



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

Université
de Montréal

Project title	Impact of COVID-19 on paediatric emergency department visits		
Study level(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PhD	<input type="checkbox"/> Postdoctorate
Principal investigator(s)	Dr. Olivier Drouin		
Project duration	1-2 years		
Start date	Flexible		

Research laboratory presentation

Dr. Drouin's 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 laboratory uses techniques from health services research, behavioural economics, epidemiology, experimental psychology and health economics to improve children health care.

Research project description

The *Impact of COVID-19 on Paediatric Emergency Department Visits* project seeks to understand the impact of COVID-19 on the use of health services, primarily paediatric emergency departments.

In the spring of 2020, containment measures, in addition to strict hygiene and public health measures, were introduced to limit the spread of COVID-19. In addition to COVID-19, these measures may also have had an effect on other viral infections, such as those causing respiratory and gastrointestinal infections, leading to an apparent reduction in the volume of paediatric emergency department visits.

At the same time, anecdotal reports suggest that some patients, worried about contracting COVID-19 in hospital, have delayed their visit to the emergency department and are thus presented with more severe presentations of certain illnesses, unrelated to COVID-19 (appendicitis or stroke for example).

Specifically, the objectives of this project are:

1. Determine if there are differences in the number of emergency department visits between the COVID-19 pandemic period (March-May 2020) compared to the same period for the years 2015-2019 by reason for visit, adjusting for annual variations (January-February 2020 vs. 2019).
2. Describe whether this variation is different by socio-demographic, medical (reason for visit) or severity (triage score) characteristics.



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3. Determine whether for certain diagnoses not related to COVID (appendicitis, type 1 diabetes, etc), case presentations were more severe in the spring of 2020 than in previous years.

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.
- 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.

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



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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

