

Award Announcement

Dr. Rebecca Anglin, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences

\$25,000

Postpartum Depression in Women of SouthAsian Origin in Canada: An Education Initiative and South Asian BiRth cohort (START) Sub-Study

According to the 2006 Census, 19.8% or 6.2 million Canadians are foreign-born and several studies have demonstrated an increased risk of postpartum depression in immigrant mothers. South Asians are the fastest growing immigrant population in Canada, but to date the risk of postpartum depression in these women has not been systematically studied. We propose to collect reliable information on postpartum depression in this population as part of the South Asian BiRth cohort (START) study, a prospective longitudinal birth cohort of South Asian women in the Peel region, Ontario, Canada. We will conduct focus groups to explore their understanding and experience of postpartum depression and their perception of the barriers and facilitators to diagnosis and treatment. This information will be used to develop postpartum depression educational initiatives for South Asian women and health care providers, and knowledge uptake and utilization will be assessed using a post-intervention evaluation.

Dr. Marcel Doré, Department of Family Medicine

\$25,000

Gender Competency in the Health Sciences: A Pilot Study to Inform Continuing Professional Development Initiatives

Cultural competence has been incorporated into the continuum of health education. Little work has been completed in the area of gender competence. We will focus on roles that CPD providers could play in helping deliver content and practice in the area of gender competence beyond undergraduate and postgraduate training. A better understanding of gender-competent education at various points along this continuum is required. We will explore and develop an understanding of gender competence as it pertains to the education of our health professionals. This requires a focused literature search and information gathering from experts on culture competence, health professional education, and curricular change. We will then analyze and disseminate findings from this study in an end-of-project half-day workshop in which we not only present the results of our work, but also seek input from the workshop attendees in developing the next stages of a program of research on gender competency in CPD.