

EPIQ GRAND ROUNDS

Session 18

'En route' to standardization of the management of Post-hemorrhagic Ventricular Dilatation across Canada

Objectives:

- Understand the impact of PHVD for preterm infants
- Learn about the global variability in PHVD management and its implications
- Learn about the creation of a recommendation to standardize the approach to PHVD across Canada

Presented by:

Dr. Lara Leijser, Dr. Sandesh Shivananda, Dr. Jehier Afifi



Dr. Lara Leijser (MD, PhD, MSc) is a Clinician-Scientist in Neonatology and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Calgary, with clinical and research expertise in neonatal neurology, neuroimaging and child outcomes. After completing a PhD on 'Imaging the preterm infant's brain' (The Netherlands and UK) and residency training in Pediatrics, Dr. Leijser graduated from Neonatal and Neonatal Neurology fellowship programs in Utrecht (The Netherlands) and Toronto (Canada). She joined the Calgary section of Neonatology in 2018. Dr. Leijser's research focuses on advancing the understanding of brain injury and long-term neurodevelopmental outcomes in vulnerable preterm infants, to improve their brain health and functioning across the lifespan. She provides clinical care in Neonatal Intensive Care Units across Calgary and is a member of the Neonatal Neuro-Critical Care team. In addition, she leads the task force out of the CNN - Brain Health Group to optimize the management of preterm infants with post-hemorrhagic ventricular dilatation across Canada, in which she holds a clinical and research interest.



Dr. Shivananda is a neonatologist, health informatician and Quality lead at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. His focus is on identifying gaps in care delivery and implementing solutions in real-world setting to improve outcomes. He has researched and published on (i) innovative care delivery models, (ii) clinical decision support products at the point of care, (iii) implementing care bundles and (iv) health technology integration in various neonatal settings. During his career, he has mentored many junior faculty members across Canada, fellows, and graduate students. He brings the knowledge and experience from the fields of neonatology, informatics, improvement science, organizational leadership, innovation, and team behaviors to facilitate excellence in care delivery, practice adaptation and implementation in a given contextual setting.



Dr. Jehier Afifi is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Dalhousie University and Neonatologist at IWK Health and Nova Scotia Provincial Perinatal Follow Up Program. Her research area focuses on quality improvement, brain health, AI in risk prediction models and neurodevelopmental outcomes of high-risk infants, but extends to involve clinical interventions and family integrated care. Her clinical research and publications are interdisciplinary, collaborating with families, perinatology, neuroradiology, neurosurgery and geared both to contribute to the academic literature and to improve outcomes of newborn infants and parental experiences. Dr Afifi holds leadership roles in safety & quality locally, nationally, and internationally. She is the Chair of EPIQ Education Program Steering Committee and Co-Director of CNFUN. She is also the QI lead of Newborn Brain Society QI & Research Committee, and member of Brain Health Canada, POCUSNEO and Neonatal Neurocritical Care Accreditation (AFC).

THURSDAY OCTOBER 17TH, 2024

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