



Inflammation, Microbiome & Alimentation • Gastro-Intestinal & Neuropsychiatric Effects

Network Newsletter

Spring 2017

NETWORK UPDATES

It has been an exciting six months since I've joined the IMAGINE Network as Executive Director. I am truly proud to be part of such an innovative group of patients, clinicians and scientists working together to bring about transformative change for those living with IBD, IBS, and mental health issues.

Earlier this year, we expanded our Network team to include an Administrative Assistant, Veronica Vandeneede. Since December, we have been focusing on building formal work plans for the Network which cover all aspects of the Network, ranging from Marketing & Communications to Research Activities. We have been working on establishing structure, financial agreements, policies, and practices to govern the Network's operations.

I am extremely excited that we have designed a new brand identity for the logo, launched a website (www.imaginespor.com), built a social media presence, and now produced a quarterly newsletter. These platforms will allow us to communicate our Network's progress and impact with our key audiences. We encourage you to follow us on Twitter and Facebook, share with your colleagues in order to stay informed on Network activities and build greater awareness.



Aida Fernandes
Executive Director,
IMAGINE Network

The Network has had tremendous progress over the past year. As many of you know, Aida Fernandes joined the Network as the Executive Director in December 2016, ensuring that we stay on task of achieving our goals.

Since our last meeting during CDDW, I am pleased to say that with the support of the Scientific Working Groups, we have finalized the listing of patient questionnaires and research protocols. The main cohort study has already secured provisional ethics approval from McMaster's local Research Ethics Board, which will expedite ethics applications from other network sites. We are also working hard to ensure that questionnaires are available on the online system so that we can start recruitment.

We have recruited five new patient representatives to ensure that there is a strong presence and engagement from the people that matter most. We hope that everyone continues to take part in the many Patient-Oriented Research training opportunities that are available so that we can optimize our impact and learn how best to collaborate with our patient partners.

I hope you enjoy this inaugural issue of our e-newsletter and I look forward to connecting with those of you joining us on June 4 for our Network Face-to-Face meeting.

Dr. Paul Moayyedi
Principal Investigator,
IMAGINE Network



UPCOMING EVENTS

June 3, 2017
IMAGINE Network Patient-Oriented Research Foundational Curriculum Training

June 4, 2017
IMAGINE Network Annual Face-to-Face Meeting

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