Centre for
Heart Lung Innovation
UBC and St. Paul's Hospital

Centre for Heart Lung Innovation Research in Progress (R.I.P.)

Interactions Between HIV & the Airway Epithelium: Understanding the Relationship of HIV & COPD

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Monday, March 15th, 2021
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Zoom Video Conference
(Meeting ID: 693 1997 7044; Passcode: 030679)

"Although antiretroviral therapy has effectively decreased mortality associated with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), people living with HIV (PLWH) still face a higher risk of chronic conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Symptoms associated with COPD tend to be more severe in PLWH and they are at higher risk of dying than PLWH without COPD. In this project, we propose that COPD in PLWH may be accelerated due to an upregulation of important HIV viral entry receptors in the airway epithelium that may start with cigarette smoke exposure, allowing for an injury interaction between the airway epithelium and HIV. Subsequent damage to the airway epithelium may make PLWH more vulnerable to infections and ongoing toxic exposures."

This event is a Self-Approved Group Learning Activity as defined by the Maintenance Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

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