



Project title	Risk perception related to COVID-19 among parents of children with asthma		
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 to 3 years		
Start date	April – May 2020		

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. It endeavours to use this information to improve the prevention and management of pediatric chronic diseases.

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

Research project description

The project *Risk perception related to COVID-19 among parents of children with asthma* seeks to examine the ways in which parents conceive of risks to their child, specifically examining how new risks (COVID-19) compare to known risks (asthma). The risk's novelty, its personal relevance, and the perception of control over the risk will be explored.

Asthma is one of the most common chronic diseases affecting children. Interestingly, to date asthma has not been identified as a risk factor for COVID-19 in adults. In the context of school closures and of our understanding of behavioural responses to new health risks, this project employs techniques from experimental economics and public health to examine how parents of children with asthma conceive of risks related to COVID-19.

Specifically, the objectives of this project are to:

1. Identify the sociodemographic, medical, and psychological factors that influence risk perception related to COVID-19 among parents of children with asthma and parents of school-aged children more generally.
2. Explore whether measures of experimental economics can predict COVID-19-related risk perception among parents.
3. Examine the perception of the risk related to COVID-19 in the context of schools among parents of asthmatic children.
4. Examine whether the provision of objective information regarding COVID-19 influences parental risk perception, particularly related to sending their child to school.



Required training and profile

- The candidate must have a bachelor's degree, ideally in a discipline related to the project, such as (but not limited to), health sciences, psychology, public health, biomedical sciences.
- 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.
- Experience interacting with children and families is an asset.

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 **January 15, 2021** to Dr. Olivier Drouin at o.drouin@UMontreal.ca

Please provide:

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

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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

