



**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):	3 months
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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**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA)</li><li>2. Outcomes</li><li>3. Quality of Life</li><li>4. Predictors of outcomes in JIA</li><li>5. Genetics</li><li>6. Surveillance</li><li>7. Epidemiology</li></ol>
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**Brief description (up to ½ page)**

<p>There are 4 multi-centre, multi-disciplinary research programs focussing on JIA current in Canada. As Principal investigator (PI), or co-investigator for each, I participate in the design, scientific decisions, organization, and analysis of results for these projects. Our centre participates in each. The 4 interconnected programs are: Research in Arthritis in Canadian Children focusing on outcome ReACCH-Out (CIHR, nominated PI, Dr. C. Duffy); Biologically Based Outcome Predictors in JIA (BBOP) (CAN, CIHR, TAS, Nominated PI, Dr. A. Rosenberg; Manitoba Institute of Child Health, Nominated PI K. Oen); Determinants of Risk and Outcome in Inflammatory arthritis (CIHR, Nominated PI, Dr. C. Siminovich); JIA in Canada (Public Health Agency of Canada, Nominated PI, Dr. L.Tucker). Each program has a research team consisting of paediatric rheumatologists, basic scientists, and epidemiologists and for BBOP kinesthesiology, nutrition, and psychology are also represented. Each participating pediatric rheumatology centre enrolls patients and provides data and biologic samples according to prescribed protocols. Laboratory-based investigations are carried out in designated research laboratories, i.e, Dr. Rosenberg's in Saskatoon, Dr. S. Turvey's in Vancouver, Drs. R. Yeung's and S. Scherer's laboratories in Toronto, for BBOP; and Drs. C. Siminovich's and R. Yeung's laboratories in Toronto for Determinants of Risk and Outcome.</p> <p>The first program, REACCH-Out is a prospective clinical and quality of life outcomes study of an inception cohort of patients with JIA. The other projects are linked to ReACCH-Out. BBOP will ascertain correlations among genetic and environmental determinants of disease outcome; and Determinants of risk and Outcome will examine the genetics of juvenile idiopathic arthritis, patterns of disease course, and effects of genetic variants on T cell activation. Correlations between genetic determinants and disease course patterns will be made. The fourth project will determine the incidence of JIA in Canada. The total program is an unprecedented research effort for JIA and we are grateful for the support of CAN for our research.</p>
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**Key publications** (maximum 5 publications)

**Oen K**, Malleson PN, Cabral DA, Rosenberg AM, Petty RE, Cheang M. Disease course and outcome of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis in a multicentre cohort. *Journal of Rheumatology* 2002;29:1989-99

**Oen K**, Malleson PN, Cabral DA, Rosenberg AM, Petty RE, Reed M, Schroeder ML, Cheang M. Early predictors of long-term outcome in patients with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis: Subset specific correlations. *Journal of Rheumatology* 2003;30:585-593

**Oen K**, Malleson PN, Cabral DA, Rosenberg AM, Petty RE, Nickerson P, Reed M. Cytokine genotypes correlate with pain and radiologically defined joint damage in patients with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. *Rheumatology* 2005;44:1115-1121.

**Oen K**, Robinson DB, Nickerson P, Katz SJ, Cheang M, Peschken CA, Canvin JMG, Hitchon CA, Schroeder ML, El-Gabalawy HS. Familial seropositive rheumatoid arthritis in North American Native Families: Effects of shared epitope and cytokine genotypes. *J Rheumatol*, 2005;32:983-91

Duffy CM, Yeung RSM, Tucker LB, Gibbon M, Zhang X, Dube S, **Oen KG** for the REACCH OUT Study Group. Baseline clinical and quality of life characteristics of children with new onset juvenile idiopathic arthritis – the REACCH OUT Study. *Arthritis Rheum* 2006:SS685