SUPPORTING GENERAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS TO PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY EVIDENCE-BASED PEDIATRIC CARE

Lisa Knisley, Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba, University of Alberta; **Carly Leggett**, George & Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation; **Terry Klassen**, Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba; **Mona Jabbour**, University of Ottawa

Background:

General emergency departments (ED) are responsible for initially treating the majority of Canada's sick and injured children. It is difficult to stay updated on current evidence in emergency care. Translating Emergency Knowledge for Kids (TREKK) – a network of clinicians, researchers and parents – supports EDs by creating evidence-based, pediatric emergency resources at a national level.

Objective:

Assemble existing evidence to create accessible, useable pediatric emergency resources for general EDs.

Methods:

A needs assessment surveyed 1,471 health professionals at 32 Canadian general EDs to identify pediatric information needs and preferences. A robust process brings together 26 pediatricians, pharmacists, nurse educators and invited experts to create evidence-based clinical resources (vital signs pocket cards, treatment algorithms, triage resources, order sets, transport checklists), calledPediatric Packages (PedPacs), to guide the resuscitation of a sick child. Each resource is reviewed by the TREKK editorial, and steering committees to ensure accuracy and relevance for Canadian EDs. PedPacs are available on the TREKK app and website, and shared at teaching sessions within general EDs. Website metrics and teaching session evaluations monitor access and feedback.

Results:

PedsPacs have been created for sepsis, status epilepticus, severe asthma, diabetic ketoacidosis, anaphylaxis, and critically ill neonate. Healthcare professionals are using the resources as demonstrated by yearly increases in resource downloads (>30,000 in 2018/19) and feedback from teaching sessions. TREKK has provided >120 education sessions and is connected with 131 Canadian EDs and nursing stations. PedPacs are being modified, in collaboration with Indigenous Services Canada, to meet the needs of nursing stations.

Conclusion:

TREKK is responding to end-user's information needs by providing accessible, evidence-based pediatric resources and building connections between general and pediatric EDs. TREKK facilitates a continuous flow of online, evidence-based knowledge complemented by on-site teaching sessions to those responsible for treating the majority of acutely ill and injured children in Canada.