

RESEARCH SCHOLAR PROGRAM 2017  
SUPERVISOR/PROJECT INFORMATION FORM



Due on or before **October 21 2016**. Forms received after this date will not be posted on the website.

**SUPERVISOR INFORMATION**

Supervisor Name: Beate Sander

Mailing Address:  
480 University Ave, Suite 300  
Toronto, ON  
M5G 1V2

Telephone Number: 647-260-7425

Email Address: [beate.sander@oahpp.ca](mailto:beate.sander@oahpp.ca)

Degree (MD, PhD, MD/PhD): PhD

Academic Rank: Assistant Professor

Field of Research: Health economics

Graduate School Appointment (IMS, IHPME etc.): IHPME

*Please note that you must be appointed to the SGS in order to be a supervisor in the Scholar Program*

Research Institute Affiliation (if applicable): Public Health Ontario

Allocation of student contact time (# of hours per week you are available to the student for any concerns or to review progress): 2

Do you have a student that you have already agreed to work with? **No**

*Please note, you may go ahead with a self-initiated project with a student of your choosing. If you choose this option, your project will not be posted online, meaning it will not be open to student applicants.*

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Generating novel evidence on the clinical epidemiology of Lyme disease: A systematic review and epidemiologic analysis of health administrative data in Ontario

Project Description (max 500 words):

We are seeking a CREMS Research Scholar with experience in epidemiologic/statistical analysis to conduct a research project at Public Health Ontario and the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES). The student will be part of an established multidisciplinary team of academic researchers and knowledge users, with expertise in infectious diseases, clinical epidemiology, clinical microbiology, health services research, disease modeling, economic evaluation, and knowledge to action initiatives.

The CREMS Research Scholar will conduct a systematic review on the prognosis and long-term sequelae of Lyme disease. In addition, he/she will use population-based datasets at ICES to investigate the clinical epidemiology of Lyme disease to understand the natural history, clinical management and health outcomes. The student will work closely with the principal investigators, analysts, and others in a rich multidisciplinary collaborative research and training environment. We have access to state-of-the-art data platforms including provincial health administrative, laboratory and reportable disease data, providing the largest and richest dataset for population-based studies on Lyme disease in Canada.

If human subjects are involved, has Ethics been obtained?

☐ YES

☒ NO

☐ Application Submitted

☐ N/A

Do you expect this work will be published within 20 months?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ Uncertain

Student's Roles / Responsibilities (Please be as specific as possible) Please indicate who will serve as the student's direct report. (PI, PDF, PhD student, technician etc...):

During the winter term, the student will conduct a systematic review on the prognosis and long-term sequelae of Lyme disease. With support from the library information specialist, he/she will develop a systematic search strategy to review the relevant literature on Lyme disease. The student will gain skills in critical literature appraisal, data extraction, quality assessment, and manuscript writing. Ideally, the student will have a basic understanding of vector-borne diseases and a keen interest in learning about Lyme disease and the challenges it poses for diagnosis, treatment, and management.

Beginning in the spring/summer term, the student will conduct research on the clinical epidemiology of Lyme disease to analyze individually linked population-based data (e.g., reportable disease, laboratory, and health administrative data) and generate high-quality evidence to advance patient care and guide policy decision-making. Throughout the program, the student will be responsible for presenting research findings, providing regular progress updates to the team, and drafting manuscripts.

This project is suited for a student with a background in epidemiology and experience conducting statistical analysis using SAS or R, and an interest in population health and infectious disease research. He/she must have strong qualitative and

oral/written communication skills, and high level of interpersonal skills to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team. By the end the program, the student will produce at least one manuscript for publication as the primary author.

The student will report directly to Dr. Beate Sander, while also working closely with an ICES analyst and epidemiologist.