



CHU Sainte-Justine  
Research Center  
Mother and Child  
University Hospital Center

Université  
de Montréal

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Project title	Risk perception of disease among parents		
Study level(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PhD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postdoctorate
Principal investigator(s)	Dr. Olivier Drouin		
Project duration	1-3 year(s)		
Start date	Flexible		

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### Research laboratory presentation

Dr. Drouin's Project Lab studies how children and their parents make decisions about their health, and how they navigate and use the health care system.

At the intersection of public health, clinical medicine, and behavioural sciences, the Project Lab uses techniques from health services research, behavioural economics, epidemiology, experimental psychology, and health economics to improve children health care.

### Research project description

In this project, we seek to understand how parents conceive the notion of risk to their child, and how this can inform the delivery of care. We also explore factors modulating risk perception, including impact of disease novelty, personal relevance, and perceived control over the disease.

We will study perceived risk in general, as well as specifically in the context of pediatric asthma, the most common chronic disease of childhood. Project Lab has access to over 500 patients longitudinally followed in the asthma clinic, including detailed disease phenotype and objective medication adherence. We will investigate the impact of perceived risk as it relates to medication adherence in pediatric asthma. After mapping key influence of risk perception among parents, we will develop and pilot-test nudge-type interventions to improve medication adherence in asthma.

Specifically, the objectives of this project are:

1. Determine if parental risk perception is influenced by disease novelty, personal relevance, and perceived control over the disease.
2. Develop nudges to improve medication adherence for children with asthma.
3. Pilot-test the interventions developed to obtain key preliminary data necessary for testing in a randomized controlled trial.

### Required training and profile

- Excellent academic record
- A good knowledge of statistics is required
- Knowledge of French and English (spoken and written) is required.
- A good level of autonomy is required.



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- Research experience is a plus, although not absolutely required.
- Experience with a statistical program (SAS, Stata, R, etc.) is required.
- Visible minority candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

### Conditions

The candidate will be invited to apply for training awards in the various competitions and programs of the granting agencies (FRQS, CIHR) for this master's degree.

### Submit your application

Candidates must send the required documents before **September 1, 2020** to Dr. Olivier Drouin at [o.drouin@UMontreal.ca](mailto:o.drouin@UMontreal.ca).

Please provide:

- ✓ *Curriculum vitae*
- ✓ Most recent transcripts
- ✓ Cover letter
- ✓ References

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### Studies at the CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center

Pursue your [graduate or postdoctoral studies](#) at the **CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center**, and be one of the 500 students, fellows and interns involved in accelerating the development of knowledge in the field of maternal, child and adolescent health, whether in basic or clinical research. Under the supervision of prominent scientists, especially in leukemia, rare pediatric diseases, genetics, perinatology, obesity, neuropsychology and cognition, scoliosis and rehabilitation, you will have the opportunity to work with multidisciplinary scientific teams and collaborators from all over the world.

### About the CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center

**CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center** is a leading mother-child research institution affiliated with Université de Montréal. It brings together more than 200 research investigators, including over 90 clinician-scientists, as well as 500 graduate and postgraduate students focused on finding innovative prevention means, faster and less invasive treatments, as well as personalized approaches to medicine. The Center is part of CHU Sainte-Justine, which is the largest mother-child center in Canada and the second most important pediatric center in North America. More on [research.chusj.org](http://research.chusj.org)

