

# Pediatric Emergency Research Canada/ Pédiatrie Urgence reCherche Canada Annual Scientific Meeting



**AGENDA**

**2026**

**FAIRMONT LE CHÂTEAU FRONTENAC**

Québec, QC

January 21- 22, 2024

[www.perc-canada.ca](http://www.perc-canada.ca)



**PERC**   
*PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY RESEARCH CANADA*  
*PÉDIATRIE URGENCE RECHERCHE CANADA*



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## **PERC 2026 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING MEETING OBJECTIVES**

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By the end of the PERC 2026 Annual Scientific Meeting, participants will be able to:

1. Foster national research collaboration to address key questions in support of pediatric emergency medicine. This includes identifying and engaging with potential research partners, understanding the current landscape of pediatric emergency medicine research, and formulating strategies to address pressing research questions collaboratively.
2. Disseminate knowledge to advance evidence-based practice in pediatric emergency medicine. Participants will learn effective methods for sharing research findings and clinical best practices, both within their own networks and to a broader audience. This includes leveraging various platforms and tools for knowledge dissemination and understanding how to translate research findings into practical applications.
3. Develop cohesiveness and community between centres involved in the practice of pediatric emergency medicine. This objective focuses on building strong, collaborative relationships among different centres and practitioners. Participants will explore ways to enhance communication, share resources, and work together towards common goals in pediatric emergency medicine.

## AGENDA OVERVIEW

### Sunday, January 25, 2026

0800-1530	<b>Trainee Education Day</b>
1200-1600	<b>RCPS Subspecialty Meeting</b>
1530-1730	<b>PEM Trainee Networking Reception</b>

### Monday, January 26, 2026

0900-1100	<b>Medical Directors Meeting</b>
0900-1145	<b>Pre-Conference Workshop: PERC-PERC Study Investigator Meeting</b>
1030-1145	<b>Brunch</b>
1200-1630	<b>Trainee Research Day</b>
1200-1515	<b>Coordinator Meeting</b>
1645-1745	<b>Welcome Reception</b>
1745-1845	<b>Top Trainee Abstracts Presentation</b>
1845-1930	<b>PERC 2026 Annual General Meeting</b>

### Tuesday, January 27, 2026

0800-1245	<b>Research Presentations &amp; Keynote Speaker</b>
1245-1445	<b>TREKK Lunch &amp; Meeting</b>
1445-1745	<b>Special Interest Group &amp; Investigator Team Meetings</b>
1800-1900	<b>Networking Reception</b>
1900-2200	<b>PERC Dinner</b>

### Wednesday, January 28, 2026

0800-0900	<b>PERC Executive &amp; Site Representatives Meeting</b>
0900-1430	<b>Research Presentations &amp; Panel Discussion</b>
1430-1900	<b>Special Interest Group &amp; Investigator Team Meetings</b>

### Thursday, January 29, 2026

0800-1110	<b>Investigator Team Meetings</b>
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## PERC 2026 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

### TRAINEE EDUCATION DAY

Sunday January 25, 2026

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**Location: To be announced**

**Session Objectives:** At the end of these sessions, all participants will be able to recognize the structured and interactive education opportunities for PEM trainees & junior researchers.

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0800-0845    **Registration and Breakfast**

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0845-0915	<b>Welcome and Introduction to PERC</b> <i>Session Objectives: Facilitate introductions and foster collaborative relationships among PEM trainees across Canada</i>	Dr. Samina Ali
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0915-1015	<b>Primer on Personal Finance</b> <i>Session Objectives: By the end of the session, participants will be able to (1) identify key personal finance concepts relevant to early-career physicians, including budgeting, managing debt, and planning for long-term savings; (2) compare financial considerations across different physician compensation models (e.g., fee-for-service vs. salaried) and recognize how these may influence individual financial planning; (3) apply practical strategies to support informed financial decision-making during residency and early practice, including approaches to goal-setting and evaluating financial trade-offs</i>	Dr. Russell Lam & Dr. Mohamed Eltorki
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1015-1045    **COFFEE BREAK**

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1045-1130	<b>Environmental Scan of PEM Jobs in Canada</b> <i>Session Objectives: By the end of the session, participants will be able to: (1) compare the key features of Pediatric Emergency Medicine (PEM) physician positions across Canadian PERC sites to support informed career decision-making.; and (2) evaluate the factors influencing work-life balance and professional growth opportunities in PEM roles to thoughtfully select a site and career pathway that aligns with personal and professional priorities.</i>	Dr. Laura Simone
1130-1230	<b>Top 10 Articles in PEM</b> <i>Session Objectives: By the end of the session, participants will be able to discuss the key findings and implications of the top PEM research articles from 2025 to facilitate knowledge translation into clinical practice.</i>	Dr. Ariane Boutin Dr. Evelyn Doyon-Trottier
1230-1330	<b>LUNCH</b>	
1330-1400	<b>PERC Interactive Session</b> <i>Session Objectives: By the end of the session, participants will be able to (1) identify key facilitators and barriers to pursuing a research trajectory in PEM, and (2) develop strategies to support continued research engagement among PEM Trainees as they transition into their careers.</i>	Dr. Samina Ali
1400-1520	<b>Panel Discussion: Career Trajectories in PEM</b> <i>Session Objectives: By the end of the session, participants will be able to (1) compare diverse career pathways in PEM, including administrative, leadership, clinical, quality improvement, and research-focused roles, through perspectives from staff at various career stages and sites across Canada and (2) identify strategies for effective career planning and progression in PEM, tailored to individual strengths and interests, across different areas of practice.</i>	Dr. Evelyn Doyon-Trottier Dr. Waleed Alqurashi Dr. Hasan Merali Dr. Dominic Allain Dr. Henry Annan Dr. Lara Berliner Dr. April Kam Dr. Adrienne Davis
1530-1730	<b>Networking with Medical Directors</b>	



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## SUPPLEMENTAL MEETINGS

*\*\* These sessions are by invitation only \*\**

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**Sunday, January 25, 2026**

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**RCPS Subspecialty Meeting**

1200-1600

*By Invitation Only*

*\*\*This is an unaccredited, non-CPD activity\*\**

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**Monday, January 26, 2026**

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**Medical Directors Meeting**

0900-1100

*By Invitation Only*

*\*\*This is an unaccredited, non-CPD activity\*\**

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**Pre-Conference Workshop: PERC-PERC Study Investigator Meeting**

0900-1145

*By Invitation Only*

*\*\*This is an unaccredited, non-CPD activity\*\**

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## PERC 2026 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

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**Monday, January 26, 2026**

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1030-1145 **Brunch & Registration**

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1200-1515 **Research Coordinators Meeting**

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1200-1630 **Trainee Research Day – Research Presentations  
Block I & II**

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1400-1430 **COFFEE BREAK**

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1645-1745 **Wine and Cheese Welcome**

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1745-1845 **Trainee Research Day – Top Trainee Abstracts  
Block III**

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1845-1930 **PERC 2026 Annual General Meeting**

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**----- END OF DAY -----**

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## PERC 2026 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

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**Tuesday, January 27, 2026**

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0730-0800 Breakfast & Registration

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**Research Presentations Block IV**  
**Location: To be announced**

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0800-0815	<i>Completed</i>	Naveen Poonai	Intranasal ketamine and dexmedetomidine for procedural sedation in children: a multicentre adaptive trial (Ketodex)
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0815-0845	<i>New</i>	Naveen Poonai	PRedictors Of maladaptive behaviors in children undergoing procedural SEDation (PRoSEED)
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0845-0900	<i>Completed</i>	Waleed Alqurashi	Canadian Anaphylaxis Network- Predicting Recurrence after Emergency Presentation for Allergic Reaction (CAN-PREPARE)
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0900-0930	<i>New</i>	Waleed Alqurashi	Canadian Anaphylaxis Network: Emergency Department Comparison of Intranasal Versus Intramuscular Epinephrine in Pediatric Anaphylaxis (CAN-EPIC): A Pilot Non-Inferiority Trial
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1345-1415	<i>New</i>	Rana Swed Tobia	Canadian Analgesia and Anxiolysis Led Management of (CALM) Intussusception: A Multicenter Quality Improvement Initiative
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## **PERC 2026 KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Dr. Hasan Merali**

**January 27, 2026**



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Dr. Merali is an associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics, McMaster University, and a pediatric emergency medicine physician at McMaster Children's Hospital. He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins University. His research focuses on child injury prevention in low- and middle-income countries. He has published more than twenty-five peer-reviewed journal articles, and his work has been featured in The New York Times, BBC, CNN, NBC, Science, and Popular Science. In 2024, he published his first book, *Sleep Well, Take Risks, Squish the Peas: Secrets from the Science of Toddlers for a Happier, More Successful Way of Life*. Dr. Merali's keynote will explore what we can learn from toddlers—highlighting how curiosity, exploration, and communication can inspire innovation in pediatric emergency research and care.

### **Session Title: Unlocking the Power of Curiosity: Lessons from Toddlers**

#### Session Objectives:

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe key lessons from early childhood development that can support curiosity and inquiry in paediatric emergency medicine.
2. Identify ways that toddler like questioning can be applied to improve research and quality improvement work in paediatric emergency medicine.

Learn more about Dr. Merali and his work:

[www.hasanmerali.com](http://www.hasanmerali.com)

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1000-1030 **COFFEE BREAK**

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1030-1130 **KEYNOTE  
SPEAKER** **Dr. Hasan Merali** **Unlocking the Power of Curiosity:  
Lessons from Toddlers**

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1130-1145 *Completed* Yaron Finkelstein Intervening in the Acute Management for Suicidal Adolescents and Families in the Emergency Department (I AM SAFE): A Multi-Centre Randomized Controlled trial

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1145-1155 *Completed* Gabrielle Freire Pediatric Injury Care: A National Mixed Methods Assessment of Healthcare System and Provider-Based Barriers to Improvement

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1155-1210 *Completed* Amy Plint Examining the risk of asthma among children treated for bronchiolitis in the emergency department: a multicentre, longitudinal study

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1210-1225 *Completed* Amy Plint High-dose corticosteroid treatment of term infants: assessment of long-term neurodevelopmental effects

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1225-1235 *Completed* Vikram Sabhaney Evaluating the Quality of Canadian Pediatric Sepsis Clinical Practice Guidelines

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**----- END OF RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS -----**

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1245-1445 **TREKK Lunch & Meeting**  
*Open to all who have pre-registered online*

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1430-1500 **COFFEE BREAK**

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1445-1645 **Investigator Meeting – Stephen Freedman**  
SPRINT-KIDS #1: Surveillance Program for Rapid Identification and Tracking of infectious diseases in KIDS

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1645-1745 **Special Interest Group Meeting**  
Pain Interest Group (PIG)

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1645-1745 **Investigator Meeting – Andrée-Anne Ledoux & Roger Zemek**  
Multisite Randomized Clinical Trial: Mindfulness-Based Intervention for Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (MBI-4-mTBI)

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1800-1900 **Networking Reception**  
*\*\*This is an unaccredited, non-CPD activity\*\**

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1900-2200 **PERC Dinner**

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**----- END OF DAY -----**

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## PERC 2026 PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION

January 28, 2026

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Moderators: Dr. Samina Ali, PERC Chair & Dr. Gabrielle Freire, 2025 PERC Executive Member

Panelists: Dr. Gary Joubert (Chair, NCER), Dr. Corinne Hohl (Chair, CEDRN),

Dr. Olivier Drouin (Director, POPCORN), Dr. Peter Gill (Chair, PIRN)

### **Session Title: Stronger Together: Advancing Collaborations for Greater Impact**

**Session Objectives:** By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the purpose, goals, priorities, and current research activities of the collaborating networks (CEDRN, NCER, PIRN, and POPCORN) and their intersections with PERC
2. Identify shared opportunities and challenges that influence national and international collaboration in emergency and pediatric research
3. Discuss potential future directions and practical strategies to strengthen cross-network partnerships that advance pediatric emergency research

Strengthening national and international partnerships as a central priority of PERC's 2024 to 2027 strategic plan. This session highlights the significant progress PERC has made toward the school and brings together leaders from four key collaborating networks - the Canadian Emergency Department Research Network (CEDRN), the Network of Canadian Emergency Researchers (NCER), the Pediatric Inpatient Research Network (PIRN), and Pediatric Outcome Improvement through Coordination of Research Networks (POPCORN).

Each network representative will provide a brief overview of their purpose, priorities, and current collaborations with PERC, followed by a moderated discussion exploring shared opportunities, challenges, and future directions for joint research efforts. This session is designed to build forward momentum, identify new avenues for collaboration, and strengthen partnerships that support high-impact pediatric emergency research across Canada.

Learn more about these partner networks:

<https://ncer.ca/>  
<https://www.pirncanada.com/>  
<https://www.popcornpediatrics.ca/>  
<https://cedrn.ca/>

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## PERC 2026 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

**Wednesday, January 28, 2026**

0730-0900 **BREAKFAST**

0800-0900 **Executive and Site Representatives Meeting**  
*In-person meeting for PERC Executive members and Site-Representatives only*

### **Research Presentations Block V** **Room Location: To be announced**

0900-0930 *New* Andrew Pinto Pandemic preparedness engaging primary care and emergency departments (PREPARED)

0930-1030 **PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**Stronger Together:**  
**Advancing Collaborations for**  
**Greater Impact**  
 CEDRN: Dr. Corinne Hohl  
 NCER: Dr. Gary Joubert  
 PIRN: Dr. Peter Gill  
 POPCORN: Dr. Olivier Drouin  
 PERC: Dr. Samina Ali & Dr. Gabrielle Freire

1030-1050 **COFFEE BREAK**

1050-1100 *Completed* Melanie Bechard Practice Variation in Use of Intravenous Fluid Bolus for Acute Migraine Attacks in Canadian Pediatric Emergency Departments

1100-1115 *Completed* Amy Plint A randomized controlled trial comparing epinephrine and dexamethasone to placebo in the treatment of infants with bronchiolitis: the Bronchiolitis in Infants Placebo versus Epinephrine and Dexamethasone (BIPED) study

1115-1125	<i>Completed</i>	Ceilidh Kinlin	Prospective Multicenter Validation of UTICalc for Diagnosing Urinary Tract Infection in Febrile Children Aged 2 to 24 Months Presenting to Emergency Departments (PROV-UTICalc)
1125-1135	<i>Completed</i>	Stevi Golden-Plotnik	Perspectives on gender impact on research in academic emergency medicine in Canada: a mixed methods study
1135-1145	<i>Completed</i>	Quynh Doan	Standardized Workload Assessment Metric for Pediatric Emergency Departments (SWAMPED)
1145-1200	<i>New/ Ongoing</i>	Janet Curran	Examining the effectiveness and implementation of the Emergency Department Patient-Activated Transition to Care at Home (ED-PATCH) tool: a mixed methods hybrid type 2 design study
1200-1300	<b>LUNCH BUFFET</b>		
1300-1330	<i>New</i>	Adrienne Davis	Bedside Recognition of shunt failure using non-Invasive diagnostics in children (BRAIN study)
1330-1345	<i>Completed</i>	Graham Thompson	Precision Medicine for Improving the Diagnosis of Pediatric Appendicitis in the Emergency Department (PRIMED)
1345-1410	<i>New</i>	Brett Burstein	Proteomic Profiling for Detection of Invasive Bacterial Infections in Febrile Infants ≤60 Days Old: A Multicentered Prospective Cohort Study
1410-1440	<i>New</i>	Alex Aregbesola	Improving urine sample collection effectiveness and experience in pre-toilet- trained children: a randomized controlled noninferiority trial

**----- END OF RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS -----**

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1440-1510 **COFFEE BREAK**

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1445-1545 **Investigator Meeting – Suzanne Schuh**  
Magnesium Trial in Acute Asthma in Emergency Department- MAGICIAN Trial

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1445-1545 **Investigator Meeting – Olivier Drouin**  
Pediatric Outcome improvement through Coordination of Research Networks (POPCORN)

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1555-1655 **Special Interest Group Meeting**  
Implementation Science Special Interest Group  
PEM-Powered (Practice-Enabling Mobilization and Implementation Science in PEM)

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1555-1655 **Investigator Meeting – Quynh Doan**  
Standardized Workload Assessment Metric for Pediatric Emergency Departments (SWAMPED)

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1645-1715 **COFFEE BREAK**

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1705-1805 **Special Interest Group Meeting**  
Women in Research Special Interest Group (WiRSIG)

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1705-1805 **Investigator Meeting – Stephen Freedman**  
Hyperhydration to Improve Kidney Outcomes in Children with Shiga Toxin-Producing E. coli Infection (HIKO STEC)

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1815-1915 **Investigator Meeting – Graham Thompson**  
Pragmatic Pediatric Trial of Balanced versus Normal Saline Fluids in Sepsis (PRoMPT BOLUS)

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1815-1915 **Investigator Meeting – Naveen Poonai**  
PRedictors Of maladaptive behaviors in children undergoing procedural SEDation (PRoSEED)

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**----- END OF DAY -----**

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## PERC 2026 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

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**Thursday, January 29, 2026**

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0730-0910 **Breakfast**

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**Investigator Meeting – Naveen Poonai**  
0800-0900 Anxiolysis for laceration repair in children: an adaptive trial (ALICE)

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**Investigator Meeting – Mohamed Eltorki**  
0910-1010 Intravenous Ketorolac versus Morphine in Children Presenting with Suspected Appendicitis: A Multi-Centre Non-Inferiority Randomized Controlled Trial (KETO APP TRIAL)

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**Investigator Meeting #1 - Des Pernica**  
1020-1120 PIONEERS (PromotIng Optimal Treatment for Community-acquired PNeumonia in EmEmergency Rooms)

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0945-1130 **REFRESHMENTS & SNACKS AVAILABLE**

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**----- END OF CONFERENCE -----**

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## **PERC 2026 INVESTIGATOR MEETINGS**

**January 26-29, 2026**

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The Pediatric Emergency Research Canada (PERC / Pédiatrie Urgence reCherche Canada) Annual Scientific Meeting includes dedicated, in-person investigator meetings for multi-centre research studies conducted across the PERC network. These sessions bring together study investigators, coordinators, trainees, and research personnel from sites across Canada to support high-quality, evidence-informed research conduct and strengthen the scientific rigor of ongoing studies.

Each investigator meeting provides an opportunity for participants who are study team members to review interim study results, analyze recruitment and data quality metrics, discuss methodological or operational issues, and collaboratively develop solutions to challenges encountered across sites. Investigators share local experiences, compare implementation processes, and identify opportunities to optimize protocol adherence and study efficiency. Sessions include structured discussion periods, case examples from participating sites, and open Q&A to promote interactivity and peer learning.

These investigator meetings directly support the professional development of participants by enhancing their capacity to lead and implement multi-centre research. Through collaborative analysis, problem-solving, and knowledge exchange, participants deepen their understanding of research methodology, improve the quality and consistency of study conduct, and strengthen skills in multi-site trial management, data interpretation, and implementation science.

The sessions are facilitated by study principal investigators and members of the PERC Executive, who guide discussion, ensure scientific integrity, and promote evidence-informed decision-making. Each meeting is grounded in PERC's mandate to advance high-quality pediatric emergency research.

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. Review and interpret study progress metrics (e.g., recruitment, data completeness, protocol adherence) to identify areas requiring improvement across participating sites.
2. Discuss site-specific implementation challenges and collaboratively develop evidence-informed strategies to optimize study conduct and operational efficiency.
3. Apply standardized procedures and best practices to enhance data quality, ensure methodological consistency, and support high-quality multi-centre research.
4. Identify actionable next steps to strengthen study coordination, communication, and compliance across the network.



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## **PERC 2026 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS**

**January 28, 2026**

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The Pediatric Emergency Research Canada (PERC) Special Interest Group (SIG) sessions provide structured opportunities for clinicians, researchers, and trainees to engage in focused, collaborative learning within key priority areas of pediatric emergency medicine. The SIGs—such as the Pain Interest Group, Women in Research Special Interest Group (WiRSIG), and Implementation Science SIG—serve as dedicated forums to review emerging evidence, discuss ongoing PERC initiatives, share site-level experiences, and identify opportunities to strengthen research and clinical practice across the network.

Each SIG session includes interactive components such as facilitated discussion, case or project review, group problem-solving, and strategic planning. Participants critically analyze challenges and gaps within their area of focus and work together to develop practical approaches that can be applied at their local institutions. Sessions support networking, mentorship, and the exchange of expertise across disciplines, fostering national collaboration and professional development.

These SIG meetings directly contribute to PERC's mandate to advance high-quality pediatric emergency research by promoting methodological excellence, equity and inclusion, effective knowledge translation, and consistent uptake of evidence-based practices across sites. The interactive format ensures that participants gain actionable insights and leave with clear next steps to further SIG initiatives and strengthen collaborative efforts across the PERC network.

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. Review current evidence, emerging priorities, and recent developments relevant to the SIG's focus area within pediatric emergency medicine.
2. Discuss challenges, gaps, and variations across sites and collaboratively identify strategies to improve practice, research processes, or implementation efforts.
3. Apply tools, frameworks, or evidence-informed approaches to enhance research quality, clinical practice, or knowledge translation within their area of focus.
4. Identify actionable next steps to advance collaborative work across the PERC network and contribute to ongoing SIG initiatives.



***SAVE THE DATE!***

***PERC 2026 Annual Scientific Meeting  
January 25 – January 29, 2027***



***Fairmont Banff Springs  
Banff, Alberta***

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