




CUHRRC is an international research collaborative that includes people living with HIV, researchers, clinicians, representatives from AIDS service organizations and policy stakeholders in Canada and the United Kingdom (UK) with an interest in HIV and rehabilitation research.

The following is an update on CUHRRC activities since our newsletter e-update in December 2011.

- 1) **Policy-to-Practice Implications for Rehabilitation in the Context of HIV:** Findings from the scoping review entitled *HIV, Chronic Disease, and Rehabilitation in Canada: A Scoping Review of HIV Policy Approaches* led by Jacqueline Gahagan and funded by the CIHR-funded Centre for REACH (Research Evidence into Action for Community Health) in HIV/AIDS was presented at the 2012 Canadian Association for HIV Research Conference in Montreal, Quebec. Results synthesize existing HIV-related rehabilitation policies in Canada and the UK that may inform approaches to addressing the policy-to-practice implications for rehabilitation service delivery for people living with HIV. The final report for this study is near completion. For more information, please contact Jacqueline Gahagan at Jacqeline.Gahagan@dal.ca.
- 2) **Successful Research Funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for a CUHRRC and CWGHR Collaborative International Forum on HIV and Rehabilitation Research:** Members of the CUHRRC successfully obtained funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to plan and implement an **International Forum on HIV and Rehabilitation Research**. The aim of this Forum is to translate research evidence knowledge on HIV and rehabilitation generated by the CUHRRC since our inaugural meeting in October 2009. This event will be held in collaboration with the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR)'s National Forum in June 2013. For more information about this event, please contact Kelly O'Brien at kelly.obrien@utoronto.ca
- 3)  **The HIV, Health and Rehabilitation Survey:** Funded by the CIHR, the purpose of this 3 year study is to establish a comprehensive profile of disability experienced by people living with HIV in Canada and determine how contextual factors such as comorbidities, related rehabilitation services and living strategies influence the disability experience.

We are in the process of revising our survey instrument in preparation for Research Ethics Board submission at all sites. We will aim to pilot the survey instrument in the Fall/Winter of 2012, and begin the full phase of the study Summer of 2013. For more information, please contact Nkem Iku, Research Coordinator at nkem.iku@utoronto.ca.
- 4) **Rehabilitation HIV Association (RHIVA):** RHIVA is affiliated with the British HIV Association and lead by Will Chegwidden at Barts and the London NHS Trust. RHIVA will be meeting in Manchester, UK on Monday July 16th, 2012. This will be an opportunity for many UK members of CUHRRC to meet face-to-face. For more information on RHIVA and the upcoming meeting, please contact Will at Will.Chegwidden@bartshealth.nhs.uk.

- 5) **New Research Priority - Exploring experiences of accessing rehabilitation services from the perspective of people living with HIV.** CUHRRRC members have expressed interest in pursuing a new research study that explores the experiences of rehabilitation service access for people with HIV. CUHRRRC will be coordinating a teleconference for individuals interested in pursuing this new research study. **If you are interested in getting involved and/or leading this new initiative, please contact Nkem Iku, research coordinator, at nkem.iku@utoronto.ca by July 31st, 2012.**
- 6) **New CUHRRRC Coordinator** – CUHRRRC welcomes Nkem Iku as the Coordinator of CUHRRRC activities. CUHRRRC coordination is generously funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada through a grant obtained by the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR). Nkem can be reached at nkem.iku@utoronto.ca.

For more information on these activities and/or the CUHRRRC, please contact Nkem Iku, CUHRRRC coordinator, at nkem.iku@utoronto.ca or visit the CUHRRRC website at cuhrrc.hivandrehab.ca

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: CUHRRRC gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Public Health Agency of Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Public Health Agency of Canada.