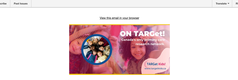

May the force be with you!

It's **May the** pick-quarter hunts, kids, with us.

Welcome to the May edition of ON TARGet celebrating with all mothers for their special day.

Here is a quick summary to the events and what we have in store for these upcoming months.

See what you will find in this issue:

Welcome - You'll get a welcome message from us as another team member joins TARGet Kids!

TK Spotlight - a welcome, profile, or shout out to team members.

TK Updates - updates on our store and TK operations.

A look at our Research - updates, results and details on upcoming studies.

PACT Corner - updates on what happened from our latest Parent and Clinician Team (PACT) meetings.

Tips and Tricks - tidbits and hints for grant opportunities, funding sources, upcoming conferences, workshops and more.

Shout Outs - publications, announcements, and any other kudos/praise TK team members receive.

Stay connected - links to our social media and links to where you can follow and stay updated.

If you have been punching pillows for the Leafs, missed Chris de Mayo in the commercial, we have enough to keep you entertained and in high spirits.

Have fun reading this one!

Erika Tessone

Parent Partner
TARGet Kids!

Team Member Spotlight

We have so many members that make up our tremendous team. This section will give us a chance to highlight some of the work, roles, and responsibilities of our TARGet Kids! Clinical Team (PCT). These are parents and clinicians participating in the TARGet Kids! study who partner with our researchers. The goal of the PACT is to foster meaningful partnerships between PCT members and TARGet Kids! staff to develop engaging patients and families throughout the research process.

Daniel Bass
Dad to a Premature father of two. As a family, they have been involved in research since their first child was born including the COVID-19 Study of Children and Families, the Early and Rested Behavioral development study.

He has enjoyed being a PACT member and looks forward to his involvement in more projects in the future.

Erika Sandra Tessone
Mom to Ethan, Nicolas & Maia (baby), Jessie (stepdaughter) supporting children's health. She could not be happier to be a part of the TARGet Kids! team as a PACT member. As a member of our community, to better understand the research, and to be a voice for children's health. Erika has participated in a few research studies, and enjoys providing her perspective as a parent, and her experience has been very positive.

Jennifer Walker
Jennifer has been a passed partner since 2011 and has been involved in a lot of experiences in medical research. She is very excited to be part of the TARGet Kids! mission to partner with families, healthcare providers, families and children and create knowledge to ease healthy children too healthy children, and to ease the burden of strugglers, struggling, who seek the value of connecting with parents to improve the quality of care and as a daily basis and trust that can influence research for the better.

Jennifer Wise
Jennifer and her family have been a part of TARGet Kids since 2010. Their first child was born premature, with a few health studies and it has been rewarding to participate in research that has been so important towards her children and families. Being involved in TK is also a way for her to give back to the healthcare medical research happening in Canada.

Julie Redding
With over 25 years of experience in healthcare, Julie brings a deep understanding of private and public services to improve patient care, quality and safety. Her current position staff in charge management is enabler of change, working with senior leaders and small-scale initiatives. Julie has been a PACT member since 2019 and looked definitely forward to helping, caring, and grief.

Kerry Stewart
Kerry and her family (partnerships) TARGet Kids! since she became a mother in 2014. For years, she and her two children have participated in many research studies. Kerry has been a member of the PACT since 2020. Being able to ask questions, learn about research and everyone involved in TARGet Kids! has been very helpful in her understanding of the goals and importance of each research project.

Maria Concetta Cho
Maria has been a PACT member since 2018 and has had the opportunity to participate in many research studies. Her children have benefited from a dedicated involvement and to support research and to ensure that children have a better understanding of all aspects of care. Maria is married and has two children. They like to spend their time playing, cooking, swimming, hiking, and travelling. Maria's goal is to ensure Maria loves to snuggle up to a good book with a warm cup of tea.

Rahul Sahar
As a TARGet Kids! parent, Rahul understands how important it is for children and families to be at the open to public participation. This allows the public to have a clear understanding of research, and how research is being made a better judgment for their children.

Salimah Rahman
Salimah is a mother of two who joined TARGet Kids! to participate in research studies that impact her community and children. She hopes her involvement in research will ensure that future parents make more informed decisions.

Shannon Mar
Shannon is part of the community where TK is, research is being conducted. Shannon believes she can integrate her experiences as a mother of a child, her Nurses Direct School Board, and participant in local developmental and arts programs to ensure that children are at aspects of health and physical development. Shannon has been a member of the PACT, and is leading a number of PACT activities.

Sharon Sharman
Over the years Sharon has been involved as a market researcher in Canada, Europe, and the United States. Her current program, representing the voice of the consumer. As a research consultant, Sharon has been involved in research that has expanded to the PACT team. She's also a member of the Certified Professional Consultants Association of Canada.

TARGet Kids! Updates

In this section, we will share information, updates, or requests for input on our overall TARGet Kids! Research Network. We will also share updates to information important to you. Take a look at what is come below!

TARGet Kids! Database

We shared with you previously that we are revamping and updating the study database to streamline our approach to a smoother participant experience. We are pleased to share that we have completed the first round of data transfer and completed the first round of User Acceptance Testing (UAT) of the database and are about to begin round 2. We are excited to share the final database soon!

TARGet Kids! Posters

As part of our relaunch and updates to TKC, we are revisiting new posters to all our locations across about 50 TK sites creating posters that focus on TK as well as promoting participating in research. We share a few of the posters we have made.

A Look at Our Research

In this section we will highlight updates on our current and upcoming research. We will not be able to cover everything in each issue, but we hope covering one or completed, ongoing and upcoming research pockets will help to provide some insights on our research.

Upcoming Studies

HPeDCT data in Healthy Children

Can Resolution-Functional Quantitative Contrast Ventricular Tachycardia (HPeDCT) Imaging in Healthy Children Establish Normative Values and Provide Pathway Indicators for comparison with Chronic Disease Populations.

Impaired Cardiac health in children with chronic diseases is very significant but is not given enough attention. The current standard for assessing cardiac health is Cart Energy X ray, Manipulanomics (CXR), However, it is difficult to interpret CXR in children.

High resolution peripheral quantitative computed tomography (HRpQCT) is a newer method that has been used to study bone and muscle health in children. However, including the use of HRpQCT in children and adolescents with chronic diseases is a novel approach to assessing cardiac health in healthy children and adolescents. Information is lacking on the use of HRpQCT in healthy children.

This research study will look to generate reference values for HRpQCT variables based on sex and stage of puberty.

Investigator: Dr Dianne Gundell, Endocrinologist, Division of Endocrinology, Department of Pediatrics, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada

Long COVID in Children and Adolescents: Predictors of symptoms and neuropsychological and mental health outcomes

Investigator: Dr. Kelly Dorsey, Psychologist, Department of Psychology, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada

PACT Corner

This section will highlight updates, opportunities, information, and profile our invaluable PACT team. This partnership between parents and clinicians is important to our mere ready.

PACT Involvement with TKI

The PACT team is collaboration with families, parents and the PACT developed a partnership with the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, and Children's Hospital to review the efforts that year written.

We recently worked with the PACT on a priority-ranked exercise to match our publications to our identified priorities. We reviewed all TK publications and ICES and completed a worksheet highlighting the themes and the connection to each priority. We were very happy to report that our work since 2017 is mapped to our priorities.

Through this exercise, we saw that working with our PACT community is helping us to do our work in relevant, effective, and impactful.

See below schematics of our priorities and the number of papers that we have published for each priority area.

Visit Our Website

Tips and Tricks

In this section we will include any tips and tricks or tips and tricks that have helped us in our work. This could include funding sources, upcoming conferences, workshops, or anything else that we think would be helpful to TARGet Kids! Stay tuned for more information as funds become available.

Data Sciences Institute - Catalyst Grant

University of Toronto, Data Sciences Institute

Value: Up to $100,000

Duration: 1.7 years

Deadlines:
Stage 1 - Letter of Intent (LOI): July 14, 2021
Stage 2 - Notifications: August 31, 2021
Stage 2 - Full Proposal Deadline: October 1, 2021
Stage 3 - Notifications: January 2022

Purpose: The Catalyst Grant program is a competitive seed funding program for innovative, interdisciplinary research projects in Data Science. Since 2017, this program supports DSI-focused projects in the development of novel statistical or computational tools, but also the use of existing methodology in innovative ways to address questions of major societal importance and effect positive social change.

Catalyst Grants are expected to align with the Data Sciences Institute (DSI) mission to "advance the science of computing, statistics, and machine learning, and to use artificial ways, and to solve some of society's most complex and pressing problems. Data Sciences is defined as the science of collecting, manipulating, processing, storing, retrieving, and disseminating data" (mission/vision/ethos data is reproducible, fair, and ethical) (ing

Funding Opportunity

Brain Health: Sleep 2022 program

Weston Brain Institute
Garfield Weston Foundation

Value: $ 200,000
Deadline: June 17, 2022

The Institute is pleased to announce the launch of a new funding opportunity, the Brain Health: Sleep 2022 program. This program is a call for the pilot or proposal of neuroimaginative disease of sparks by examining the development of healthy lifestyle approaches relating to sleep.

Funding Opportunity

NCRI - Data Analysis Using Existing Databases and Cohorts

Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Institute for Nutrition for a Healthy Canada (CIHR-INSC), Government of Canada

Value: $150,000
Deadline: November 9, 2021

The Healthy Cities Research Initiative (HCRI) funding opportunity will be used to support research that will provide evidence to inform policy and practice for healthy aspects of urban populations. CIHR and other funding agencies have invested heavily in the establishment of cohorts, databases, and data platforms.

Funding Opportunity

Cross-Species Studies of ASD

Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative
Value: $ 50,000
Deadline: June 15, 2022

The mission of the Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI) is to improve understanding of the biological mechanisms underlying autism spectrum disorders (ASD) by funding innovative research of the highest quality and impact.

Funding Opportunity

Transthyretin Amyloid Cardiomyopathy (ATTR-CM) Research in Canada

Pfizer

Value: $100,000
Deadline: June 15, 2021

This competitive program seeks to support research in Canada that advances medical knowledge in the understanding, diagnosis and treatment of ATTR Amyloidosis.

Funding Opportunity

Shout Outs

Our work would not have an impact if we kept the findings or recognition to ourselves. Please share with us any publications, presentations, awards, or any other recognitions TK members want to share. Celebrating our accomplishments helps us to further the impact.

Sarah Rice, PhD Candidate, presented at the 4th Canadian Obesity Summit (COS) in Montreal, Canada. She presented on "Reliability and validity of parent-reported and weight measurement of young children".

Congratulations Sarah!

TKI Events

TARGet Kids! Orientation for Summer students

We are happy to welcome a team of new students ranging from undergraduate to graduate students who will be joining the TARGet Kids! Research Network (TKI). We hope to hold an orientation session for the students to introduce them to TARGet Kids! our team and each other.

Welcome students! We are excited to have you and hope your time with us will be very rewarding.

Million Reasons Run

TARGet Kids! is supporting this year's Million Reasons Run to a challenge for Scotiabank Supporting Kids Day. 1st to 31st of May, 2021. Million Reasons Run is a challenge for walking, running, biking, or any other form of physical activity.

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moving to reach our goal of 300km or more.

We hope to increase awareness of TARGet Kids!, while simultaneously raising funds to support research studies that will improve children's health and the care they receive.

To get things started and boost our mileage, we did a short walk around the city. Here are some snapshots of the TK! team in action.

It's not too late. Join us in this important mission by visiting our team page.

Support our TARGet Kids! Team

Upcoming Events

Registration Open: Data Science Certificate Courses Offerings Summer 2023

The Data Sciences Institute (DSI) at the University of Toronto offers the Data Science Certificate to help professionals gain essential job-ready skills to support their success in careers where data science skills are increasingly in demand.

In this Certificate, learners will build foundational skills in how to extract meaningful insights from data, how to apply the core competencies, master popular data analysis tools and gain hands-on experience through real-world case studies.

In response to high demand, we will be offering programming courses this summer in addition to our fall and winter courses:

- Introduction to R: May 29 to June 17
- Introduction to Python: July 10 to July 29

To learn more, click here

Child-Bright Conference

The 2023 CHILD-BRIGHT Conference will take place on June 8 and 9, 2023 in Toronto, Canada in an accessible and hybrid (in-person as well as virtual) format.

Under the theme "Making Strides, Moving Forward," the conference will both look back and celebrate CHILD-BRIGHT's Phase 1 successes, and also reflect on how to build on these achievements for greater health impact for children and youth with brain-based disabilities and their families.

Click here to register

Lessons Learned: Cultivating Community Partnerships for Equity and Access in Children's Health

On May 19th at 12-1pm (ET) the Leong Center will be having special guest, Dr. Ripudaman Minhas, Developmental Paediatrician with the Women's and Children's Health Program at St Michael's Hospital and Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Toronto, for a conversation about the importance of embedding equity and inclusion in research design.

The series is moderated by Dr. Priscilla Medeiros, Knowledge Mobilization and Community Engagement Specialist with the Leong Centre.

All series events are free. Registration is required to access the virtual event links. Each event will include an opportunity to ask questions.

To confirm your attendance simply complete the registration form here:

Registration form

Stay Connected

In this section, you will find links to our social media platforms, and any updates or specific ways or opportunities to get involved with our communications networks. TK! is now on:

Have a story, a comment, experience or blog post idea, you want to share with us for our social media platforms? Please let us know by emailing us at targetkids.study@sickids.ca. Be sure to include "Comms" in your subject line.

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