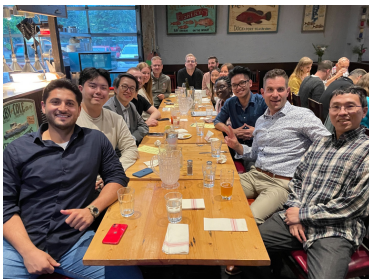# Patient and Family Advisory Council

Cuthbert Lab & Oncology Outcomes

Welcome

Last month at the Biennial Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics Conference in Halifax, our team presented a total of 12 posters and 4 talks ranging on topics from colorectal cancer screening to cancer survivorship and machine learning models.

We are incredibly proud of our team members for representing the University of Calgary and Oncology Outcomes at this national conference.

In this Issue
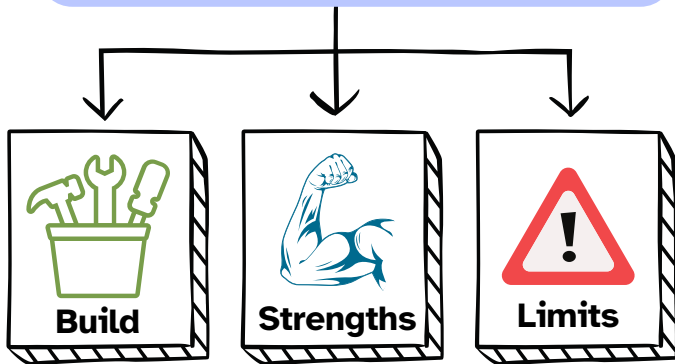
Research Highlights

Oncology Outcomes

Bayesian Networks for Risk Prediction Using Real-World Data: A Tool for Precision Medicine

STUDY PURPOSE

An introduction to the use of Bayesian Networks in risk estimating in medical science.

Build

Strengths

Limits

CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE IMPACT

Bayesian Networks are a **novel approach** to tackling the challenge of **complex health datasets**. They can **adapt** to changes in complexity, knowledge and interventions while providing **individual** risk predicitons
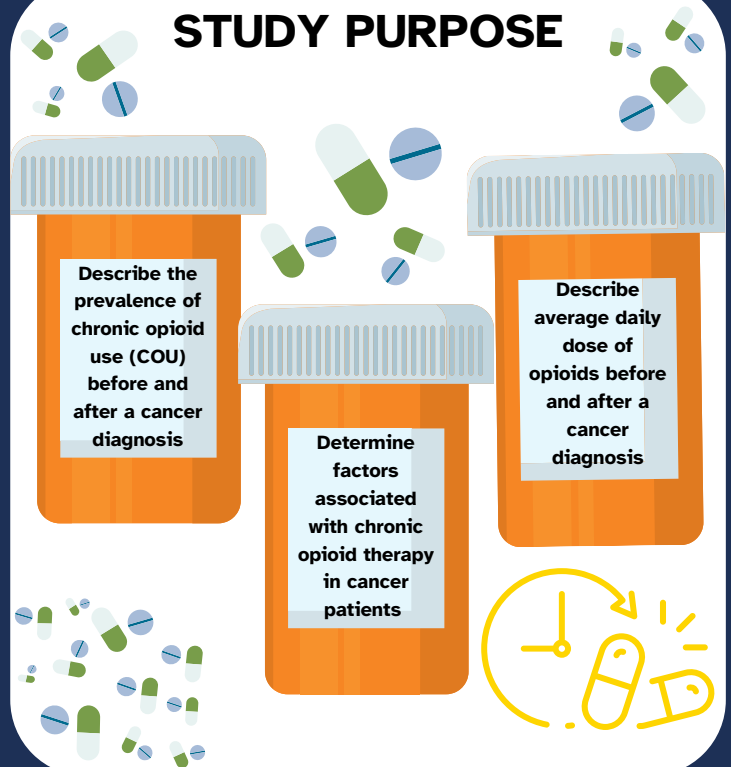
Limitations exist and **guidelines** need to be set for future use of Bayesian networks in **healthcare**
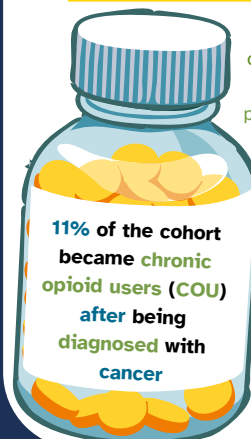
Cuthbert Lab

Patient-level Factors Associated with Chronic Opioid Use in Cancer: A Population-based Cohort Study

STUDY PURPOSE

Describe the prevalence of chronic opioid use (COU) before and after a cancer diagnosis

Determine factors associated with chronic opioid therapy in cancer patients

Describe average daily dose of opioids before and after a cancer diagnosis

CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE IMPACT

There is a **GROWING** body of evidence on the harms of chronic opioid use. Given the incidence of pain with cancer, opioids will continue to be a necessary part of clinical practice.

Providers should adopt an approach to prescribing opioids that considers a patient's opioid history pre-diagnosis, adapts prescribing to the individual patient, and ensures only one prescriber is providing opioid prescriptions.

11% of the cohort became chronic opioid users (COU) after being diagnosed with cancer

Nearly **1/3 of the cohort** experienced **moderate** to **severe pain** at **diagnosis**

A **majority** of the cohort were **opioid naive** at diagnosis (**94%**)

Click here for full article.

Click here for full article.

Study Recruitment

We continue to actively recruit participants for several studies right now, including:

- ▶ Healthcare Provider and Patient Views on Prescribing Opioids for Cancer Patients.
  Poster Link to Share

- ▶ Patients Perspectives of Value Frameworks Used to Guide Oncology Treatment Decisions
  Poster Link to Share

If you think the studies might be relevant to your contacts, please feel free to share the website or poster links. For the additional details on each study click here.

Coming Up

The next newsletter will release in August 2023.

Previous issues of the PFAC newsletter have been posted online: https://www.cuthbertlab.com/advisory-council

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