

Consultant Profiles—September 2011

Adrian Levy—Interim Director

Adrian R. Levy, PhD, is Professor and Head, and Capital Health District Chief of the Department of Epidemiology and Community Health at Dalhousie University. His doctoral dissertation was done at McGill University in epidemiology and then he completed post-graduate training at McMaster University in economic evaluation. Before coming to Halifax, Dr. Levy was a faculty member in the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia where he was supported by Scholar and Senior Scholar Awards from the BC Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research and a New Investigator Award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. His academic interests lie in health services research and include health technology assessment, pharmacoepidemiology, quality of life, economic evaluation, and access to care.

Camille Angus—Coordinator/Analyst

Camille L. Angus is the Project Coordinator/Analyst for the Research Methods Unit (RMU). In this capacity, working with the scientific and administrative leads, she currently manages the development and operations of the RMU, as well as provides epidemiology consultation support. Camille has extensive experience in community and population-based research, study design and development, network and collaborations development, and research conduct and project management within the fields of community health and epidemiology. Her research areas have included: youth mental health, rural and remote health, healthy aging, and study best practices (including authorship, consent, recruitment, return of results, and data protection). Her current research interests include: healthy aging, infectious diseases and quality of life, as well as longitudinal methodology. In addition to her work with the RMU, Camille is currently an epidemiology graduate student at Dalhousie University completing her thesis on the longitudinal relationship between health status and aging in place. She has received support from CIHR-IA, NSHRF, and DMRF and is the 2010 recipient of the Gerontology Association of Nova Scotia Award of Excellence for her research in healthy aging.

Mohamed Abdolell

Mohamed Abdolell is Associate Professor in the Departments of Diagnostic Radiology and Division of Medical Education, Dalhousie University and is an accredited Professional Statistician (Statistical Society of Canada). As a primary investigator, co-investigator, collaborator and consulting biostatistician, Mohamed has been involved in many multidisciplinary clinical research investigations. His research interests include the application/development of statistical learning algorithms in diagnostic imaging, developing/evaluating medical education initiatives in statistics and epidemiology, and integrating statistical methods in public health surveillance systems for early detection of developing trends. Mohamed's research interests typically focus on the intersection of clinical care, health informatics and statistical methodology. Current research activities funded by CBCF-Atlantic Region, CHRF, NSHRF and PHAC include the development of an automated mammographic density measurement algorithm and a density-based Br Ca risk model; development/evaluation of an online modular research methods course; development of a standardized breast health information system.

Raewyn Bassett

Raewyn Bassett, Ph.D is a qualitative methodologist with the Research Methods Unit, Capital Health, and an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Health Professions, Dalhousie University. Her research interests are two-fold: social and health inequities, and the development of novel qualitative methodologies. A medical sociologist and former health policy analyst, Raewyn has extensive research experience. Tacit knowledge and performativity figure prominently in her recent work. Currently with SSHRC, CIHR and NSHRF funding she is exploring novel qualitative research methods using new technologies; investigating the influence of new technologies on qualitative methodologies; with a team is developing a comprehensive research program for building Public Health capacity for action on health inequities; and exploring the influence of personal and professional identity on collaboration in interprofessional education and practice. Her recent publications address the use of qualitative data analysis software in research, memory and self in dementia, and the tacit practice of physiotherapists.

Steve Doucette

Steve Doucette, MSc, is the Senior Biostatistician within the Research Methods Unit (RMU). He holds a Masters degree in Mathematics and Statistics with specialization in Biostatistics from the University of Ottawa. Prior to joining the RMU, Steve worked as a methodologist and consultant for a large health research group in Ottawa (OHRI). His areas of interest include the design and analysis of clinical trial data, diagnostic testing, propensity matching for case control studies, and meta-analytic techniques for pooling multiple trial data. As a senior biostatistician, Steve has knowledge in many statistical software packages including the SAS language and SPSS for both data manipulation and analysis; NCSS/PASS for sample size calculations; Comprehensive Meta Analysis for performing systematic reviews. His research interests are to further continue performing essential work in the area of medical research, clinical trials, biostatistics, systematic reviews and meta-analysis while further diversifying his knowledge of these and other disciplines.

Jill Hatchette

Jill Hatchette, PhD, is a Consulting Scientist with the Interdisciplinary Research team at the IWK Health Centre. Her work with IDR involves the development and delivery of research education programs and providing consulting services on design and methodology issues for health centre staff and trainees. She holds a PhD in Experimental Social Psychology from Memorial University of Newfoundland as well as post-doctoral training in pediatric pain research. Dr. Hatchette's primary research interests are focused around the psychosocial influences on the attitudes and behaviors that impact health behaviors and health care choices of adolescents, particularly as they relate to pain and pain management. Dr. Hatchette has held a post-doctoral research award from the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation, has had teaching positions at both Dalhousie University and Mount Saint Vincent University, is an alumnus of Pain in Child Health, a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Strategic Training Initiative in Health Research, and has presented her research both nationally and internationally.

Jill Hayden

Dr. Jill Hayden, DC, PhD, is Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Community Health & Epidemiology, Dalhousie. Her doctoral dissertation in Clinical Epidemiology was completed at the University of Toronto. Before coming to Halifax she was a Scientist at the Centre for Research Expertise in Improved Disability Outcomes (CREIDO), University Health Network and Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation, University of Toronto. Dr. Hayden's research experience and expertise includes prognostic research and systematic review methods. She has been involved with the Cochrane Collaboration for many years, as review author, Advisory Board Member for the Back Review Group, and co-Convener of the Prognosis Methods Group. Dr. Hayden is founding Director of the Nova Scotia Cochrane Resource Centre, funded by the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation to build regional capacity in systematic reviews and evidence-informed health care decision-making.

Colleen O'Connell

Colleen O'Connell PhD is a Research Associate in the Perinatal Epidemiology Research Unit of the IWK Health Centre and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, Dalhousie University. Over the past 10 years, a significant part of her work in PERU has involved statistical consultation with learners and staff from every part of the Health Centre. Many of these consultations have turned into collaborations, principally on studies of issues and trends in the fields of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Neonatology, making extensive use of the Nova Scotia Perinatal Atlee Database. Colleen is looking forward to working with CDHA researchers at the Research Methods Unit on a part-time basis.

Robin Parker

Robin Parker, BSc, MLIS, is pleased to bring her library sciences and information management skills to the Research Methods Unit in her position as Clinical Research Librarian. Robin completed her library studies degree at Dalhousie and is delighted to support health research in Halifax. She draws on her experience at Dalhousie's W. K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library and as a Reference Librarian at London Health Sciences Centre's University Hospital in order to assist clinicians in producing high-quality research publications and applying evidence to their healthcare practices. In her role with the Research Methods Unit, Robin will provide training and consultation in support of literature searches, critical appraisal, and publishing research results. Robin will also contribute to the Nova Scotia Cochrane Resource Centre's initiatives to build capacity for research by assisting with prognostic systematic review projects. In addition, Robin will coordinate with Capital Health Library Services to provide health information services and resources. She is excited to help build collaborations across disciplines and organizations to support evidence-informed research and decision-making, and translation of research to clinical practice.

How to contact us:

Research Methods Unit Centre for Clinical Research 5790 University Avenue, Room 113 Halifax NS B3H 1V7 CANADA http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca/rmu