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

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

Diagnosing western red-cedar asthma (WRCA) using blood-based gene expression

Jinelle Panton
PhD Student
Dr. Scott Tebbutt

Monday, Oct 25th 2021
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

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

"Western red-cedar asthma (WRCA) is the most common form of occupational asthma in British Columbia and is caused by sensitivity to a molecule found in the wood called plicatic acid (PA). Patients suspected of having WRCA must complete two inhalational challenges to determine sensitivity to PA, an expensive and time-consuming process. There is need for a cheaper and quicker method of diagnosis. Blood is relatively easy to access and useful in studying WRCA. Changes in peripheral blood gene expression were observed after the first inhalational challenge. I propose that I can identify changes in the peripheral blood of asthmatics with and without WRCA using blood samples collected before the first inhalational challenge."

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