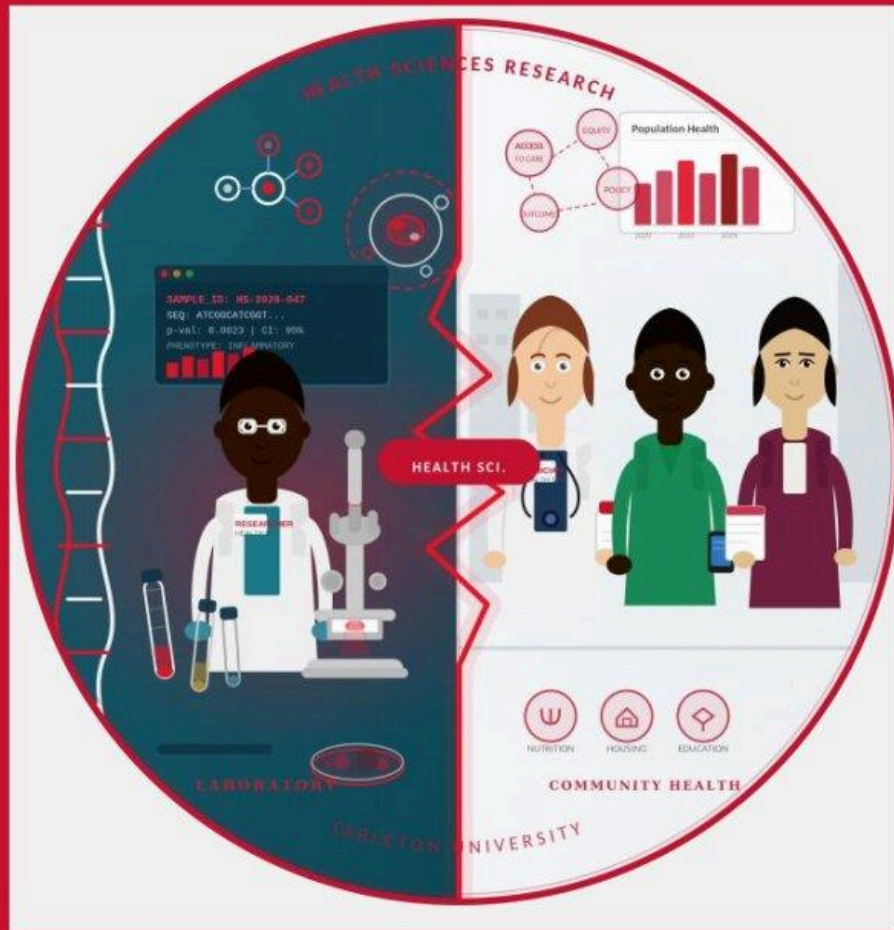


Health Sciences Research Day

April 9th, 2026

8:30 am – 2:45 pm

Nichol Hall – Rooms 3030 & 3020



Carleton University | Department of Health Sciences

Research Day Agenda

Location: Nichol Hall, Rooms 3030 & 3020

8:30 Opening Remarks

8:30 am	Opening Remarks
8:45 am	Welcome & Opening Remarks (Full Program)
9:00 – 10:50 am	BHSc HLTH 4910 & MSc/HSTP Oral Presentations – Morning Session
10:00 – 10:15 am	Health Break – Nichol 3040
11:30 am – 12:45 pm	Lunch (Nichol 3038) & Poster Session (Nichol 3040)
12:55 pm	Welcome Back
1:00 – 2:30 pm	BHSc HLTH 4910 & MSc Oral Presentations – Afternoon Session
1:45 – 1:55 pm	Health Break – Nichol 3040
2:45 pm	Closing Remarks & Thank You's

NICOL 3030

NICOL 3020

MORNING SESSION

#	TIME	PRESENTER · TITLE · THEME	#	TIME	PRESENTER · TITLE · THEME
8:45 AM <i>Welcome & Opening Remarks</i>					
1	9:00 AM	Alex Smith BHSc HLTH 4910 · Paul Peters Functional Vulnerability and Geographic Inequities in Inpatient Mental Health Service Use in Ontario, Canada ■ PhysAct / MH / Community	1	9:00 AM	Brianna Nasrallah MSc HSTP 2nd Yr · Mark Tremblay Contributions to Active Outdoor Play Research: The 2025 Position Statement and Beyond ■ PhysAct / MH / Community ■ Population Health
2	9:15 AM	Adaeze Ikechukwu BHSc HLTH 4910 · Kristin Connor Understanding iron deficiency in reproductive-aged women through an exploration of dietary and sociodemographic influences. ■ Maternal & Reproductive ■ Nutrition	2	9:15 AM	Lauren Dupuis BHSc HLTH 4910 · Joerg Overhage Investigating the role of froABCD in Pseudomonas aeruginosa response to copper sulfate stress ■ Molecular & Microbial
3	9:30 AM	Rebecca Palmer BHSc HLTH 4910 · Paul Peters Assessing Spatial Variation in Social Determinants of Health Across Canada Using the Canadian Accessibility and Remoteness Index (CARI+) ■ Population Health ■ PhysAct / MH / Community	3	9:30 AM	Rebeca Gonzalez Gonzalez MSc HSTP 2nd Yr · JP Chaput Parental awareness of adolescents' online activities and its association with eating behaviours in Canadian youth ■ Population Health ■ PhysAct / MH / Community
4	9:45 AM	Arianna Lemmo BHSc HLTH 4910 · Joerg Overhage Investigating the role of Cyclic Diguanylate in Pseudomonas aeruginosa against Reactive Chlorine Species ■ Molecular & Microbial	4	9:45 AM	Zoe Mills BHSc HLTH 4910 · Menno Oudhoff Intestinal Epithelial Remodelling During Helminth Infection: Dynamics of Goblet and Paneth Cell Lineages ■ Molecular & Microbial
Health Break 10:00 – 10:15 AM · Nichol 3040 · Coffee, Tea & Water					
5	10:20 AM	Karina Hamilton MSc HSTP 2nd Yr · Francine Darroch Underreporting of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Equity-owed Women populations ■ Population Health ■ PhysAct / MH / Community	5	10:20 AM	Chloe Hayes BHSc HLTH 4910 · Kristin Connor Exploring acceptability and receptivity to probiotics among reproductive-aged women ■ Maternal & Reproductive ■ Molecular & Microbial
6	10:35 AM	Klaudija Krisjane BHSc HLTH 4910 · John Anderson & Renate Ysseldyk Bilingualism and Structural Brain Aging: Examining Cognitive Reserve Using Brain-Age Metrics ■ Clinical & Disease	6	10:35 AM	Erin Nicholson MSc HLTH 5906 · Edana Cassol Harnessing Macrophages to Optimize Oncolytic Virus Activity in Tumours ■ Molecular & Microbial ■ Clinical & Disease
7	10:50 AM	Kaitey Guite MSc HLTH 5906 · Utkarsh Dang Proteomic profiling to define circulating proteins associated with LGMD2a pathophysiology ■ Molecular & Microbial ■ Clinical & Disease			
Lunch & Poster Session 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM · Lunch: Nichol 3040 (Pizza) · Posters: Nichol 3038					

NICOL 3030

NICOL 3020

AFTERNOON SESSION

#	TIME	PRESENTER · TITLE · THEME	#	TIME	PRESENTER · TITLE · THEME
12:55 PM <i>Welcome Back</i>					
1	1:00 PM	Zahra van Gaalen BHSc HLTH 4910 · Kristin Connor Benin's nutrition policy and programme landscape: gaps, overlaps, and opportunities for action in food fortification ■ Maternal & Reproductive ■ Nutrition	1	1:00 PM	Favour Okarike BHSc HLTH 4910 · Joerg Overhage Antimicrobial peptide, DJK-5, combination with colistin exhibits greater activity against P. aeruginosa in dual-species biofilms ■ Molecular & Microbial ■ Clinical & Disease
2	1:15 PM	Madeline Choy MSc HLTH 5906 · Kristin Connor Libraries of lived/living experience on paediatric neurodevelopmental disabilities ■ Population Health ■ PhysAct / MH / Community	2	1:15 PM	Nadine Simpson MSc HLTH 5906 · Francine Darroch Women's Access to Recreation in a Social Housing Context: A Qualitative Study ■ Population Health ■ PhysAct / MH / Community
3	1:30 PM	Emily Womack BHSc HLTH 4910 · Paul Peters Linking extreme weather conditions to mortality: a spatial dataset for Ontario ■ PhysAct / MH / Community ■ Population Health	3	1:30 PM	Ada Dam MSc HLTH 5906 · Joerg Overhage & Edana Cassol Exploring the Microbial Factors Behind Delayed Wound Healing and Wound Chronicity in Pressure Injuries ■ Molecular & Microbial ■ Clinical & Disease
Health Break 1:45 – 1:55 PM · Nichol 3040 · Coffee, Tea & Water					
4	2:00 PM	Callen Lamourie BHSc HLTH 4910 · Edana Cassol Quantifying Autofluorescent Bacteria and Their Association with Delayed Healing in Chronic Wounds ■ Molecular & Microbial ■ Population Health	4	2:00 PM	Rym Jallal MSc HLTH 5906 · Menno Oudhoff Maternal Regulation of Neonatal Intestinal Maturation and Immunity via Milk-Derived Signals ■ Maternal & Reproductive ■ Molecular & Microbial
5	2:15 PM	Laura Cross BHSc HLTH 4910 · Menno Oudhoff Investigating the Role of Methylation-Dependent Protein Degradation in Intestinal Epithelial (Stem) Cell Biology ■ Molecular & Microbial	5	2:15 PM	Angela Carabeo MSc HSTP 2nd Yr · Renate Ysseldyk Women in Academia and the Responsibilization of Mental Health: A Scoping Review and Institutional Policy Scan ■ PhysAct / MH / Community ■ Population Health
6	2:30 PM	Nazanin Nasiri MSc HSTP 2nd Yr · Edana Cassol Characterizing wound patterns and healing trajectories in diabetic and non-diabetic patients at a hospital-based wound program ■ Clinical & Disease	6	2:30 PM	Alissa Vaziri MSc HSTP 2nd Yr · Paul Peters Data Visualization of Complex Health Information: Communicating Multiple-Cause Mortality and the Social Determinants of Health ■ Population Health ■ Clinical & Disease
Closing Remarks & Thank You's 2:45 PM					

Poster Session – Over Lunch (11:30 AM – 12:45 PM)

Location: Nichol 3040

BHSc – 4th Year Honours Thesis (HLTH 4910)

HLTH 4910 provides students the opportunity to undertake original research under the supervision of a faculty member, culminating in a written thesis and seminar presentation.

1. Age and Eye-Dominance Effects on Ocular-Motor Performance Using an Eye-Tracking Calibration Task

Student: Anastasiia Kostianets

Supervisors: Dr. Jeff W. Dawson & Dr. Martin Holcik

MSc in HSTP – 1st Year Graduate Posters

2. Strengthening Supports for Equity-Owed Fathers: Masculinities and Trauma- and Violence-Informed Physical Activities

Student: Kristina Epifano

Supervisor: Dr. Francine Darroch

3. Having active friends is associated with more physical activity and better mental health in Canadian adolescents

Student: Alexandra King

Supervisor: Dr. Jean-Philippe Chaput

Collaborators: Justin J. Lang (Public Health Agency of Canada)

4. Intersections among Religious/Spiritual Identities, Trust in Science, and Healthcare Experiences among Older Adults

Student: Helen Hagos

Supervisor: Dr. Renate Ysseldyk

Collaborators: Albert Banerjee (St. Thomas University); Kenneth Vail (Cleveland State University)

5. Building a Framework for Medical Learner Well-Being: Exploring Means to Innovate Healthcare Education and Clinical Environments

Student: Bridgette Reeb

Supervisor: Dr. Renate Ysseldyk

Collaborators: Victor Do (University of Alberta / Bruyere Health Research Institute); Jerry Maniate (University of Ottawa)

6. Co-designing strategies to support youth advocacy for good nutrition and iron deficiency prevention in Benin

Student: Emma Chisholm

Supervisor: Dr. Kristin Connor

MSc & PhD in Health Sciences – Featured Posters

7. The Maternal Serum Metabolome Is Altered In Pregnancies Carrying a Fetus With Spina Bifida

Student: Hauna Sheyholislami (PhD Candidate)

Supervisor: Dr. Kristin Connor

Collaborators: Scott Dos Santos, Greg Gloor, Tim Van Mieghem

8. Maternal high fat diet reprogrammes small intestinal metabolic, immune and nutrient-sensing pathways across gestation

Student: Erikles Barbosa (PhD Candidate)

Supervisor: Dr. Kristin Connor

Collaborators: Thaina Ferraz, Lucas Cardoso, Enrico Bloise (University of Toronto)

9. Maternal high fat diet disrupts small intestinal metabolites and metabolic pathways differently across gestation

Student: Lucas Cardoso (PhD Candidate)

Supervisor: Dr. Kristin Connor

Collaborators: Thaina Ferraz, Sadra Mohammadkhani, Enrico Bloise (Federal University of Minas Gerais)

10. Centring women in implementation: co-designing strategies to improve the uptake of a novel intervention to address iron deficiency in Benin

Student: Olivia Wilding-Davies (PhD Candidate)

Supervisor: Dr. Kristin Connor

11. TRNT1 Mutations in SIFD: Investigating the Genetics of a Rare Childhood Disease Through Yeast

Student: William MacLeod (Undergraduate)

Supervisor: Dr. Martin Holcik

12. Using AI for vertebral segmentation and fracture severity classification

Student: Adnan Alfarrar (DSAAI Program)

Supervisor: Dr. Utkarsh Dang

Collaborators: Nasrin Khan, Stefan Jackowski, Mary Ann Matzinger, Maya Sharke, Leanne Ward

Research Essay (HLTH 4906)

HLTH 4906 provides students with the opportunity to undertake an independent critical review and research proposal on a health-related topic, using library, database, and/or bioinformatics resources (supervised by Dr. Paul Peters).

13. Where is my diagnosis? Mapping diagnostic challenges women with polycystic ovary syndrome face in healthcare settings

Student: Aisha Modibbo

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

14. Qualitative Findings on Patient Perspectives, Experience, Patient-Reported Outcomes, and Access to CAR-T Therapy in Hematologic Malignancies

Student: Sneha Negi

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

15. Beyond Menstrual Pain: Educational, Psychosocial, and Health Impacts of Dysmenorrhea Among Adolescent Girls in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

Student: Ogochukwu Edoye

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

16. From Early Malnutrition to Adult Disease: How Childhood Nutrition Programs Lifelong Metabolic Health

Student: Emmanuel Ogunbayo

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

17. Understanding How the FKBP5 Gene May Influence PTSD Risk After Trauma

Student: Praise Aroeye

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

18. Effectiveness of Cognitive Stimulation Therapy in Slowing Cognitive Decline in Mild-Moderate Alzheimer's Disease

Student: Emmanuella Asumang

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

19. An Evidence Review Comparing Individual Coping Mechanisms and Peer Support for Depression in College Students

Student: Oluwafikayomi Omowaye

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

20. How the Healthcare System Drives Cardiovascular Disparities Among Indigenous Peoples in Canada

Student: Ilane Akpro

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

21. The Enigma of Hidradenitis Suppurativa, its unclear etiology and treatment challenges in adolescent males: a structured literature review

Student: Temitayo Oyenola

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

22. Comparative Effects of Vitamin D on Neuromuscular Coordination and Muscle Fibre Repair in Elite Male Athletes

Student: Ifeanyi Ntomchukwu

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Peters

Field Placement & Research Project (HLTH 4909)

HLTH 4909 provides students with the opportunity to reflect on and apply knowledge gained from their health sciences courses through practical work and research experience at partner organizations (supervised by Dr. Sonia Gulati).

23. Operationalizing Accessibility: Systematizing Para Transpo Stop Audits Through SOP Development

Student: Bhavishaa Venkat

Supervisor: HLTH 4909 Field Placement

24. Mastering the Machine: A Learning Module on Eye-Tracking Assistive Technology

Student: Aditi Mojumder, Ridhima Kantharia, Ann Nguyen

Supervisor: St. Vincent Hospital Bruyere (AAC Clinic)

25. The Effects of Sugar and Caffeine on Sleep for University Students

Student: Holly Rumig

Supervisors: Office of the Associate Vice President, Student Health & Wellness

26. Identifying priorities from the perspective of people living with brain injury in the community

Student: Fiona Mistry

Supervisor: Brain Injury Canada

Collaborators: Dr. Jennie Haw (Canadian Blood Services)

27. Improving Access to Perinatal Palliative Care in Level II Birthing Centers in Eastern Ontario

Student: Hanen Arraf

Supervisor: Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO)

Collaborators: Dr. Emanuela Ferretti; Dr. Stephanie Veldhuijzen Van Zanten (Roger Neilson House)

28. Perceptions of Artificial Intelligence in Canadian Communication Health Practice: Attitudes, Use, and Barriers to Adoption

Student: Viphop Pech

Supervisors: Speech-Language & Audiology Canada (SAC)

Collaborators: Bonnie Cooke (SAC)

Tiny Earth Project (HLTH 2004)

Tiny Earth is a global initiative engaging students in original research to discover soil bacteria that can produce novel antibiotics to address the antibiotic resistance crisis (supervised by Dr. Anil Gollapudi).

29. MJ Broad Spectrum: Small Bacterium, Big Potential

Students: Jillian Andrews & Makayda King-Borel

Supervisor: Dr. Anil Gollapudi

30. Branching into Discovery: Uncovering Maple SEA's Antibiotic Potential

Students: Savanna Shay, Erica Errington & Angela Wong

Supervisor: Dr. Anil Gollapudi

31. In Betsy We Trust: Discovering an Antibiotic-Producing Pseudomonas in the Soil Microbiome

Students: Maya Nassif & Sumama Chowdhury

Supervisor: Dr. Anil Gollapudi

32. From A Galaxy Far, Far Away To Our Tiny Earth: The C-3PO Antibiotic Producer

Students: Charlotte Chiniborch, Elijah Noel & Dylan Sohm

Supervisor: Dr. Anil Gollapudi

Thank you to all students, supervisors, and volunteers who made Health Sciences Research Day 2026 possible.