parkinsonian Neuropathology
- 5 days of saffron pre-conditioning is optimal
- The mechanisms behind this will next be explored by RNA microarray



# The action of capsaicin in porcine coronary artery vasodilation

Niamh Ramsay  
Supervisor: Dr Peter Johnson

## Introduction

Capsaicin, the active component of the chilli peppers, is responsible for producing the heat characteristic of chilli. It is a highly selective agonist for transient receptor potential vanilloid type 1 (TRPV1) receptors expressed in sensory neuronal tissue. Its actions on vascular tissue have shown to cause a vaso-dilatory response, indicating possible therapeutic benefit for certain cardiovascular pathologies such as hypertension. (Ching et al, 2011)

As the role of capsaicin sensory nerves and TRPV1 in cellular mechanisms under normal and pathological conditions remains unconfirmed, this study aimed to clarify previous conflicting evidence. It has been previously determined that low dose capsaicin caused an enhanced relaxation despite application of TRPV1 antagonists, however, while it was speculated that this was achieved by nitric oxide synthase release, the release of NO was not quantitated. Thus it is yet to be ascertained that NO is entirely responsible for this mediation.

This study examined the effects of capsaicin on normal and denuded porcine coronary artery vasorelaxations and measured nitric oxide release following capsaicin application, thus aiming to determine the source of NO production thought to be responsible for such tissue relaxation.

## Methodology

To ascertain NO release as the cause for capsaicin evoked vasorelaxations, and to also determine if results were endothelium dependent, this study examined the effects of capsaicin application on normal and denuded tissue. Porcine coronary artery rings were suspended in organ baths, and pre-contracted with either KCl or U46619, a stable thromboxane receptor agonist. The changes in isometric tension of the samples were then evaluated in response to capsaicin administration on tissue. Following this, a fluorometric analysis of nitric oxide levels in the organ bath effluent was performed to quantify the level of NO release in response to capsaicin application.

## Discussion

It was found that applications of capsaicin resulted in dose-dependent vaso-relaxations of the porcine arteries. Furthermore, it was determined that these relaxations occurred in tissue despite removal of the endothelium, yet, not to the same extent as normal samples. This result was seen to be much more evident in tissue pre-contracted with KCl, indicating that the NO release mediating such reactions were from a non-endothelial source.

Following fluorometric analysis, it was determined that an increase in capsaicin concentration caused a greater yield of nitrate/nitrite from the tissue sample. This response was seen in both normal and denuded artery rings, however, greater nitrate/nitrite production was seen in normal samples. From these results, it was speculated that an alternate source of NOS, outside the endothelium, was responsible for such NO release, supporting previous findings of previous studies (Fuller, 2012; Hans et al, 2012). It was recommended that future studies adopt methods to detect the presence of NOS isoforms in an attempt to ascertain the location of NOS causing NO production in response to capsaicin application.

## References

- Ching, L. C., Kou, Y. R., Shyue, S. K., Su, K. H., Wei, J., Cheng, L.C., Lee, T.S. (2011) Molecular mechanism of action on endothelial nitric oxide synthase mediated by transient potential vanilloid type 1. *Cardiovascular Research*, 91(3), 492-501. doi:10.1093/cvr/cvr104
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- Han, J. A., Seo, E. Y., Kim, H. J., Park, S. J., Yoo, H. Y., Kim, J. Y., ... Kim, S. J. (2012). Hypoxia-augmented constriction of deep femoral artery mediated by inhibition of eNOS in smooth muscle. *American Journal of Physiology - Cell Physiology*. doi: 10.1152/ajpcell.00176.2012

## Results

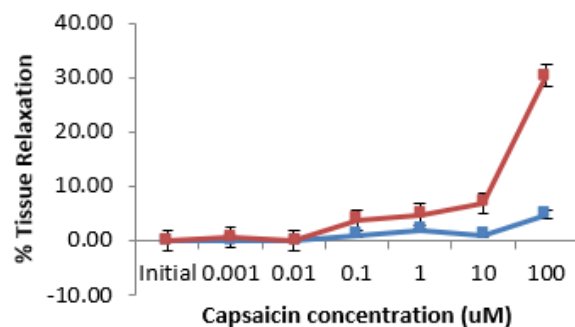


Figure 1: U46619 pre-contracted tissue % relaxation responses to capsaicin application, n=3.

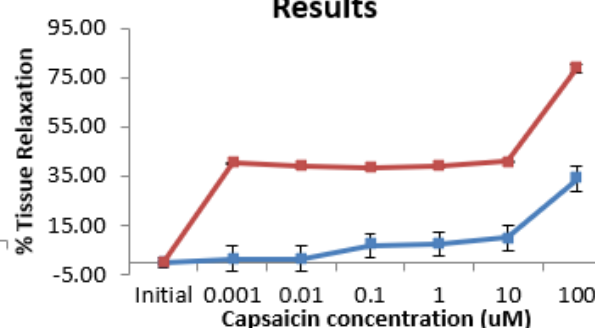


Figure 2: KCl pre-contracted tissue % relaxation responses to capsaicin application, n=2.

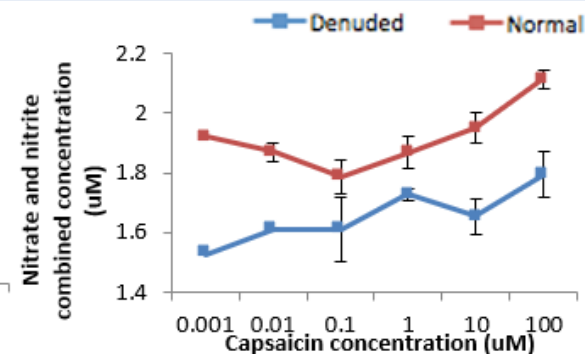


Figure 3: Fluorometric assay results of normal and denuded tissue samples, n=3.

Griff, P & Shephard, MD 2020, 'The Conduct of Quality Control and Quality Assurance Testing for PoCT Outside the Laboratory', *Clin Biochem Rev*, vol. 31, no. 3, pp. 85-8.



# TRANSMISSION DYNAMICS OF WATERBORNE PATHOGENS IN AUSTRALIA

Niamh Ramsay, Edward Waters  
The School of Medicine, University of Notre Dame Australia



## INTRODUCTION



The incidence of gastrointestinal illness, defined as two or more associated cases of diarrhoea and/or vomiting in a 24 hour period, has been increasing over the last decade in Australia.<sup>1,2</sup>



Waterborne pathogens are commonly responsible for outbreaks of gastroenteritis. *Giardia intestinalis* and *Cryptosporidium* spp. are common protozoan suspects, as well as Norovirus, a viral pathogen.<sup>3,4</sup>



While most waterborne illnesses are mild, some can result in hospitalisation and, rarely fatalities.<sup>1</sup> Although recognised as important public health issues, transmission dynamics remain poorly studied.<sup>5</sup>



Literature currently assumes that viral and protozoan pathogens differ in transmissibility and seasonality.<sup>5</sup> This study examines these assumptions to further characterise trends with the expectation that other factors are at play.

## METHOD

### TWO DATA SETS:

#### HOSPITAL CASES OF GASTROENTERITIS

Stool samples positive for protozoan pathogens for patients in four Sydney-based hospitals from Jan 2007 – Dec 2010.<sup>6</sup>

• Seasonal trends for both *Cryptosporidium* spp. and *G. intestinalis* were analysed using Chi square test (Yates corrected).

#### HOUSEHOLD CASES OF GASTROENTERITIS

Cluster data from 600 households over a 15-month period prior to 2009, with stool samples collected during gastroenteritis episodes throughout the study.<sup>7</sup>

• Within household transmission dynamics determine using mean crowding based indices.<sup>8</sup>

## RESULTS

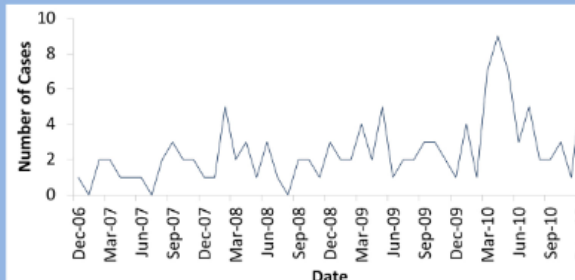


Figure 1: Monthly time series of *G. intestinalis* hospitalisations.

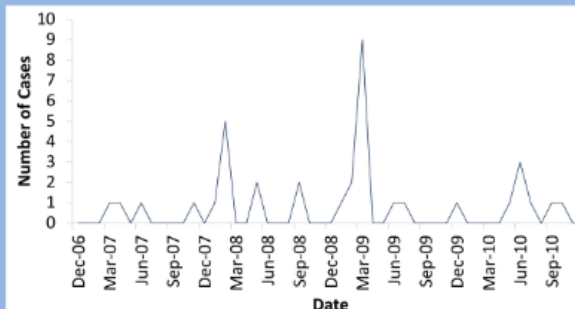


Figure 2: Monthly time series of *Cryptosporidium* spp. hospitalisations.

Pathogen	Pathogen Transmissibility $\rho(\infty)$	Number of people across all households	Number of Households
Cryptosporidium	0.62	9	2
Giardia	0.73	14	3
Multiple Infections	0.61	44	9
Norovirus	0.63	125	26

Table 2: Analysis of household transmission for a variety of waterborne pathogens, using the mean crowding based indices.

## MAJOR FINDINGS

- Contrary to previous research, seasonality was not equally important for all protozoan based pathogens.<sup>9</sup>
- *G. intestinalis* showed increased incidence but no seasonality (Figure 1), yet *Cryptosporidium* spp. showed significant Summer-Winter ratio trends (Figure 2).
- Protozoan, bacterial and viral pathogens did not differ with regards to within-household transmissibility (Table 2).

## CONCLUSIONS



Findings of this study contradicted previous epidemiological and clinical observations.<sup>4,9,10</sup> Despite small sample sizes, the probability of results emerging by chance was very low ( $<0.05$ ).



Different seasonal trends between protozoan pathogens indicated different transmission dynamics. As the life cycles of both protozoan pathogens are similar, this suggests further research into behavioural and environmental factors may better identify populations that are at imminent risk of infection.



Analysis of within-household data suggests that the number of secondary cases does not differ by type of pathogen. Quantitative microbial risk assessment protocols should be reevaluated based on within-household transmission results.

## REFERENCES

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2. Communicable Disease Network Australia. Guidelines for the public health management of gastroenteritis outbreaks due to norovirus or suspected viral agents in Australia. Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia; 2010.
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9. Neumann EN, Ingt J, Meyer B, De Maria A, MacKellill IB, Griffiths JK. Seasonality in six enterically transmitted disease and ambient temperature. Epidemiol Infect. 2006; 135(2): 281-92.
10. Gibney K, O'Toole J, Sinclair M, Leder K. (2014). Disease burden of selected gastrointestinal pathogens in Australia. Intern J Infect Dis. 2014; 28: 176-185.







# Metformin inhibits epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition in an *in vitro* model of posterior capsule opacification

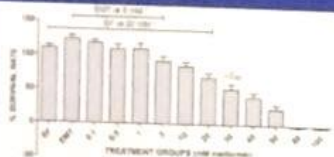
Jade Lasiste, Denise Miyamoto, Pablo Zoroquiain, Christina Mastromonaco, Sabrina Bergeron, Miguel N. Burnier, Jr.  
MUHC McGill University Ocular Pathology Laboratory, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada



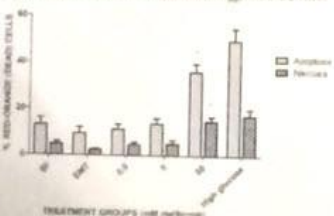
## Introduction

- Posterior capsule opacification (PCO) is the most common complication of cataract surgery, causing a recurrence in visual decline in 3%-50% of patients up to 10 years postoperatively.
- PCO is caused by the proliferation and migration of lens epithelial cells, which primarily gain their proliferative capacity by secreting extracellular matrix components.
- Epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (EMT) is a process by which epithelial cells lose their polarity and cell-cell adhesion, and gain migratory and invasive properties to become mesenchymal stem cells and cancer cells.

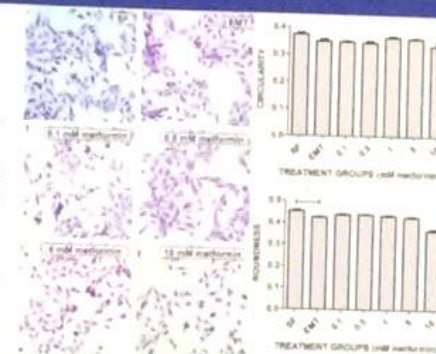
## Results



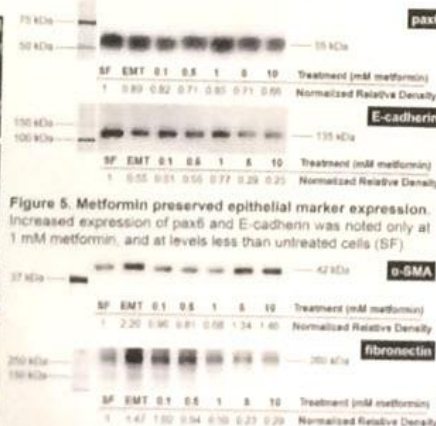
**Figure 1. Metformin decreased HLE-B3 viability.** The lethal concentration of metformin that reduced survival by half ( $LC_{50}$ ) was 30 mM.



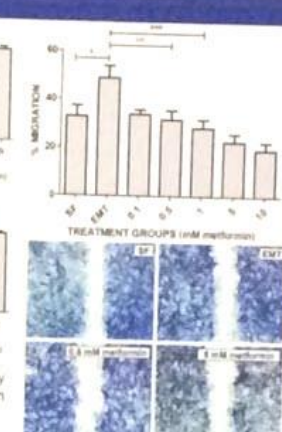
**Figure 3. Metformin maintained LEC morphology.** Circularity measures shape and roundness approximates symmetry. Both parameters are maintained with 1 mM metformin.



**Figure 4. Metformin inhibited LEC migration.** Migration was inhibited ( $P < 0.05$ ) at low concentrations.



**Figure 5. Metformin preserved epithelial marker expression.** Increased expression of pax6 and E-cadherin was noted only at 1 mM metformin, and at levels less than untreated cells (SF).



**Figure 6. Metformin decreased expression of mesenchymal markers.** Even low concentrations of metformin inhibited expression of  $\alpha$ -smooth muscle actin and fibronectin.

## Discussion

- This is the first study to: (1) demonstrate the direct effect of metformin on LECs; (2) analyze changes in LEC morphology via automated and qualitative parameters; (3) and establish the presence of the SLC22A1 receptor in the ocular lens epithelium.
- The data show that metformin inhibits EMT in LECs, resulting in decreased viability and the induction of apoptosis; preservation of the LEC phenotype, as seen in maintained epithelial marker expression and cell morphology; and reduced mesenchymal marker expression and cell migration.
- That the human ocular lens epithelium expresses SLC22A1 highlights the clinical significance of this study, as the receptor renders the lens capable of responding to metformin. The correlation between metformin use for other indications and PCO development can be studied in a prospective trial.
- Since metformin inhibits EMT in LECs and EMT is the pathophysiology underlying PCO, it is logical to conclude that metformin may be effective against PCO. Its efficacy as well as the doses, routes and timing of administration, should be validated *in vivo*.
- Furthermore, metformin has an excellent safety profile, is inexpensive and readily available. A topical ophthalmic formulation of metformin exists and has been used in rabbits with no reported adverse effects on the cornea. In addition, its ocular pharmacokinetics in rabbits has been established.

## Conclusions

- Metformin inhibits EMT in LECs at concentrations ranging from 0.1 to 1 mM. This effect is most likely mediated through uptake via the SLC22A1 receptor and decreased Akt phosphorylation. The human ocular lens epithelium expresses SLC22A1 and thus may respond to metformin.
- Metformin is safe, effective and accessible, making it a suitable potential pharmacologic adjunct in PCO prevention strategies.







# Fluorescent *in situ* Hybridization-Flow Cytometry A Method for Analyzing Gene Expression

Monica M. Lozano  
Advisor: Pao C. Chau  
Chemical Engineering Program  
University of California, San Diego

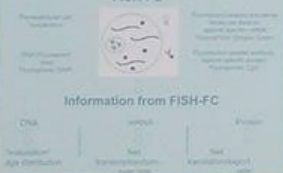
## ABSTRACT

The objective of this project is to study cell cycle-dependent events by combining fluorescent *in situ* hybridization (FISH) with flow cytometry (FC) to obtain data for a computational cell cycle model which can simulate mathematically population distributions. This combined technique can analyze cell cycle-dependent gene expression and transcriptional versus translational regulation better than methods based on Northern and Western blots. FISH allows for the simultaneous detection of multiple substances within individual cells. Flow cytometry allows the measurement of individual cell fluorescence with high accuracy and speed. Consequently, large cell populations can be statistically characterized and rare cells detected.

## OBJECTIVE

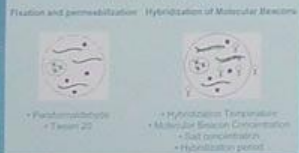
The aim of this project is to study the expression of the protein kinase RNA dependent (PKR). This involves staining the DNA, the mRNA transcript, and the protein using fluorescent dyes (e.g. DAPI, fluorescent anti-center oligonucleotides, and fluorescent antibodies). The analysis on PKR was then compared to genes with known expression patterns, such as *tyrosine*, *glutathione S-transferase* (*GST*), and *β-actin*, to detect and study similarities and differences. In addition, test studies were performed to determine the practicality of molecular beacons over conventional oligonucleotides. Molecular beacons are hairpin-shaped hybridization probes that can be used to target mRNA with fluorescence.

## FISH-FC

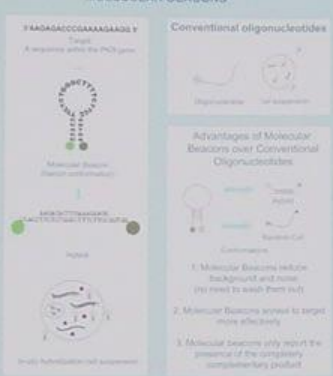


## METHODS

### Crucial Factors in FISH-FC



## MOLECULAR BEACONS



## CHARACTERIZATION OF MOLECULAR BEACONS

In an effort to determine if the designed molecular beacons meet the desired criteria, a series of binding experiments were performed. The binding of the beacons was measured as a function of temperature. The shape of the curve (Fig. 1) agrees with previous experiments performed by Tyagi, et al. and it indicates that the Association of PKR-MB complexes with temperature.



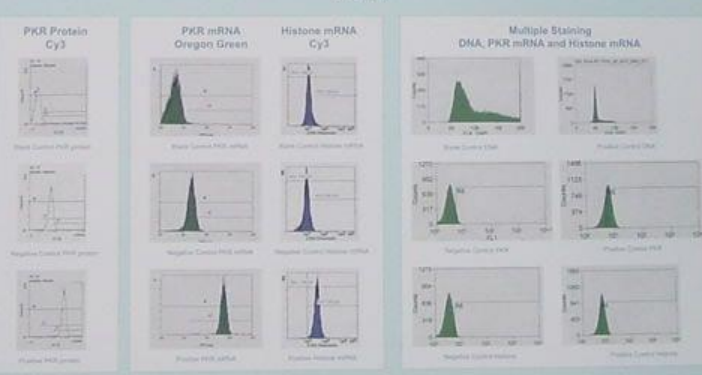
Figure 1: Temperature effect on PKR-MB complexes

In addition, the temperature at which the molecular beacons attach to its target was determined. This was done by first extracting RNA from human cells in 5' and 3' ends. Then, a mixture of molecular beacons and RNA was prepared and incubated for a period of 20 minutes at different temperatures. The fluorescence for each sample was measured. The shape of the curve (Fig. 2) agrees with previous work and the optimal binding temperature for the PKR-MB was determined to be 35°C.



Figure 2: Binding temperature effect on PKR-MB complexes

## RESULTS





Search Team<sup>4</sup>, & Sherilee Harper<sup>1,4</sup>  
Team; <sup>4</sup>McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

## Discussion & Next Steps

main sources of drinking water changed significantly over time, yet secondary water sources remained persistent. Although originating from the same surface water source (a local lake), ratings of ADWS water were more frequently rated as "good" or "very good" than tap water; further analysis is required to understand these perceptions, and the degree to which aesthetic appeal and perceptions of safety influence choice of drinking water.

Next steps include linking the surveys by individual ID to assess individual changes and patterns of drinking water consumption over time. Multivariable regression models will be used to identify potential factors contributing to daily volume of water consumption and use of various water sources.

## Acknowledgements

hence thanks to the people of Rigolet, RIC and the dedicated work of local surveyors including Charlie Flowers, Marilyn Baikie, funded by the IK-ADAPT and Indigenous Health projects; see [www.ihacc.ca](http://www.ihacc.ca) to learn more about the project.



## Poster Presenters



## Participatory methods in Rigolet: Evaluation of Inuit health programs and collaborative development of a whiteboard video for health promotion

Manpreet Saini<sup>1</sup>, Inez Shiwak<sup>2</sup>, Steven Roche<sup>1</sup>, Andrew Papadopoulos<sup>1</sup>, Michele Wood<sup>3</sup>, Rigolet Inuit Community Government<sup>2</sup>, Nunatsiavut Government<sup>3</sup>, IHACC Research Team<sup>4</sup> and Sherilee Harper<sup>1, 4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada; <sup>2</sup>Rigolet Inuit Community Government, Rigolet, Nunatsiavut, Labrador, Canada; <sup>3</sup>Nunatsiavut Government, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Nunatsiavut, Labrador, Canada; <sup>4</sup>Indigenous Health Adaptation to Climate Change Research Team

## Background

Indigenous populations face great health disparities within all countries which can be attributed to differences in social, cultural, political and economic factors<sup>1,4</sup>. Public health interventions that are culturally and locally relevant often lead to greater success than ones that are not<sup>5,6</sup>. Inuit culture is heavily oral and visual, and this is important for effective programs and interventions<sup>9</sup>. Using both these cultural aspects and community participation can generate culturally relevant interventions and tools such as digital storytelling or whiteboard animation videos<sup>3,7</sup>.

Community: Rigolet, Nunatsiavut

Rigolet is a small, remote community located in Nunatsiavut, Labrador. It has a population of about 305 people and 85% of the population identify as Inuit<sup>10</sup>. Incidence rates of acute gastrointestinal illness (AGI) in Rigolet are some of the highest reported in the global literature<sup>6</sup>.

## Research Objectives

- I. Co-develop a whiteboard video with Inuit youth and community members to share public health information
- II. Co-develop an evaluation framework for Inuit health programs using participatory methods
- III. Assess the development and use of the video using the evaluation framework

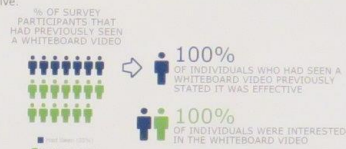
## Methods

This project involves qualitative research and participatory methods to (i) explore perspectives on community participation in public health program evaluation and (ii) receive feedback and input on the whiteboard video about AGI.



## Preliminary Results

Based on the surveys, whiteboard videos were considered interesting & effective.



Interview and focus group participants expressed positive responses (e.g. "like", "interesting", "good") to the whiteboard video. Larger text indicates word was used more often.



Interview and focus group response to community participation in evaluation:

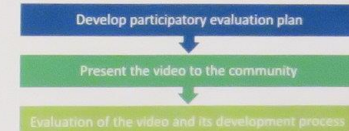


## Discussion & Implications

Preliminary results indicate the whiteboard video is an interesting and potentially useful medium to share health information. The whiteboard video has been found useful in disseminating research results when developed with community participation.<sup>2</sup> Evaluation of the video, once it is produced, will indicate (i) its effectiveness in sharing health information and (ii) key factors that make it effective or ineffective. Discussion with community members and government employees has indicated evaluation and the ability for community members to provide feedback on health programs is essential. Continued analysis of the data will provide insight into the extent of community participation in the evaluation framework.

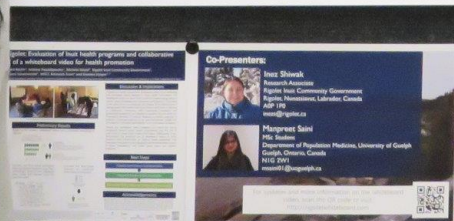
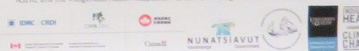
Overall, the whiteboard video evaluation can inform the use of community focused public health interventions and the use of novel tools to share public health information. Additionally, it can demonstrate the potential use of whiteboard videos in other Northern Inuit communities to address health disparities. The evaluation framework could help governments demonstrate impact of these interventions and refine future policy and practice initiatives.

## Next Steps



## Acknowledgements

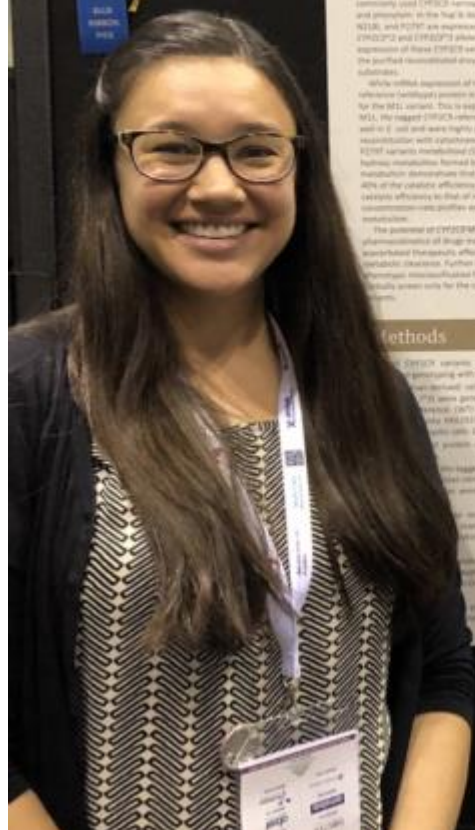
Special thanks to the community of Rigolot, the youth in Rigolot, Rodney, Alison, Maclean, Britney, Ryan and Brady, the Rigolot Inuit Community Government and the Nunavut Government for their support and without whom this project would not be possible. Thanks to Na King for her assistance in hosting community events and collecting data. And lastly, thanks to the funders: the Nunavut Centre for Inuit Health and Changing Environments, IDRC, CIHR, SSHRC, NORX and the Indigenous Health Adaptation to Climate Change and Arthur D. Loomis.





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ASPET



## Functional Characterization of Novel *CYP2C9* Variants Found in an Alaska Native Population

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SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

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### Abstract

Dosing regimen variants of *CYP2C9* can dramatically influence the pharmacokinetics and drug response of therapeutically agents, an important clinical consideration for commonly used *CYP2C9* enzyme. Monographs states substrate, including (S)-warfarin and propofol, in the Thai & Alaska Native people, novel *CYP2C9* protein variants M1, N128, and P179T are expressed with higher frequency than the well-characterized *CYP2C9* and *CYP2C9* alleles. This study's objective was to determine the relative expression of these *CYP2C9* variants in HepG2 cells and to characterize the function of the purified recombinant enzymes expressed in E. coli. Recombinant *CYP2C9* drug substrates.

While initial expression of the *CYP2C9* M1, N128, and P179T gene variants and the reference (wildtype) protein in HepG2 cells were similar, the protein was undetectable for the M1 variant. This is expected. And in comparison of the early culture in *CYP2C9* M1, the recombinant reference protein and N128 and P179T variants expressed well in E. coli and were highly purified after affinity chromatography. Following reconstitution with cytochrome P450 reductase and cytochrome b<sub>5</sub>, the N128 and P179T variants metabolized (S)-warfarin, but not (R)-warfarin, to the principal 7- and 6-hydroxy metabolites formed by the reference enzyme. Kinetic studies of (S)-warfarin metabolism demonstrate that the N128 variant has reduced function, with less than 10% of the catalytic efficiency of reference enzyme, while the P179T variant had similar catalytic efficiency to that of reference *CYP2C9*. Finally, although not identical, reconstitution rates profiles were obtained for propofol, fentanyl, and rosiglitazone metabolism.

The potential of *CYP2C9* M1, N128, and perhaps even P179T alleles to alter the pharmacokinetics of drugs metabolized by *CYP2C9* has put carriers at risk of unanticipated therapeutic effects from drugs that rely predominantly on *CYP2C9* for their metabolism. Clinicians. Further clinical implications for the Alaska Native people include phenotypic misclassification from currently available pharmacogenetic tests, which currently assess only for the common *CYP2C9* (2A6C) and *CYP2C9* (2A6C).

### Methods

*CYP2C9* variants were identified for larger sequencing. Sequenced for sequencing with the Sanger platform (Primer 2010).

Genomic DNA was extracted from HepG2 cells. Only those cells expressing *CYP2C9* M1, N128, P179T, and reference *CYP2C9* were generated using lentiviral mediated transduction. Genomic DNA and variant genes were cloned into vector, pCMV6, and the wild-type expression was determined by RT-PCR.

Recombinant proteins were purified using nickel-nitrilotriacetic acid (NTA) columns. Purified proteins were stored at -80°C until use in reconstitution assays.

Reconstitution assays were performed using cytochrome P450 reductase and cytochrome b<sub>5</sub> in the presence of NADPH and a substrate concentration of 100 nM.

Reaction mixtures were incubated at 37°C for 10 minutes. Reaction mixtures were then extracted with ethyl acetate and analyzed by HPLC. The HPLC system consisted of a 150 mm x 4.6 mm i.d. column, a 100 mm x 4.6 mm i.d. column, and a 100 mm x 4.6 mm i.d. column.

Reaction mixtures were then extracted with ethyl acetate and analyzed by HPLC. The HPLC system consisted of a 150 mm x 4.6 mm i.d. column, a 100 mm x 4.6 mm i.d. column, and a 100 mm x 4.6 mm i.d. column.

### Results

Figure 1 and Table 1. The human *CYP2C9* gene and commonly studied *CYP2C9* variants (M1, N128, P179T) variants identified in an Alaska Native population. Recombinant proteins were expressed in HepG2 cells and purified. The recombinant proteins were then purified and reconstituted with cytochrome P450 reductase and cytochrome b<sub>5</sub>. The reconstitution rates were determined for (S)-warfarin, (R)-warfarin, propofol, fentanyl, and rosiglitazone metabolism.



Protein	M1	N128	P179T	Reference
Protein expression	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Protein purification	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Protein reconstitution	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Protein activity	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Figure 2. *CYP2C9* variant expression in HepG2 cells. The relative expression of *CYP2C9* variants (M1, N128, P179T) was determined by quantitative real-time PCR. The results are shown as mean ± SD. The expression of the reference *CYP2C9* protein was set to 1.0.

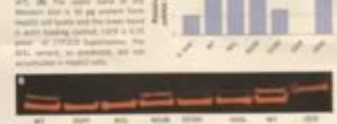
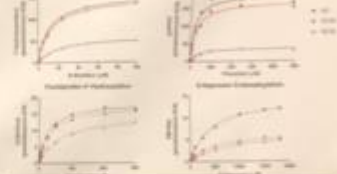


Table 2. Purified *CYP2C9* M1 and variant protein concentrations, mean values from three separate experiments. The M1 variant protein was not purified. The reconstitution rates were determined for (S)-warfarin, (R)-warfarin, propofol, fentanyl, and rosiglitazone metabolism.

Protein	M1	N128	P179T	Reference
Protein concentration	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Protein purification	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Protein reconstitution	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Protein activity	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

### Results

Figure 3 and Table 3. Kinetic studies of (S)-warfarin metabolism by *CYP2C9* M1, N128, and P179T variants. The kinetic parameters (K<sub>m</sub> and V<sub>max</sub>) were determined for each variant. The results are shown as mean ± SD. The kinetic parameters of the reference *CYP2C9* protein were set to 1.0.



Protein	M1	N128	P179T	Reference
K <sub>m</sub> (μM)	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1
V <sub>max</sub> (pmol/min)	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1
K <sub>m</sub> (μM)	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1
V <sub>max</sub> (pmol/min)	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1	10.1 ± 0.1

### Conclusions & Future Directions

In HepG2 cells, initial expression of *CYP2C9* M1, N128, and P179T variants was similar, while protein levels differed significantly. The M1 variant protein was not purified. The reconstitution rates were determined for (S)-warfarin, (R)-warfarin, propofol, fentanyl, and rosiglitazone metabolism. The kinetic parameters of the reference *CYP2C9* protein were set to 1.0.

The kinetic parameters of the reference *CYP2C9* protein were set to 1.0. The kinetic parameters of the variants were determined. The results are shown as mean ± SD.

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### Acknowledgments

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# Making data sharing the new normal: progress and challenges

SPRINGER NATURE

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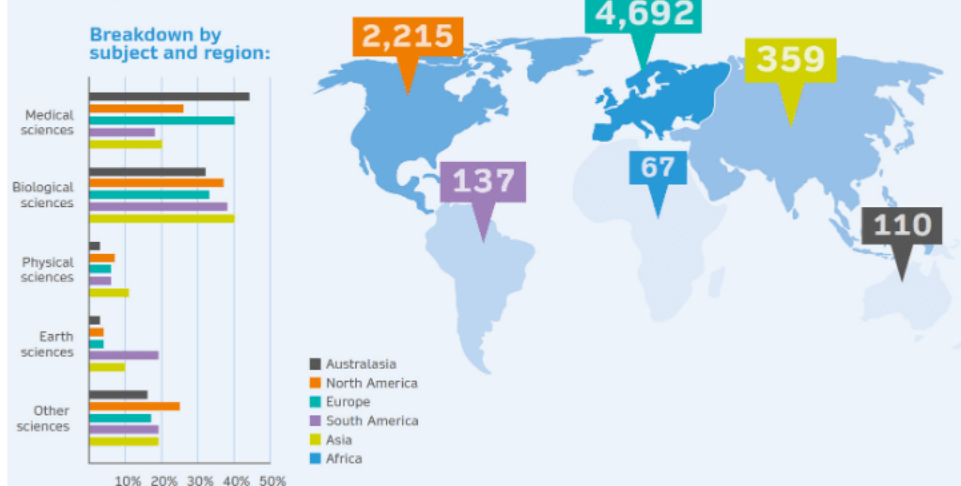
## Abstract:

The case for open data to support good research practice is increasingly inarguable. Open access to research data can help speed the pace of discovery and deliver more value by enabling reuse and reducing duplication. Good data practice also makes research more efficient, effective and fulfilling for researchers. A survey conducted in 2017 by Springer Nature with more than 7,000 researchers found that, despite the known benefits, there is still a significant proportion of data that is not being shared. The survey explored some of the main challenges for researchers in data sharing, including how data is organised; knowledge of copyright and licensing; knowledge about repositories; time; and costs. This poster will summarize the findings of this survey, and our considered views on increasing data sharing amongst researchers.

## Related:

Full survey dataset (CC-BY 4.0): <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.5971387>; Whitepaper based on the results of this survey (CC-BY 4.0): <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.5975011>

## Survey respondents



## Main challenge to data sharing is organising data in a presentable and useful way

Almost half of all respondents (46%) said that **organising data** was a challenge, followed by **confusion around copyright** (37%) and **not knowing where to share data** (33%)

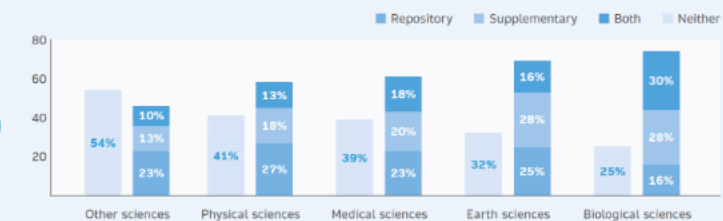


## Small datasets are the least likely to be shared

Researchers that generated the smallest sized data files (<20MB; n = 2,036) had the **highest proportion of data** that were neither shared as supplementary information nor deposited in a repository (42%)

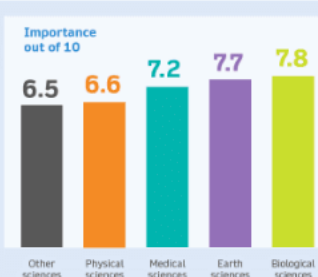
## Data sharing by subject

%  
PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS



## Importance of data discoverability

**76%** of respondents highly rate the importance of their data being discoverable: most popular ranking was 10/10



## Majority of researchers share their data in some way

63% of respondents stated that they generally **submitted data files as supplementary information**, deposited the files in a **repository**, or both

## What can be done to increase data sharing?



Improving education and support on good data management, particularly at early stages of researchers' careers



Creating **faster, easier routes for sharing data** - making data easily accessible and usable by researchers

SPRINGER NATURE



## Rounding with Teams: Evaluation of Interprofessional Collaborative Practice

Aletha Rowlands Ph.D. RNFA, CNOR, WVU School of Nursing; Kari Sand-Jecklin EdD, MSN, AHN-BC, WVU School of Nursing; Jon Wietholter PharmD, BCPS, WVU School of Pharmacy; Shanthi Manivannan PhD, MD, WVU School of Medicine; Kayla McCormick, MA, WVU School of Nursing

### Purpose

To compare and present the observational findings surrounding with four different medical and surgical teams over a two-month period to the authors' understanding of teamwork during their rounds.

### Research Questions Explored:

- How well do medical/surgical teams use interprofessional teamwork during patient rounds?
- How do patients perceive their teamwork?

### Methodology

**Theoretical Framework**  
The Quality Health Outcomes Model (QHOM) supports that teams with IPIC (interprofessional education/collaboration) can improve patient outcomes.

### Observations

- 5 Researchers (2 per team) rounded with 4 medical/surgical and one OR team and completed a prepared observation instrument using the 5 established IPIC core competencies.
- The instrument asked observers to evaluate and rate the teams using a Likert Scale (1=never, 2=frequently, 3=occasionally, 4=often, 5=always).

### Patient Evaluations

- After rounds, the Project Manager visited each patient/family (7% total) to provide him or her an opportunity to evaluate their care team's interprofessional teamwork.
- Data was collected via Quizzes on a tablet device.
- 5 questions representing the same core competencies and Likert scale used in the observer instrument with an opportunity for comments at the end.

### Study Background

- Over the past 25 years, much attention has been placed on how interprofessional teamwork can improve the quality of care. Improved teamwork is now a near universal goal in health care. This HPSA-funded study (Grant #1P20NS044333, "Nursing Education Practice: Quality and Safety in Interprofessional Collaborative Practice") recognizes patients as members of the interprofessional team, as suggested by Nelson et al. (2010) and seeks to improve health outcomes for the underserved care patients through an academic partnership.
- Specific Grant Aims include: Improving access to safe quality care by increasing the involvement of nurses, nurse leaders, other health professionals, and students delivering interprofessional collaborative care while strengthening the capacity for sustained and equitable interprofessional collaboration, preparing prepared nurse leaders to facilitate team building opportunities.

### Quantitative Results

- Both researchers and patients/family members noted the medical teams' teamwork skills highly (range 4.35-4.85).
- Overall, teams mostly or always exhibited the established core competencies for interprofessional teamwork and collaboration.
- The quantitative results show very positive displays of teamwork. However, qualitative comments opportunities expressed varied variation in teamwork behaviors.

### Observer Evaluations of Teamwork (n=28 observations)

Core Competencies	Observation Instrument of Items	Median	Mean
<b>Values and Ethics</b>	1. Each member of the team appears to value and respect the expertise of other members.	5	4.62
	2. Each member of the team appears to respect the dignity of patients, and maintains their confidentiality.	5	4.80
	3. Each member of the team appears to act with honesty and integrity towards team and patients/family members.	5	4.85
<b>Roles and Responsibilities</b>	1. Each member of the team seems prepared to discuss patient's current health using his/her professional knowledge.	5.00	4.92
	2. Each member of the team seems competent within one's professional role on the team.	5	4.74
	3. Each member of the team seems to know when to consult for assistance when needed and appropriately utilizes team resources.	5	4.77
<b>Interprofessional Communication</b>	1. Team members appear to listen actively to one another and encourage others' ideas and opinions.	4.5	4.35
	2. Team communicates together and with patients/family in an easily understandable manner.	5	4.50
	3. Team members express knowledge and opinions to others with confidence, clarity, and respectful language.	5	4.54
<b>Team &amp; Teamwork</b>	1. Team members work cooperatively with the entire team (including patients).	5.00	4.45
<b>Patients</b>	1. Team members use available evidence to inform effective teamwork and team-based practice.	5	4.76
<b>Patient-Centeredness</b>	1. Each member of the team seems to respect patients' wishes about their care and place patient interests at the center of care delivery.	5	4.70
		5.00	4.67

### Patient Evaluations of Teamwork (n=26 patients surveyed)

Core Competencies	Survey Questions	Median	Mean
<b>Values and Ethics</b>	Each member of the team appears to value and respect the opinions of other members.	5	4.86
<b>Roles and Responsibilities</b>	Each member of the team seems prepared to discuss patient's current health using his/her professional knowledge.	5	4.65
<b>Interprofessional Communication</b>	Team members appear to listen to one another.	5	4.57
<b>Team &amp; Teamwork</b>	Team members engage in friendly interaction with one another.	5	4.45
<b>Patient-Centeredness</b>	Each member of the team seems to respect my wishes about my care.	5	4.45

### Qualitative Results: Thematic Analysis of Comments for Improvement

#### Observer Comments by Competency (28 total)

- Values and Ethics**
  - Team with confidentiality/privacy
  - Respecting/valuing full team's opinions
- Roles and Responsibilities**
  - Role breakdown (confusion or misinterpretation)
  - Full team not involved. Was not present or speaking up, silent, disinterested
- Interprofessional Communication**
  - Talking over each other/patient, side conversations, not listening
  - Other does not encourage, poor engagement
- Team and Teamwork**
  - Likely nurse involvement
  - Insufficient

#### Emergent Themes

- Critical Role of Leadership in Facilitating Teamwork and Engagement**
  - After introductions announced rounds and actively solicited participation, members were more engaged
  - If not, conversations were dominated by assertive and experienced members

#### Takeaways/Other Findings:

- Announcement of Teams on the unit for rounding is imperative for nurse (full team) involvement
- Qualitative data for Teams and Teamwork (most positive comments from patients) was consistent with high ratings in both quantitative data sets
- High patient census and line staffing also affected teamwork
- OR teams showed exemplary teamwork skills including active listening, knowing roles, and respectful talking

### Conclusion and Implications

- Overall, the major priority of teamwork are being identified
- This study shows the value of engaging patient perspectives in research measuring interprofessional teamwork
- Statistics in teams indicated the importance of leadership in facilitating teamwork
- Emphasis should be placed on encouraging rounds to increase nurse involvement
- Patient perspectives must show communication efforts, be made between units when patients are transferred or shift change
- A culture of teamwork should be established by educating new hires and existing employees of all disciplines, including leadership positions
- Exemplary teamwork seen in OR teams, many existing interprofessional simulation, interprofessional teams should study their example techniques







## Operating Room Utilization Variability Across Weekdays

Cheryl Elliott-Darwo, MA, MSN, RN, CNOR

Jonas Scholar | Cohort V 2016-2018

College of Nursing, Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia

### INTRODUCTION

Identification and control of variability can aid peroperative leaders in effectively managing the operating room (OR).  
On the one hand, scheduling complicated cases early in the week can lessen the chance of patients being in the hospital over the weekend and can reduce the need for weekend rounds, but this practice can also add stress on the system early in the week.<sup>1,2</sup>  
New research shows that the day of the week surgery occurs has an effect on patient outcomes and cost.<sup>3,4</sup> Few studies have examined the effect of weekday on OR utilization.

The purposes of this study were to examine the differences in OR utilization across weekdays and to determine the sources of variability.

#### Research Questions:

- How does OR utilization differ across weekdays?
- What are the sources of variability in OR utilization across weekdays?

#### Hypothesis:

Differences in OR utilization across days of the week can be accounted for by changes in late starts, delays, and case times.



Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

### METHODS

- The investigation was part of a larger study on OR utilization that was approved by the IRB and was deemed non-human subject research.
- An initial power analysis indicated that a sample size of 216 daily measurements of each condition would be sufficient to detect effect sizes.
- Fifty-five months of data were extracted from an academic medical center surgical data repository located in the southeast region of the United States.
- Performance metrics of late start, case time, delay, and OR utilization were calculated for each day of the week, Monday through Friday.
- ANOVA was used to compare OR metrics across weekdays. All statistical tests were conducted using the 0.05 level of significance.

### RESULTS

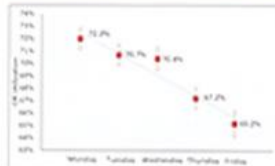


Figure 2: Impact of Day of the Week on OR Utilization

Notes: OR Utilization differed across days of the week ( $F = 29.72, p < 0.0001$ ). Each day of the week represents a significant decrease in OR utilization except Wednesdays which did not differ from Tuesdays. Bars represent the 95% confidence interval.



Figure 4: Percent of Available OR Staffed Minutes Lost due to Delay

Notes: The percent of available minutes lost due to delay differed across days of the week ( $F = 5.09, p < 0.0001$ ). Delays on Mondays and Tuesdays were significantly less than delays on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Bars represent the 95% confidence interval.



Figure 3: Percent of Available OR Staffed Minutes Lost due to Late Start

Notes: The percent of available minutes lost due to late start differed across days of the week ( $F = 2.38, p < 0.05$ ). Late start on Mondays was significantly lower than other days of the week. Tuesdays through Fridays were not significantly different from one another. Bars represent the 95% confidence interval.



Figure 5: Percent of Available OR Staffed Minutes Lost due to Case Time

Notes: The percent of available minutes lost due to case time differed across days of the week ( $F = 24.43, p < 0.0001$ ). Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays were not different from one another. Thursdays had significantly more case time than earlier days of the week, and Fridays had significantly more case time than Thursdays. Bars represent the 95% confidence interval.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to thank Dr. Julie Edworthy and Dr. Joe Chen for their guidance and advice along with Ms. Cheryl Lemons for assistance with formatting this poster.

### DISCUSSION

- There was a significant decline in OR utilization over the course of the week. Relative to a high performing OR with 85% utilization, the average costs associated with unused OR staffed minutes in this study ranged from \$57,275 for each Monday to \$93,768 for each Friday.
- The source of the variability in OR utilization was attributed to significant effects of three performance metrics across weekdays.
- Late starts on Tuesdays through Fridays were significantly longer than those that occurred on Mondays and Tuesdays.
- Delays on Wednesdays through Fridays were significantly longer than those that occurred on Mondays and Tuesdays.
- Finally, case times for Thursdays were significantly longer than those recorded Monday through Wednesday, and case times on Fridays were significantly longer than those found on Thursdays.

### IMPLICATIONS & CONCLUSIONS

- Declines in OR utilization across weekdays are due, in part, to compounding significant shifts in late start, delay, and case times as the week progresses.
- These findings suggest that the examination and careful consideration of the timing of shifts in OR performance metrics can, in part, account for OR utilization variability across weekdays.
- Identifying the sources of OR utilization variability can assist managers in developing appropriate strategies that enhance outcomes for patients, minimize costs, and maximize revenue for the organization.

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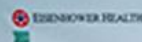
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## Cultivating Positive Change: Improving Stress Management for Staff in Surgical Services

Cera Salamone BSN, RN, PHN, CNOR, NE-BC, OCN, RACP

### Clinical Issue

The team noted that a common complaint of staff in the department was stress and feeling overwhelmed by conflict. Stress can cause feelings of exhaustion, increase personal stress, decrease quality of sleep, and impact judgement.

### Description of Team

The team was led by the Perioperative 131 administrator and consisted of a group of Perioperative 131 nurses, other perioperative staff, service line leadership, and materials management staff.

### Objectives

- Reduce stress in the surgical services department
- Educate staff on methods for stress reduction such as:
  - Mindfulness
  - Guided Imagery
  - Music
- Provide insight and understanding about self and coworker communication styles through personality type analysis

### Preparation and Planning

- A review of the literature revealed that stress in a surgery workplace increases incidents of medication errors, wrong site surgeries, and related surgical items.
- The group wanted to work on a project to improve the stress management, conflict resolution skills, and resources for the staff in surgical services.

### Assessment

Staff Survey Question	Initial Results
Overwhelmed with conflict in the workplace	53%
Has been knowledgeable of healthy ways to manage stress	68%
Types in new methods for stress management	90%
Feels comfortable with communication skills when resolving conflict	75%
Feels stress affects overall performance at work	66%
Feels rested and ready to start the day	61%

### Implementation

The team developed a multifaceted approach including education on working resources, providing new resources, training on conflict resolution, and conflict communication skills.

- Education topics included:
  - Conflict communication and conflict management
  - Personality assessment testing with education on stressors, communication styles, and stress reducing methods based on personality types
  - Relaxation techniques
- Stress management and mental health resources offered by the organization

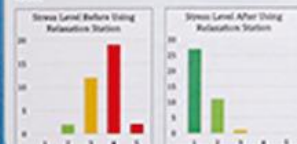
The team also provided a safe place within the department for staff to access on their breaks to decompress. A low budget relaxation station was created with a sound machine, aromatherapy, low lighting, and massage chairs.

### Results

Survey assessments of stress levels, knowledge of stress reduction techniques, and comfort levels with oral communication and conflict resolution were collected pre and post education and relaxation station implementation.

Staff Survey Question	Post Implementation Results
Overwhelmed with conflict in the workplace	33%
Uses of new methods for stress management	81%
Uses of relaxation station	89%
Finds interventions helpful for reducing stress	78%
Feels comfortable with communication skills when resolving conflict	75%
Feels stress affects overall performance at work	73%
Feels rested and ready to start the day	68%

Staff was also surveyed on their self-rated stress levels prior to using the relaxation station and post use of the relaxation station. On a scale of 1 (not stressed) to 5 (very stressed), survey results showed an average decrease of stress levels by 50% after 10 minutes in the relaxation station.



### Implications for Nursing

Proactive management of stress in conjunction with self awareness and improved communication techniques with team members can improve the working environment for perioperative staff which improves patient safety and patient outcomes.

### References

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*Bryan Mehalick, RN, BS St. Luke's University Health Network, Bethlehem, PA*

*Bryan Mehalick, RN, BS St. Luke's University Health Network, Bethlehem, PA*

experience of active shooter situations in the emergency preparedness is essential.

- ### Aim

- ## Methods

- Drill participants were debriefed at the conclusion of the exercise and given a survey to reflect their thoughts as well as provide suggestions.

- Notifications of the drill were given to local law enforcement, hospital administration, and bus drivers.

- The drill was concluded after ten minutes and the participants assembled in a predetermined area for debriefing.



Only Participants preparing for the first 12 sessions

\* **Active Shoulder Preparedness Committee:** Andy Bunnell RN, RN, CNCP, Karen Joynt RN, RN, MSN, RN, Kathy Langford RN, Victoria Mordko RN, BSN, Bryan Neffeler RN, BS, Barbara Peltz RN, RN, CNRN, Wade Peterson, Eric Rasmussen CST, Caroline Rothgans RN, Lisa Soto CST, Colleen Swartz RN, RN, Laura Swarthout RN, Tammy Suter RN, RN, CNRN, Beth Walsh RN, BS.

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- Positive feedback provided from staff

- to properly respond.



- Areas for improvement were identified and promptly followed up

- Active Shooter situation to be scaled down and shifted accordingly to reflect each situation

- A multidisciplinary team created a plan that has resulted in increased awareness in the staff.

- through an ongoing awareness to the staff as well as prompted conversation on the need for preparedness.







**ВНИМАНИЕ!**

**Graphic design ≠ User Experience Design**

## **Rethinking poster presentations at large-scale scientific meetings – is it time for the format to evolve?**

Nicholas Rowe<sup>1</sup> and Dragan Ilic<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Education, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland

<sup>2</sup> Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, School of Public Health & Preventive Medicine, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

### **Introduction**

Conferences have been recorded since the mid-1600s [1], and form a key professional practice in scientific and other academic/professional domains. Conference events range in scale from small local affairs to vast international gatherings, but their underlying objectives are the same: to allow like-minded people to gather and exchange knowledge and views, and to promote networking within the field. The motivations for attending conferences are both intrinsic and extrinsic. As individuals, we like to learn more about our fields of study, meet our peers, and also revitalize ourselves away from our daily routines. Additionally, as a presenter, you may formally contribute your knowledge to the community, which has both altruistic and personal motivations. As individuals, the benefits of con-

As an example of the growth of poster presentation and its accommodation, the 1969 FEBS meeting [6] was the first recorded example of an international scientific poster-type display session. It hosted 105 posters over 4 days, with 12 h dedicated to the sessions (averaging 1.5 h per display period and 13 posters on display per session). In contrast, the 2014 FEBS/EMBO conference [7] hosted 2098 posters over 4 days, but only 6 h were dedicated to the sessions. Whilst the latter meeting also allocated 1.5 h per scheduled display period, an average of 525 posters were on display at each session – more than 40 times the number presented in 1969 (Fig. 1).

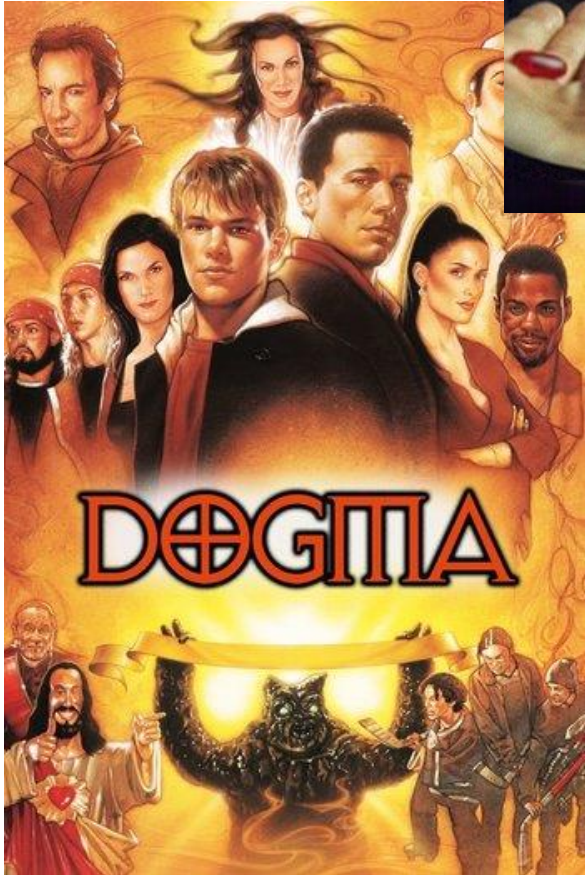
On the surface, this appears to be a positive indication that members of the scientific community are

# Gleamed wisdom

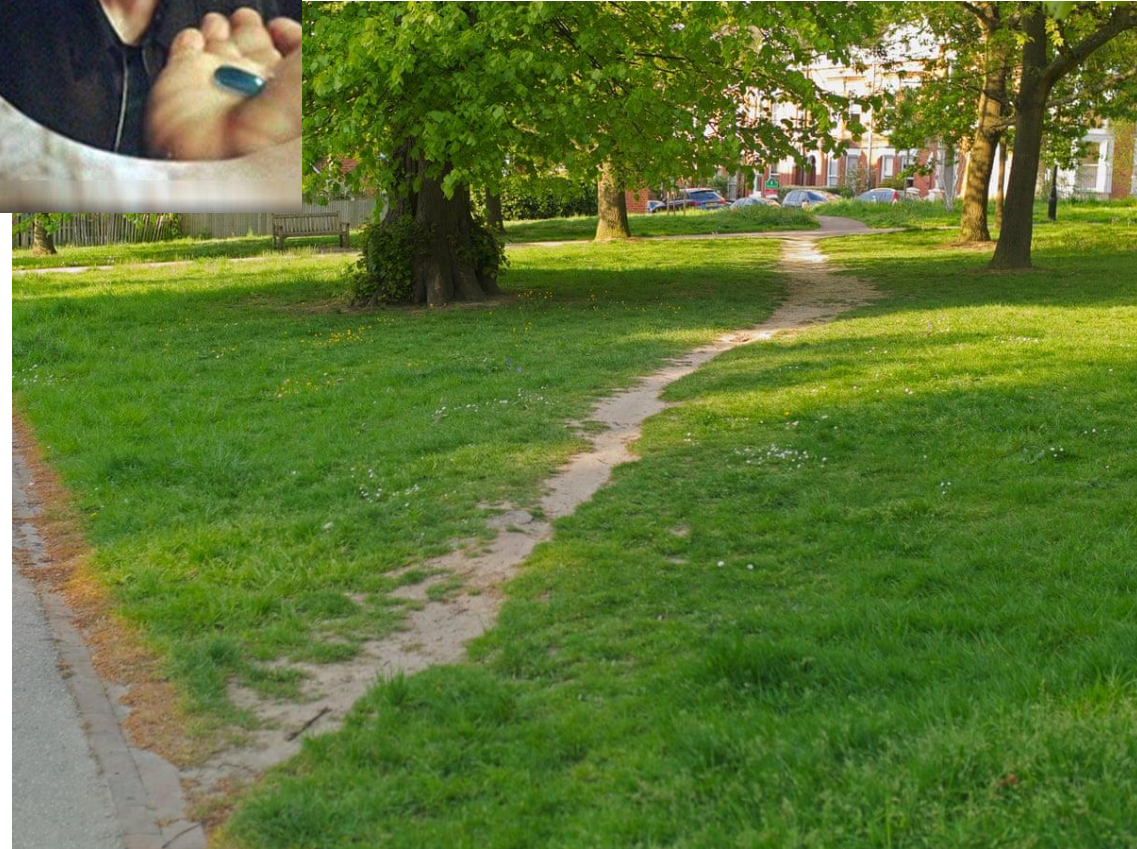
- Perspectives: presenter/attendee
- Theories of consumption
- Information foraging theory, cognitive load, working memory
- Interaction cost
- Click bait







<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agtgnJP3KoQ>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYk29tnxASs>

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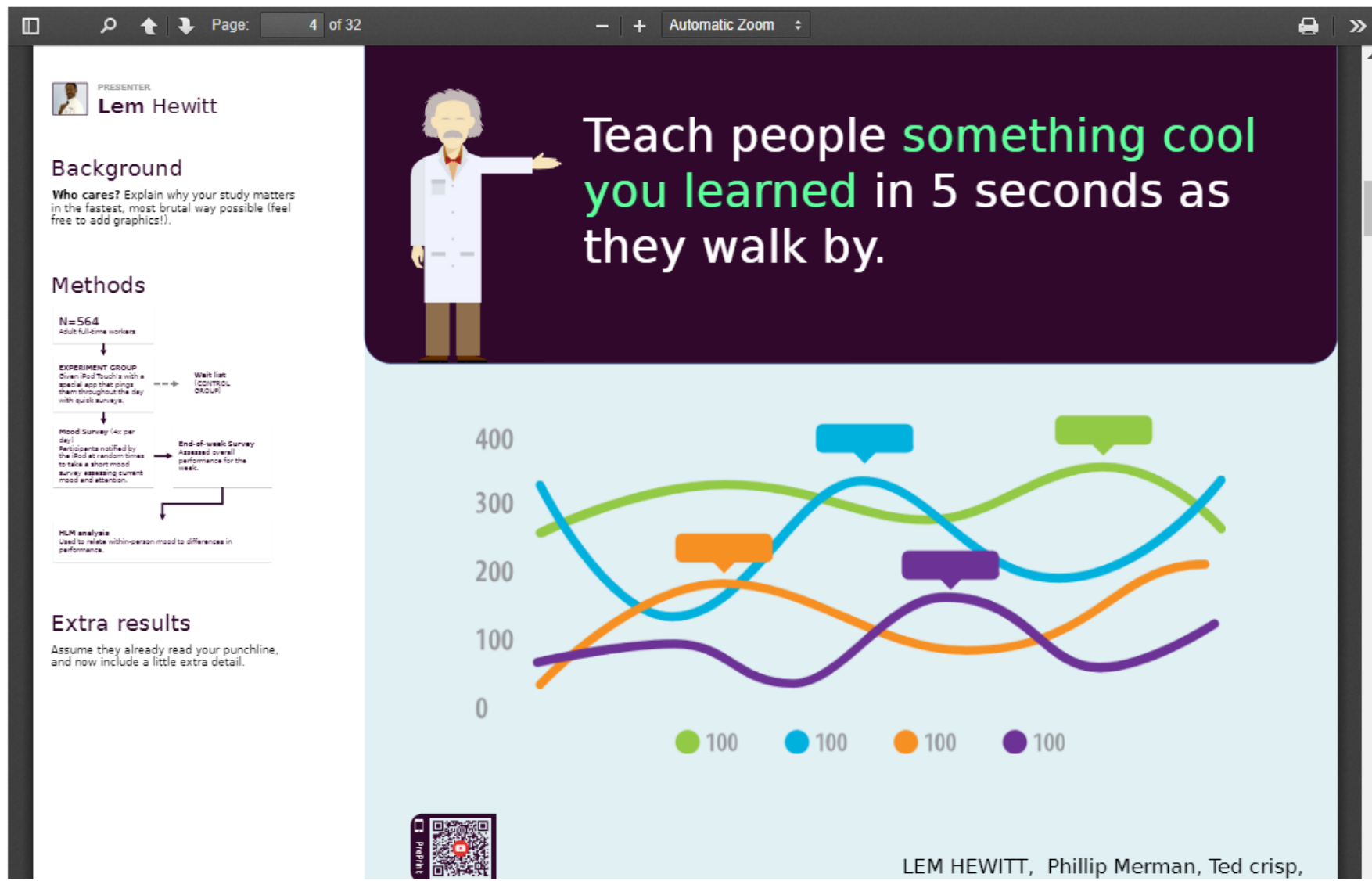
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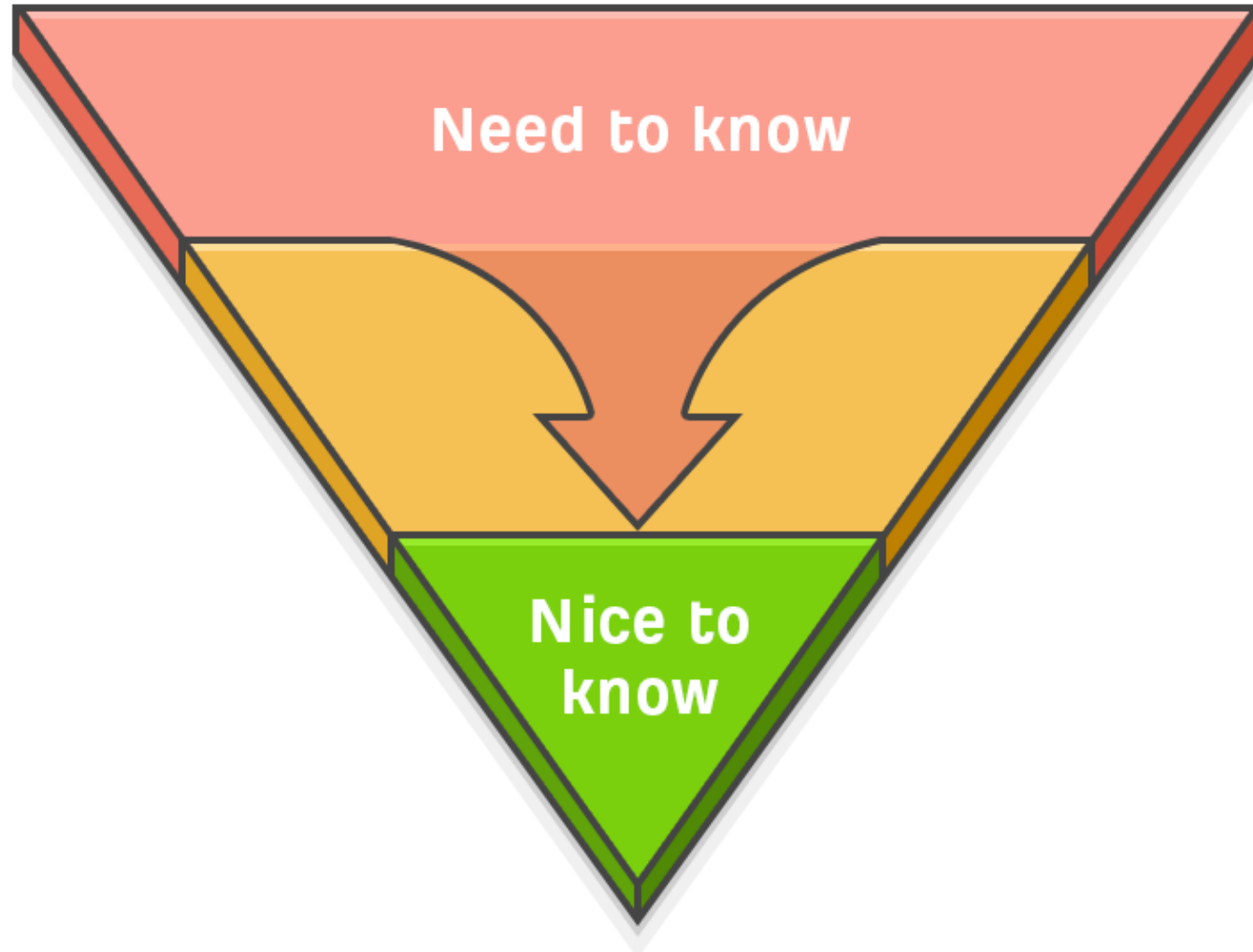




**“Perfection is not when you have nothing to add.**

**Its when you have nothing to take away.”**

# The Inverted Pyramid Method







# Non-Cognitive Predictors of Student Success: A Predictive Validity Comparison Between Domestic and International Students

Jacob Smith, Dr. Thea Schofield, Dr. Antonio Ibarra, Ianis Choi, Benn Mullins, Dr. Emily Williams



## Michigan State University

### Abstract

Given increasing interest in utilizing non-cognitive predictors in the college admissions process and rising enrollment of international students, research is warranted to compare the predictive validity of these measures across domestic and international students. Results indicate some predictive validity differences do exist, and an explanation for this differential validity, as well as a moderator of these relationships, are tested.

### Background

- Though cognitive predictors of student success (e.g. ACT, HSGPA) remain popular, there is increasing interest in non-cognitive predictors of student success (e.g. situational judgement, adaptability), and these have been found to predict student performance (Oswald et al., 2004; Keeney et al., 2009).
- From 05/06 to 15/16 academic year, the number of international students studying in U.S. increased yearly. In 2016, 5.2% of students international with over 1 million enrolled (Institute of International Education, 2016).
- Previous work by Prasad and colleagues (2016) found mean differences in non-cognitive measures across Chinese and Caucasian American students, along with differential validity for a Perseverance non-cognitive measure.
- The current research is an extension of Prasad et al., 2016, exploring differential validity in two large samples of students, testing an explanation for these differences in validity, and testing a possible moderator of these relationships between non-cognitive predictors and GPA.

### Research Question & Hypotheses

*Research Question 1: Will non-cognitive measures display differential validity between domestic and international students?*

- Non-cognitive measures may be functioning as a proxy for English ability.  
*H1: Differential validity will be accounted for by English proficiency.*
- Non-cognitive predictors may be more important for individuals from a more culturally distant country, as adjustment may be more difficult necessitating greater non-cognitive abilities.  
*H2: Non-cognitive measures will exhibit greater validity for international students from more culturally distant countries.*

### Method

#### Samples

- Sample 1:* 7702 students at large, Midwestern university  
- 54.1% (4163) female  
- 11.2% (859) international (8.2% Chinese)
- Sample 2:* 7683 students at large, Midwestern university  
- 52.8% (4060) female  
- 13.7% international (10.4% Chinese)

### Method (cont.)

#### Measures:

- Biographical Data* – Standardized inventory of an individual's experiences, attitudes, and behavioral tendencies relevant to college student experience and performance.  
- Consists of seven scales: Knowledge, Leadership, Social Responsibility, Adaptability, Perseverance, Continuous Learning, Academic Ethics.
- Situational Judgement Test (SJT)* – Presents typical situations college students would face and possible responses to situation, utilized to measure individuals ability to judge and react appropriately.
- GPA* – 1<sup>st</sup> semester cumulative GPA on 0.0 to 4.0 scale.
- TOEFL* – Standardized test to measure "ability to use and understand English at a university level" (ETS.org).
- International Status* – Dichotomous variable representing international status of student (Sample 1 – Based on residence code, Sample 2 – Based on residence country).
- Cultural Distance* – Euclidian distance between individual's residence country and United States, based on nine GLOBE cultural dimensions (House et al., 2004).
- Perceived Cultural Distance* – 12-item scale measuring perceptions regarding cultural differences between U.S. and home country on variety of aspects (e.g. values and beliefs, family life) (Demes & Goeraert, 2014)

### Results

- Correlations between non-cognitive predictor scores and 1<sup>st</sup> semester GPA (Table 1) indicate stronger relationship for international students on seven of eight measures
- Regression results (Table 2) indicate consistent differential validity for international students for SJT, Continuous Learning, Social Responsibility, and Perseverance.
- Including TOEFL scores in regression, available for a subset of 663 individuals from Sample 1, did not substantially alter standardized regression weights ( $\Delta B = -.012$  to  $.018$ ) (Results not shown).
- Multilevel regression was utilized to test if cultural distance via GLOBE moderated validity for non-cognitive predictors utilizing subset of 765 international students from Sample 1 from 10 countries. Results indicate culture distance did not significantly moderate validity ( $p > .05$ ) (Results not shown).
- Utilizing subset of 73 international students from Sample 2, did not find that perceived cultural distance moderated validity of non-cognitive predictors ( $p > .05$ ) (Results not shown)
- Correlation between GLOBE cultural distance and perceived culture distance  $r = -.113$ , ( $n.s.$ )

**Table 1: Relationship Between Non-Cognitive Predictors and 1<sup>st</sup> Semester GPA by Sample.**

	Overall Sample 1	Overall Sample 2	Domestic Sample 1	Domestic Sample 2	International Sample 1	International Sample 2
SJT	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.08</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.24</b>
Knowledge	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.19</b>
Leadership	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.06</b>	0.06	<b>0.11</b>
Social Responsibility	<b>0.08</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.07</b>	0.02	0.04
Adaptability	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.07</b>	0.01	<b>0.03</b>	0.06	<b>0.10</b>
Perseverance	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.12</b>	0.02	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.17</b>
Learning	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>-0.06</b>	<b>-0.08</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.14</b>
Academic Ethics	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>0.16</b>
N	7701 to 7702	7683	6842	6632	859	1051

**\*\* Bold numbers indicate significant relationships ( $p < .05$ )**

**Table 2: Moderated Regression Results for Non-Cognitive Predictor Relationships with 1<sup>st</sup> Semester GPA.**

	Sample 1		Sample 2	
	Step 1	Step 2	Step 1	Step 2
SJT	<b>0.08</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.06</b>
Knowledge	<b>0.19</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.20</b>
Leadership	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.07</b>
	<b>0.05</b>		<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Social Responsibility		<b>0.06</b>		
Adaptability	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>-0.03</b>	<b>-0.03</b>	<b>-0.02</b>
Perseverance	0.02	<b>-0.06</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-0.06</b>
Learning	<b>-0.19</b>	<b>-0.18</b>	<b>-0.22</b>	<b>-0.20</b>
Academic Ethics	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.02
International Status		<b>-0.15</b>		<b>-0.15</b>
SJT X Int		<b>0.04</b>		<b>0.08</b>
Lead X Int		-0.01		0.00
Learn X Int		<b>0.09</b>		<b>0.08</b>
Know X Int		<b>-0.04</b>		<b>-0.02</b>
Adapt X Int		<b>-0.04</b>		0.00
SR X Int		<b>-0.05</b>		<b>-0.06</b>
Pers X Int		<b>0.06</b>		<b>0.07</b>
Ethics X Int		<b>0.08</b>		0.01
R Squared	0.06	0.09	0.08	0.12
N	7700	7700	7670	7670

**\*\* Bold numbers indicate significant relationships ( $p < .05$ )**

### Discussion

- Results indicate consistent differential validity for some non-cognitive measures for international students, specifically for SJT, Continuous Learning, Social Responsibility, and Perseverance.
- Differential validity for international students does not seem to be the results of functioning as a proxy for English language ability.
- Cultural distance does not seem to moderate validity of non-cognitive measures.

### Implications

- Non-cognitive abilities may be useful in predicting international student performance, but differential validity may be an issue.
- Negative, non-significant relationship between cultural distance via GLOBE scores and perceived cultural distance warrants caution in generalizing country-level scores to individuals.
- More research is warranted to explain differential validity for international students.

### Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Sergio Marquez for assistance in data collection, as well as Jason Huang and Rick DeShon for advice regarding data analyses.

# Non-Cognitive Predictors of Student Success: A Predictive Validity Comparison Between Domestic and International Students

Jacob Smith, Dr. Thea Schofield,  
Dr. Antonio Ibarra, Ianis Chol, Bern Mullins,  
Dr. Emily Williams

## INTRO

- Increasing interest in utilizing non-cognitive predictors in the college admissions process
- Rising enrollment of international students

## METHODS

- We compare the predictive validity of these measures across domestic and international students.
- Results indicate some predictive validity differences do exist and an explanation for this differential validity, as well as a moderator of these relationships, are tested.

## RESULTS

- Consistent differential validity for some non-cognitive measures for international students, specifically for SJT, Continuous Learning, Social Responsibility, and Perseverance.
- Differential validity for international students does not seem to be the results of functioning as a proxy for English language ability.
- Cultural distance does not seem to moderate validity of non-cognitive

## DISCUSSION

- Non-cognitive abilities may be useful in predicting international student performance, but differential validity may be an issue.
- Negative, non-significant relationship between cultural distance via GLOBE scores and perceived cultural distance warrants caution in generalizing country-level scores to individuals.
- More research is warranted to explain differential validity for international students.



For international students, perseverance and a sense of social responsibility are extra important for predicting first-year GPA.



Table 1. Moderated Regression Results for Non-Cognitive Predictors Relationship with 1<sup>st</sup> Semester GPA

	Sample 1		Sample 2	
	Step 1	Step 2	Step 1	Step 2
SJT	0.06	0.04	0.12	0.04
Knowledge	0.18	0.12	0.17	0.20
Learning	0.04	0.03	0.07	0.07
	0.05		0.03	0.05
Social Responsibility		0.06		
Adaptability	-0.05	-0.03	-0.03	-0.02
Perseverance	0.02	0.06	0.04	0.06
Learning	-0.18	-0.18	-0.22	-0.20
Academic Ethics	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02
International Status		-0.15		-0.15
SJT X Int		0.04		0.06
Learn X Int		-0.02		-0.03
Learn X Int		0.09		0.06
Learn X Int		0.04		-0.02
Adapt X Int		-0.04		-0.03
Per X Int		0.05		0.06
Per X Int		0.06		0.07
Ethics X Int		0.05		0.03
R Squared	0.06	0.09	0.08	0.12
N	7702	7702	3670	3670

Table 2. Relationship Between Non-Cognitive Predictors and 1<sup>st</sup> Semester GPA by Sample

	Domestic Sample 1	Domestic Sample 2	Domestic Sample 1	Domestic Sample 2	International Sample 1	International Sample 2
SJT	0.10	0.08	0.06	0.10	0.12	0.04
Knowledge	0.15	0.10	0.10	0.12	0.18	0.20
Learning	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.03	0.05
Social						
Responsibility	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.07	0.02	0.04
Adaptability	0.04	0.07	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04
Perseverance	0.10	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.07
Learning	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04
Academic Ethics	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.05	0.02	0.04
N	7702	7702	7702	7702	3670	3670

## Method

### Samples

Sample 1: 7702 students at Inga, Midwestern university  
- 54.3% (4107) female  
- 11.2% (870) international (5.2% Chinese)  
Sample 2: 3670 students at Inga, Midwestern university  
- 52.8% (1936) female  
- 15.7% international (10.8% Chinese)



# Title

Authors

## Intro

- 
- 
- H1
- H2

## Methods

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

## Results



- 
- 
- 

## Discussion

More research is needed, but...

- 
- 
- 



**Main finding** goes here,  
translated into **plain english**.  
**Emphasize** the important  
words.



## Extra Tables & Figures

Table 1: Summary of key findings

Category	Value 1	Value 2	Value 3	Value 4	Value 5	Value 6	Value 7	Value 8	Value 9	Value 10
Group A	100	120	150	180	200	220	250	280	300	320
Group B	80	90	110	130	150	170	190	210	230	250
Group C	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150
Group D	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130
Group E	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110

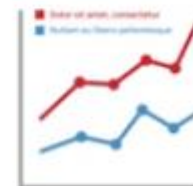


Table 2: Performance metrics across different conditions

Condition	Mean	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum	Range
Condition 1	100	15	80	120	40
Condition 2	90	12	70	110	40
Condition 3	80	10	60	100	40
Condition 4	70	8	50	90	40

## **GOLDEN RULES:**

**1/ Don't put thing in that people will likely ignore**

**2/ People will ignore most things**



# Resources

- <https://osf.io/6ua4k/> . (Template)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RwJbhkCA58>. (Gen 1)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYk29tnxASs> . (Gen 2)
- <https://febs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/febs.13383>
- <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/hir.12015>
- <https://www.medthink.com/pdfs/predictive-analytics-for-effective-poster-design.pdf>
- <https://www.morressier.com/post/designing-a-better-digital-poster> .  
(Digital posters)
- <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/ssid/301/study-skills/communication/poster-presentations> . (Traditional posters)