



Project title	Cascade of HIV care in the postpartum period		
Study level(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSc	<input type="checkbox"/> PhD	<input type="checkbox"/> Postdoctorate
Principal investigator(s)	Isabelle Boucoiran, MD, MSc		
Project duration	2 years		
Start date	September, 2020		

Date of posting: 2020-06-10

Research laboratory presentation

The Women and Children Infectious Disease Centre of the CHU Sainte-Justine hosts the largest database of HIV+ pregnancy in Canada. This database, along with that of other Canadian cohorts of pregnant women living with HIV, is a unique opportunity to complete this project.

Research project description

The community of women living with HIV is calling more and more to improve scientific knowledge on breastfeeding, in particular because there is increasing evidence concerning the absence of sexual transmission of HIV when the viral load is undetectable. Controlling the risk of transmission through breastfeeding highlights the need to maintain continuous viral control during the postpartum period. However, continued adherence to antiretroviral therapy during the postpartum period may be limited by access to health services, the relative importance of taking antiretrovirals during this period compared to new family priorities; and a variety of socio-economic and cultural influences.

We hypothesize that in Canada there are failures in the cascade of HIV care during the postpartum period, and that there are specific personal and structural factors that influence retention in HIV care during this period.

We propose to undertake an explanatory study using mixed methods, using data from existing population-based retrospective cohorts and group discussions with the following objectives:

- Assess the cascade of HIV care during the first year of postpartum and identify predictors of retention and attrition at all stages of the cascade.
- Gather perspectives from women living with HIV regarding barriers and facilitators to retention in postpartum HIV care.

Required training and profile

- Hold a bachelor's degree in biomedical sciences / epidemiology / microbiology or related field;
- Be serious and motivated;
- Have a good academic record;
- Have a good level in English;
- Having experience in clinical research would be an asset.



Conditions

Scholarship according to the criteria of CHU Sainte - Justine and the University of Montreal for master's students. The candidate will have to apply for external scholarships.

Submit your application

Candidates must send the required documents before **30/07/2020** to Dr Isabelle Boucoiran at : isabelle.boucoiran@umontreal.ca

Please provide:

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

Isabelle Boucoiran

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Equity, diversity and inclusion

The masculine gender is used without discrimination and for the sole purpose to facilitate reading. The CHU Sainte-Justine subscribes to the principle of equal access to opportunities and invites women, members of visible and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities and Indigenous people to apply. We would appreciate it if you could inform us of any disabilities that would require technical and physical accommodation adapted to your situation during the selection process. Please be assured that we will treat this information as confidential.

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

