

Mass Gathering Medicine Interest Group

Annual Newsletter

October, 2013



Subaru Ironman
Canada –
Whistler 2013

Interesting Mass Gathering Topics

- [Electronic Dance Music Festivals – Newscast](#)
- [Mass Gathering Public Health and Emergency Medicine Literature Review: Levels of Evidence – Article](#)

Hello MGMIG Members,

It has been a very exciting year and there is a lot to report. We, members of the executive, want to take this opportunity to thank you for your early support of the interest group and to update you about the accomplishments of the past year. Here goes...

Breaking News

UBC DEM Strategic Initiative

In September of 2013, the Mass Gathering Medicine Interest Group {MGMIG} was granted status as an official [strategic initiative](#) within the Department of Emergency Medicine {DEM} at the University of British Columbia {UBC}.

International Collaborations

International collaborations are in the offing. Team members are engaged in conversations with the World Health Organization, as well as mass gathering researchers from Australia, Ireland, and Eastern Canada.

Drs. Adam Lund & Sheila Turris will be travelling to Australia in December as "visiting scholars" to continue work on mass gatherings and community health. Specifically they will be leading a collaboration on a consensus to build a "data framework" for mass gatherings research at the request of the [World Health Organization's \(WHO\)](#) Collaborating Centre lead in [Flinders Australia](#), which will then be vetted by the WHO's Advisory Group on Mass Gatherings (which we are members of).

The outcome of this meeting will be a "Green Paper", and a process to gather international input. The long game will be to collate that international input through 2014, and then present a draft of a "White Paper" at the World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine in 2015.



"...Leading a collaboration on a consensus to build a "data framework" for mass gathering research..."



S. Turris, J. Ranse, K. Lewis, A. Lund,
A. Hutton
18th WCDEM, Manchester



Seb Hartell from [SportMedBC](#) speaking at the MUS MGM Club's athletic taping night.

MGMIG Clubs Forming Across the Canada

We are delighted to announce that the active and productive UBC MGM Student club has been cloned and a MGM student chapter has formed at the University of Calgary. McGill and the University of Toronto are also considering forming chapters.

Congratulations to the UBC group who have received a small grant from the [UBC Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund](#) to support the activities of the club for the next year, with plans to apply for ongoing funds in the fall.

The Year in Review

Since all the members of the MGMIG want to be famous (we know we can't be rich as there is no money in research), we put our backs into it and produced some academic output in the last year including,

1. Presentations – members of the MGMIG had opportunities to present at a number of topical conferences internationally (WCDEM in Manchester, WADDEM in Virginia), nationally (CAEP in Ontario), provincially (Disaster Preparedness Conference in Vancouver), and regionally (DEM Research Day).
2. Publications in the last year include papers on:
 - a. triage during mass gatherings (in print);
 - b. survey results on the use of text messaging as a communication strategy for medical providers during events with high levels of ambient noise (in print);
 - c. a case study on cardiac arrest during a running event (in print);
 - d. a description of MG health (in print);
 - e. mass casualty incidents during special events (in review);
 - f. a case series on the Vancouver International Marathon (revisions in progress); and,
 - g. a case series on the Ride to Conquer Cancer.

Upcoming Events:

Check our Google Calendar often for updates on upcoming club or special events.

[MGMIG Event Calendar](#)



Google calendar

Links to Publications



In Print: 2013

- **Minimum Data Set for Mass-Gatherings Health Research and Evaluation: A Response**
 - [PDM Published Online: January 4, 2013](#)
- **A Backstage Pass: Medical care providers at mass gathering events**
 - [Canadian Paramedicine](#) (subscription required)
- **Text-messaging as a Strategy to Address the Limits of Audio-based Communication during Mass Gathering Events with High Ambient Noise**
 - [PDM, February 2013; 2013;28\(1\):2-7](#)

[Visit our website for more links to publications](#)

3. Grant applications – After some early successes with small grants from MITACS, UBC, and Vancouver Coastal Health, in the fall of 2012 the MGMIG submitted a first-time grant application to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). The purpose was to study the impact of special events on local health services, as well as the creation of a predictive model for patient presentations in the context of specific types of events. As is so often the case, our first application was not successful and we will be resubmitting the grant application in the early spring of 2014. As well, two members of our research team are collaborating with the MG group in Australia on an Australian Council Research grant with the decision pending.

Special Thanks

Our Executive Team:

Dr. Adam Lund



Dr. Sheila Turrís (PhD)

Dr. Samuel Gutman



Dr. Neda Amiri



Kerrie Lewis, LPN, EMR



[Click here for more MGMIG collaborators](#)

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Thank you for
supporting our
scholarly activities!

One of our foundation projects, the [Online Patient and Event Registry](#), went into its fourth year of enrollments. This fourth year is 100% unfunded and is relying completely on volunteers, like you, who have a passion and a curiosity to make special events bigger, more fun, and of course safer.

Riley Macdonald was an excellent host for last season's data entry sessions at the [Medical Student Alumni Center](#) and has passed the torch onto **Simon Steunenber** who from the sounds of it is keeping the nights light with some food and fun!

We are proud report that we have had over 40 Data Entry team members participate on this project with us. So please take a moment to accept a [very heartfelt thank you](#) to each and every one of you for making this project so successful.

Simon is hosting weekly data entry 'parties' that are perfect for anyone wanting to get some research experience.



Follow Us

A great way to keep up with our team and other worldly mass gathering initiatives.



Twitter: [@MGMIG1](#) Facebook: [massgatheringmedicine](#)

MGMIG Events attended during the 2013 season:

Subaru Ironman Canada
SeaWheeze Half Marathon
Believe Music Festival
Scotia Half Marathon
Mumford & Sons
Tough Mudder
Vancouver Marathon
Armin Van Buuren
Vancouver Sun Run
plus many others.....

Dates of Interest

UBC DEM Research Day
(April 9, 2014)

JIBC Discovering Research
Day
(February 20, 2013)

Highlights from 2013

