WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION COLLABORATING CENTRE

Governance, Accountability & Transparency in the Pharmaceutical Sector

Annual Report
January 1 2018 to December 31 2018
**WHO WE ARE:**

This WHO Collaborating Centre (WHO CC) involves the following multidisciplinary team of directors, faculty members, research fellows and global collaborators:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Position/Role</th>
<th>Institute/University/Organisation</th>
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<td><strong>DR. JILLIAN C. KOHLER</strong></td>
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<td><strong>DR. TRUDO LEMMENS</strong></td>
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<td>Faculty of Law, Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health</td>
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<td><strong>DR. TIM MACKEY</strong></td>
<td>Director, Global Health Policy Institute, Associate Professor, School of Medicine, Director, Healthcare research and Policy</td>
<td>UCSD Extension (UC San Diego)</td>
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<td>Professor</td>
<td>Rotman School of Management, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, and Faculty of Medicine</td>
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Annual Policy Workshop

The WHO CC held a number of policy workshops throughout 2018. These workshops focused on cutting edge pharmaceutical policy and analysis, methods for evaluation, and core topics for research.

The workshops are described below:

**January 17, 2018.** The Director held a policy discussion forum with leading experts on pharmaceutical regulation, including Dr. Aaron Kesselheim from Harvard University, Dr. Trudo Lemmens, Professor from the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, Suzanne McGurn, Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Officer of Ontario’s Public Drug Programs, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and Megan Bettle, Director, Regulatory Reform of Drugs and Devices, Health Canada. The forum was held at the University of Toronto Faculty and provided an opportunity for researchers and policy makers to engage in open discussions on critical issues related to transparency and accountability as they pertain to drug regulations.

**January 18, 2018.** The WHO CC, in collaboration with the Health Law, Ethics & Policy Seminar Series, held a seminar on “The Benefit and Risks of Expedited Development and Regulatory Approval of New Drugs” at the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto. Dr. Aaron Kesselheim, an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Director for Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law, provided the seminar.

**September 26, 2018.** Jesse McLean, who is an investigative reporter at the Toronto Star newspaper, gave a seminar at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto on “Exposing the Pharmaceutical Industry’s Influence on Canadian Health Care.”

**October 4, 2018.** Sarah Steingrüber, Programme Manager, Global Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare Programme at Transparency International, London, UK gave a seminar at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto on “Corruption in Global Health: A Perspective From Transparency International UK.”

Graduate Course Developed and Taught at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto

Dr. Kohler, in consultation with experts on corruption and health, developed a graduate-level course: *Diagnosing Corruption in the Health Sector and Anti-Corruption Policies and Tools*. The course was approved by the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy Curriculum Committee in June 2018 and is cross-listed with the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. The course was offered to graduate students in the Fall 2018 term.

This graduate course introduced interested and curious students to the core concepts associated with corruption generally, and corruption in the health sector specifically, with a particular focus on the pharmaceutical sector. The seminar starts with a broad discussion about corruption, what it is, how to
define it and examine how it is measured. It then examines how international organizations are dealing with corruption in their development projects. The course then moves on to specific modules dealing with core topics related to corruption in the health sector. The course consists of lectures, class discussions, guest speakers, and group work through case studies. Research papers and presentations provide students with the opportunity to probe an issue of interest.

**Summer Policy Course**

The WHO CC will be holding a summer course focusing on how corruption undercuts equity in health at the University of California San Diego. The course is currently in development, and proposed speakers include faculty from the University of Toronto, USAID, and the Access to Medicines Foundation. The course will be designed to be of interest to students, researchers, policy makers, industry and civil society representatives.

**Knowledge Dissemination**

A core focus area of the WHO CC is to disseminate its knowledge globally. Knowledge is disseminated through the guest speaking opportunities, podcasts on core topic issues, information dissemination through University of Toronto information sources and through the publications of academic knowledge, policy, cultural journals as well as through the WHO CC website.

**PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES**
(Chronological Order)

**January 13, 2018.** Expert training for Fédération médicale étudiante du Québec on Pharmacare issues, Quebec City. Presenter: **Gagnon, MA.**

**January 17, 2018.** Committee for Advancement of Clinical and Scientific Education, Combatting Fake Medicines: Improving Surveillance Approaches by Leveraging Technology and Policy. FDA Headquarters, Silver Spring. Presenter: **Mackey, TK.**

**January 22, 2018.** Essential Medicine 2018 Pre-Budget Consultations, Office of the Minister, Ministry of Finance, Toronto. Presenter: **Persaud, N.**

**February 7, 2018.** Winter Quarterly Conversations in Global Health Presenter, Opioid Infoveillance; Detecting Prescription Opioid Abuse Behaviour, Marketing, and Online Sale via Twitter, US San Diego Global health, San Diego. Presenter: **Mackey, TK.**

**February 7, 2018.** Good Governance in the Pharmaceutical System: Why it is a Remedy for Corruption: CSHP Pharmacy Practice Conference, Toronto. Presenter: **Kohler, JC.**

**March 2018.** Guest speaker seminar, Expedited Drug Approval Programs in Canada and the United States, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Sydney, Sydney. Presenter: **Lexchin, J.**


April 2018. How Purdue was Allowed to Push OxyContin in Canada, Sydney Health Ethics, University of Sydney, Sydney. Presenter: Lexchin, J.

April 10, 2018. Presentation at Town Hall meeting on universal pharmacare, Canadian Labour Congress, Peterborough. Presenter: Gagnon, MA.

April 10 2018. Consultation with Department of Finance Canada on National Pharmacare Modeling, Ottawa. Presenter: Gagnon, MA.


May 2018. How Purdue was Allowed to Push OxyContin in Canada and the Relationship Between the Canadian Medical Profession and the Pharmaceutical industry, Department of General Practice, University of Queensland, Brisbane. Presenter: Lexchin, J.

May 2018. Medical Journals: Money and Ethics, Department of General Practice, University of Queensland, Brisbane. Presenter: Lexchin, J.

May 2018. How Purdue was Allowed to Push OxyContin in Canada, University of British Columbia Centre for Applied Ethics, Vancouver. Presenter: Lexchin, J.


June 8, 2018. Planetary Health Ethics Class Guest Lecture, Global Governance and Ethics, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Toronto. Presenter: Di Ruggiero, E.


June 27, 2018. Social Surveillance for Opioids: A system to Detect, Classify, and Report Illicit Online Opioid Sales, FDA Online Opioid Summit, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring. Presenter: Mackey, TK.


July 3-4, 2018. Balancing the Privacy Rights of Research Participants with the Public Interest in Clinical Drug Trials Data in the Context of Rare Diseases, presentation (with Kanksa M. Ghimire), at Workshop on Transparency and the Pharmaceutical Industry in Comparative Perspectives, Jean Monnet Network on Health Law and Policy, The MacEachen Institute for Public Policy, Halifax, NS. Presenter: Lemmens, T.


**August 24, 2018.** Roundtable on Counterfeit Drugs, Fighting Fake Medicines: Key Characteristics, Data, Tools, and Future Directions, USPTO Headquarters, Alexandria. Presenter: **Mackey, TK.**

**September 2018.** Mandating Drug Cost Transparency on the EMR, Annual Conference of the Nurse Practitioners on Ontario, Toronto. Presenter: Gorkinkel, I., **Lexchin, J.**


**September 7, 2018.** Induction Exercise, Understanding the Opioid Crisis, School of Public Policy and Administration, Carleton University, Ottawa. Presenter: **Gagnon, MA.**

**September 11, 2018.** Interdisciplinary Review of Digital Technologies to Combat Corruption in Medicines Procurement, WHO Writing Workshop Transparency and Accountability in the Health Sector, Geneva. Presenter: **Mackey, TK.**

**September 11, 2018.** Activité de Perfectionnement Réseau Retraite et Assurance, Considérations pour une Réforme du Régime D’assurance-médicaments du Québec, Le Cornité des Avantages Sociaux des Métallos, Lac Brôme. Presenter: **Gagnon, MA.**

**September 13, 2018.** Webinar for Drug Safety and Effectiveness Cross-Disciplinary Training, Reforming Public Drug Coverage in Canada; Performance, Models, and Assessment of Financing Options, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg. Presenter: **Gagnon, MA.**


**September 27, 2018.** Considérations pour une Réforme du Régime D’assurance-médicaments du Québec, Union des Consommateurs et ACEF du Nord avec Divers Représentants Syndicaux, Montreal. Presenter: **Gagnon, MA.**


October 2018. Drug Prices in the United States. Webinar for American Medical Students Association HCFA Scholars Program. Presenter: Lexchin, J.


October 4, 2018. Advanced Policy Analyst Program (APAP) Speaker Series, Financing the Public Provision of Prescription Drugs in Canada; Comparison and Assessment of Financing Options, Department of Finance Canada, Ottawa. Presenter: Gagnon, MA.

October 10, 2018. Panelist, Health Financing and Gender in the Canadian Health Research Context, 5th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research, Liverpool, United Kingdom. Presenter: Di Ruggiero, E.


November 2, 2018. Pharmaceutical Ghost Management versus Transparency. Internal Seminar for School of Public Policy and Administration, Carleton University, Ottawa. Presenter: Gagnon, MA.
November 6, 2018. Panelist, Provincial Perspectives on Federal Pharmcare. MacEachen Institute, Dalhousie University, Halifax. Presenter: Gagnon, MA.


December 5, 2018. BlockLAB Research: How a Health Chain can be Designed for “Fit-for-Purpose.” DataWest18, San Diego Super Computer Canter, San Diego. Presenter: Mackey, TK.


ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS
(Alphabetical Order)


Mackey TK. (2018). “Opioids and the Internet: Convergence of technology and policy issues to address the illicit online sales of opioids.” Health Services Insights, In Press.


BOOKS
(Alphabetical Order)


Marquez MG, Kohler JC, McAlister H. “Corruption in the pharmaceutical sector.” In MA Aslander and S Hudson ed. The Handbook of Business and Corruption.


REPORTS & POLICY BRIEFS
(Alphabetical Order)


NEWS ARTICLES, OP-EDS, INTERVIEWS, & MEDIA OUTPUTS
(Chronological Order)

January 2018:


February 2018:


March 2018:

April 2018:


Lexchin J, Mintzes B. “Re: should we try to manage non-financial interests?” BMJ 21 April 2018: http://www.bmj.com/content/361/bmj.k1240/rapid-responses.

May 2018:

June 2018:


July 2018:


August 2018:

September 2018:


Scutti S. “Nearly 30% of all opioid prescriptions lack medical explanation.” CNN. 10 September 2018. Interview with Mackey TK.

October 2018:

November 2018: