

May 2021

Welcome Marcelo Bravo, Lead, Patient-Oriented Research (POR) and Knowledge Translation Capacity Building



Please join me in welcoming Marcelo Bravo, PhD to the position of Lead, Patient-Oriented Research (POR) and Knowledge Translation Capacity Building effective May 3, 2021. Funding for this position is provided by the BC SUPPORT Unit, Northern Centre until March 31, 2022. In this new role, Marcelo reports to the Regional Director, Research, Evaluation and Analytics. Working in collaboration with Research, Evaluation and Analytics team members and other stakeholders, Marcelo will provide support to define and implement approaches that support patient-oriented research as well as collaborating to build processes and standards for the effective management and communication of research. This role will build capacity in patient-oriented research, in alignment with the Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR) BC Support for People and Patient Oriented Research Trials (SUPPORT) Unit and other provincial initiatives including the BC Academic Health Sciences Network.

Patient oriented research is a paradigm for conducting research in partnerships with patients, families and other informal caregivers.

Marcelo started with Northern Health in November 2020 in the position Coordinator, Research and Knowledge Translation Capacity Building. Marcelo came to Northern Health from UBC, where he supported the creation of the UBC Policy Studio, an interdisciplinary initiative focused on finding innovative solutions to complex, systemic and resilient problems, and facilitated the development of the UBC Knowledge Exchange Unit. Marcelo has expertise in knowledge mobilization and knowledge translation approaches, methods, and research capacity development. He is a member of the Research Impact Network, a pan-Canadian network committed to developing institutional capacities to support the impact of research by developing best practices, services, and tools. Marcelo also has experience working with Vancouver Coastal Health – Office of the Chief Medical Health Officer while supporting interdisciplinary teams to embrace methodological innovations benefiting population health work. His expertise includes working in urban and rural contexts, including projects with First Nations and Indigenous communities in Canada and in Mexico.

Marcelo's education includes a Master in Strategic and Future Studies (Strategic Foresight), and a PhD. in Interdisciplinary while researching Knowledge Mobilization KMb/KT institutional capacity development.

Outside of work, Marcelo enjoys spending time with his wife and young kids, getting lost in bookstores, having coffee, going for hikes, and supporting community organizations in Canada and abroad.

Marcelo can be reached at Marcelo.Bravo@northernhealth.ca.

Call for Abstracts Open – 2021 Northern BC Research and Quality Conference

The call for abstracts for the 2021 Northern BC Research and Quality is now open! The conference will be held virtually December 7-9, 2021.

This year's conference theme is Learning from Adversity: Pathways to Success with the following sub-themes:

- Innovation
- Equity
- Cultural Safety
- Health and Wellness
- Sustainable Systems

You are invited to submit abstracts, up to 300 words, on topics of health research, evaluation or quality improvement initiatives revolving around the following sub-themes. **Deadline for submission is Friday, July 9, 2021.**

Conference Objectives:

- Celebrate and share research, quality improvement, evaluation, and implementation of evidence in a Northern and rural context
- Support the development of research, quality improvement, evaluation, and evidence-informed practice skills and patient-oriented research
- Facilitate networking and knowledge sharing of all stakeholders, including patients
- Inspire new ideas, encourage diverse partnerships, and broaden the involvement of different stakeholders invested in the health of Northerners

Who should apply? Researchers, students, health authority employees, health care practitioners, patient partners, and community organizations

Abstract Support – First time presenters are welcome! Please contact research@northernhealth.ca or hri@unbc.ca if you have an idea for a presentation or poster and would like support with the abstract submission.

Abstracts are being accepted for oral, rapid fire, storyboard/poster and workshop presentations:

Oral Presentation – The majority of the conference is dedicated to oral presentations. These sessions are grouped by the review committee into thematically related areas. Each oral presenter will have up to 15 minutes to present their work and five minutes for questions. Abstracts submitted as oral presentations can subsequently be considered for poster presentations if not accepted for the oral format. Whenever possible, we encourage you to co-present along with the patient partner(s) involved.

Storyboard/Poster Presentation – Poster presentations will be on display virtually at the conference. The viewing times and the schedule for the posters will be confirmed after the call for abstracts is completed and presentations are selected. Assistance with poster design is available. Please email [re-search@northernhealth.ca](mailto:research@northernhealth.ca) or hri@unbc.ca.

Rapid-Fire Presentation – A Rapid-Fire presentation consists of short three-minute presentations. Whenever possible we encourage you to co-present with your patient partner(s) involved.

Workshop – The first day of the conference is dedicated to full and/or half-day workshops, which will be virtual. A review committee will select workshops for the conference.

UNBC Knowledge Synthesis Centre available for Researchers

In 2019, the UNBC Health Research Institute (HRI) launched a Knowledge Synthesis Centre with the purpose of expanding the capacity of UNBC and partner organizations including, Northern Health, to ask and answer health focused questions using synthesis methods, enhancing rural and Northern applicability of the evidence, and setting up knowledge to be translated into action in policy and practice.

Three core functions of the centre:

Collaborative Knowledge Synthesis Projects

- Projects where we work with external partners to respond to their knowledge user needs for synthesis of evidence contextualized for rural, remote and northern health issues, services and programs.

Methodological Services & Supports

- Supporting health researchers developing and/or conducting knowledge synthesis projects by 1) providing consultations on synthesis methods, tools, budgets, and timelines, and 2) offering services to help them complete the review with experienced staff.

Training & Capacity Building

- Building capacity among students, researchers, and partners through engagement in KS projects, practical experience conducting KS, and provision of KS resources, workshops, and webinars.

For general inquiries or to submit a consultation intake form, please contact:

Email: knowledgesynthesis@unbc.ca

Upcoming Online Conference: BC RHC Rural Health Conference May 29-30, 2021

Join rural physicians, practitioners, residents, medical students, and allied health care professionals for this dynamic and unique virtual Rural Medicine conference.

- Over 25 virtual lectures to choose from– all geared towards rurally-based practitioners
- Add-on workshops to enhance your airway management, suturing and PICC skills
- Opportunities to socialize and network with colleagues
- Wellness opportunities, including a Mindfulness workshop and yoga
- Fun social events on Saturday evening for you and your family

For more details and to register, please visit: <https://rccbc.ca/education-and-cmecpd/cmecpd/conferences/rhc/>

Contact Information

For more information, contact the Northern Centre by [email](#) or visit our [website](#).

