PRAM strengthening partnerships through participatory science | CIET building community voices into planning | McGill

Monthly Newsletter

The Participatory Research Newsletter

This monthly newsletter aims to highlight the participatory research initiatives emerging from *Participatory Research @ McGill* (PRAM), and *Community Information, Empowerment and Transparency* (CIET), as well as share new opportunities for projects, courses, funding, and more!

Newsletter Update

To improve our accessibility and reach, the Participatory Research Newsletter is now offered in **French** and **Spanish**!

French | Spanish

A Month in Review

An ever busy team, below are a few updates from the PRAM/CIET network.

Monthly Meeting

Factors and priorities influencing satisfaction with care among women living with HIV in Canada: A Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping study

The PRAM team unites monthly to provide project updates, present research protocols, practice dissertations defences, and more.

This month, the PRAM team heard from Lashanda Skerritt, a MD-PhD candidate and Vanier Scholar in Family Medicine and Primary Care at McGill, who shared results from her community-based fuzzy cognitive mapping study of factors influencing satisfaction with HIV care among women living with HIV in Quebec and British Columbia, Canada.

Partner Updates

Traditional health of the Ñuu Savi in Mexico's Guerrero State

On May 18, Professor Jaime García Leyva, a member of the Ñuu Savi (People of the Rain) in Mexico's Guerrero State, explained the complexities of traditional concepts of health from his Indigenous group. He also described the current challenges of traditional medicine in Ñuu Savi communities.

Professor García is an anthropologist and senior faculty member at PRAM's partner institute in Mexico, the *Centro de Investigación de Enfermedades Tropicales at the Universidad Autónoma de Guerrero*.

Project Launch!

We are proud to announce the start of a new project, funded by the National Council of Science and Technology (Conacyt) of Mexico.

In June 2022, the activities of the project "**Safe childbirth and cultural security through intercultural dialogue between traditional midwives and hospital health personnel: controlled trial**" will begin.

It is a joint initiative between the CIET at the Autonomous University of Guerrero, Mexico; Participatory Research @ McGill (PRAM) from McGill University, Canada; and the Center for Intercultural Medical Studies (CEMI), from Colombia.

Through a participatory research process, the project aims to evaluate the impact of interventions co-designed by traditional Indigenous midwives and hospital service personnel in four municipalities of Guerrero, Mexico on the care of pregnancies and childbirth.

This will be the third cycle of research involving Indigenous traditional midwives in southeastern Mexico. In the first two cycles, it was documented that maternal health indicators *improve* when traditional midwives have support to transmit their knowledge to midwifery apprentices and that it is a requirement of midwives to be well recognized by Western society.

Congratulations to all involved in this project! We look forward to updates from this initiative.

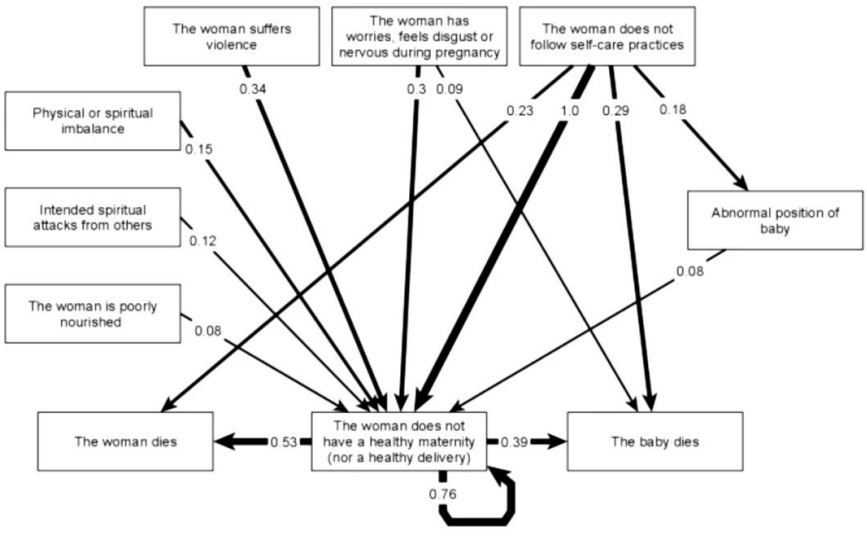
Visit our website for more PRAM project updates

Knowledge Translation

What is Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping?

As a PRAM Newsletter subscriber, you've likely read the term *Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping* many times - but what does it mean?

Fuzzy cognitive mapping (FCM) is a participatory research method that can help generate theory, describe knowledge systems in comparable terms, and inform questionnaire design and dialogue (Andersson & Silver, 2019).



Map from work with Indigenous communities in the Mexican state of Guerrero to identify actionable factors for maternal health from the perspective of traditional midwives (Sarmiento et al., 2020).

Importantly, FCM promotes the inclusion of stakeholders to help develop these models, and can help foster and strengthen participant-researcher partnerships, elevate marginalized voices, and facilitate intercultural dialogue (Andersson & Silver, 2019).

Curiosity piqued? Want to learn more about the practical application of Fuzzy

Cognitive Mapping? See our course announcement below!

UPCOMING COURSE - MCGILL UNIVERSITY

FMED 702: Advanced Doctoral Primary Care Research Seminars

Fall 2022

FMED 702 is a one-credit research seminar offered by the Department of Family Medicine at McGill that covers various topics relevant to advanced family medicine and primary care research.

This Fall, Drs Neil Andersson and Samira Abbasgholizadeh-Rahimi will be leading an applied course on *Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping* (FCM). Participants will learn about the practical applications of FCM and its analysis, with a particular focus on its use to co-create knowledge in participatory research settings.

*The course will admit a limited number of participants from outside McGill Family Medicine. Please contact **Iván Sarmiento** (PhD) at ivan.sarmiento@mcgill.ca for more information.*

Funding Opportunity

Teionkwaienawa:kon, the *Quebec Indigenous Mentorship Network for Health Research* (QIMNP) aims to increase the recruitment and retention of Indigenous health researchers* in Quebec, through innovative mentoring strategies.

Through strong mentorship of Indigenous researchers and community-based health research opportunities and experiences, mentees and communities increase capacity to address community research priorities and enact institutional changes.

Contact **Iván Sarmiento** at **ivan.sarmiento@mcgill.ca** for more information or to submit your application today.

**QIMN is open to support students directly or those in ongoing programs.*

Latest Publications

Highlighted below are some of the most recent publications from the industrious PRAM team:

Participatory Video Influenced Behaviour and Social Environment of Ghanaian Female Adolescent Learners: A Most Significant Change Evaluation

Authors: Mona Ghadirian, Grace Marquis, Neil Andersson & Naa Dodoo

Utility of a Pulmonary Oedema Score for Predicting the Need for Mechanical Ventilation in COVID-19 Patients in a General Hospital

Authors: Criseida Torres-Vargas, José Legorreta-Sobernais, Belén Madeline Sánchez-Gervacio, Pablo Alberto Fernández-López, Miguel Flores-Moreno, Victor Manuel Alvarado-Castro, Sergio Paredes-Solís, Neil Andersson & Anne Cockcroft

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Participatory Research @ McGill

Community Information, Empowerment and Transparency

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