



**Canadian Arthritis Network  
International Partnership Initiative**

**International Research & Training Program  
LABORATORY/CLINIC PROFILE**

**Contact information of the principal investigator**

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**Please indicate if you are member or affiliate of one or more of the following International Partnership Initiative organizations:**

- AO Foundation – Biotechnology Advisory Board, Switzerland
- Arthritis Foundation, USA
- Arthritis Research Campaign, UK
- Canadian Arthritis Network, Canada
- Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Japan
- Nuffield Foundation Oliver Bird Rheumatism Program, UK

**International Research & Training Program Opportunity**

**Please indicate which of the following international opportunities would be available at your laboratory/clinic.**

- Training Elective Rotation
- Research Mini-sabbatical
- Industry Training Rotation



**The International Research & Training Program will be available for trainee elective rotations and investigator mini-sabbaticals that commence on or before March 31, 2009. If you have any preferences regarding the dates when you can host an international trainee or investigator, please indicate this below.**

<b>Visit Length</b> (please indicate start and end dates if known):	To be discussed
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**Please provide ten key words and a brief description of the research currently being conducted in your laboratory/clinic, including descriptions of any specialized equipment, methods or technologies employed at your facility.**

**10 key words**

1. Clinical epidemiology
2. Health services/Models of care
3. Biostatistics
4. Knowledge translation
5. Cost studies
6. Quality of life
7. Pharmacology
8. Rheumatology
9. Orthopaedics
10. Rehabilitation sciences

**Brief description** (up to ½ page)

This centre focuses on clinical epidemiological and health services research, including health economic studies of arthritis, especially rheumatoid arthritis, seronegative arthritis and osteoarthritis. Examples of individual faculty interests include the psychosocial impact of rheumatoid arthritis (e.g. employment and work disability issues, parenting, and social support), risk factor analysis, and development of new measurement tools. There are close links to biomechanical engineering through the centre's participation in the Centre for Hip Health. The diverse scientific backgrounds of the faculty explain the highly collaborative research conducted at the centre. We are committed to "practical research for everyday living". To that end, the centre has appointed a Consumer Advisory Board, which collaborates actively on many studies, offering our scientists valuable insight into consumer needs and perspectives. For additional information on the Centre's faculty and activities, please see [www.arthritisresearch.ca](http://www.arthritisresearch.ca).

**Key publications** (maximum 5 publications)

1. Marra CA, Marion SA, Guh DP, Najafzadeh M, Wolfe F, Esdaile JM, Clarke AE, Gignac MA, Anis AH. Not all "quality-adjusted life years" are equal. *J Clin Epidemiol* (in press March 2007).
2. Ayas NT, Fitzgerald JM, White DP, Schulzer M, Fleetham J, Cooper, Marra CA. The cost-effectiveness of continuous positive airway pressure therapy for obstructive sleep apnea hypopnea. *Arch Intern Med*. 2006 May 8; 166: 977-84.



CANADIAN LE RÉSEAU  
ARTHRITIS CANADIEN  
NETWORK DE L'ARTHRITE

3. Marra CA, Woolcott JC, Shojania K, Offer R, Kopec J, Brazier JE, Esdaile JM, Anis AH. An assessment of the construct validity of four indirect utility measures in rheumatoid arthritis. *Soc Sci Med* 2005;60(7): 1571-82.
4. Marra CA, Esdaile JM, Anis AH. Practical pharmacogenetics: the cost effectiveness of screening for thiopurine s-methyltransferase (TPMT) polymorphisms in patients with rheumatological conditions treated with azathioprine. *J Rheum* 2002;29:2507-12. Abstracted by the 2004 Year Book of Rheumatology (published by Mosby-Year Book, Inc.)
5. Marra F, Lynd LD, Coombes M, Richardson K, Legal M, Fitzgerald JM, Marra CA. Does antibiotic exposure during infancy lead to development of asthma? A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Chest* 2006;129:610-18.