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February 2026 Newsletter



Mark your calendar

The Canadian Children IBD Network

SUMMIT 2026: plans are well underway for

the international meeting to be held **April**

19-20, 2026!

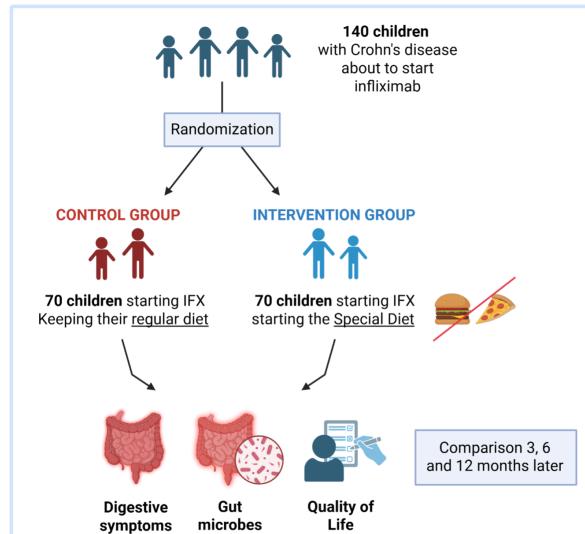
Visit www.ccibdn-summit.ca for all the details and registration.

DISPENSE-T Study

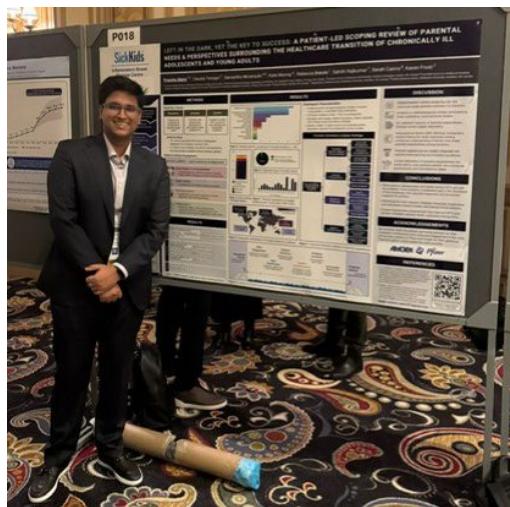
Recruitment is about to begin at the lead site, BC Children's Hospital (University of British Columbia), and will roll out across Canada in 2026.

The DISPENSE-T study (PIs: Drs. Kevan Jacobson, Genelle Lunken) is a randomized trial testing whether a targeted nutritional strategy focused on a diet low in ultra processed foods (UPF) can enhance the efficacy of Infliximab in children with Crohn's disease. The study is funded by a PIONEER grant from the Canadian IBD Research Consortium (CIRC) and is conducted in partnership with CIDsCaNN, bringing together the expertise of gastroenterologists, researchers, dietitians, and patient advocates across Canada.

follow a low UPF diet supported by a dietitian. Over the course of a year, biological samples (stool, blood, biopsies, mucosal wash), dietary data, quality-of-life measures, and clinical outcomes will be collected.



More information on DISPENSE-T



Pranshu Maini at the 2026 Crohn's & Colitis Congress

This poster summarizes findings from a scoping review which aimed to map the current landscape of parental perspectives, support needs, and available resources during the transition from pediatric to adult care. We found that while parental experiences during healthcare transitions are well documented, efforts to translate this knowledge into tangible, evidence-based supports remain profoundly limited.

This is a gap we aim to address through our ongoing multi-centre study called **Parental Resource Offering Active Care Transition for Adolescents with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (PROACT-IBD)**, in partnership with CIDsCaNN.

Welcome



Join us in welcoming our newest CIDSCaNN member, Karen Frost!

Honouring Professor Brian Feagan

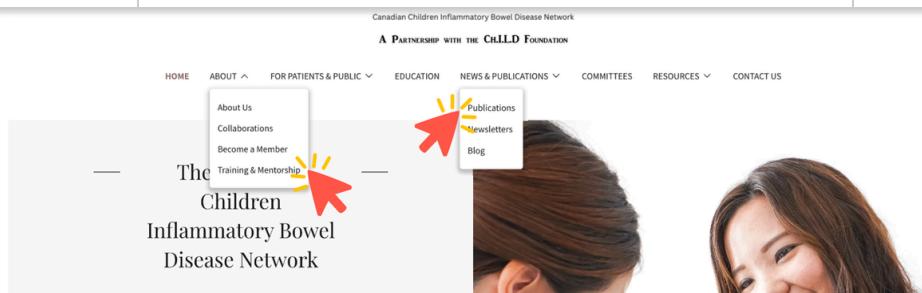
All of us in CIDSCaNN were shocked and saddened by the sudden passing on November 23, 2025 of Dr. Brian Feagan.

Dr. Feagan was a gastroenterologist, Professor of Medicine at Western University, London, Ontario, and the founder of Robarts Clinical Trials, now called Alimentiv. Seldom has one individual had such a presence within nor such an impact on the worldwide inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) community. His leadership in national and international multi-centre clinical trials and in the implementation of innovative study design have been legendary. He was a visionary known for his clarity of thought and intellectual rigor, "a force of nature," as one colleague has described the magnitude of his influence and contributions for the benefit of patients with IBD. Meanwhile, his commitment to training and mentoring the next generation of IBD clinicians and clinical researchers was second to none.



On a personal level, for many of us, Brian was an inspiring mentor and a loyal friend, who encouraged efforts to optimize care of children and adolescents with IBD. His passing has left a tremendous void. Our sincere condolences to his wife Nancy, his children and grandchildren, as well as his colleagues and collaborators around the world.

New on cidscann.ca



Check out the new **Training & Mentorship page** to learn about professional training and development opportunities, guided by the Training & Mentorship Committee.

cidscann.ca > About > [Training & Mentorship](#)

The new **Publications page** will be a home for links to CIDSCaNN published articles. To ensure your publications are added to the list, remember to enter it in the Project Tracker.

cidscann.ca > News & Publications > [Publications](#)

Remember to update the Project Tracker!

With so many projects underway, the tracker makes it easy to see what's happening across the board, ensure key policies are followed, and highlight the amazing work being done. Already leading a project? Make sure it's listed —and if it is, take a moment to confirm the info is accurate and up to date. Let's keep the momentum going!

Find the Tracker in the CIDSCaNN Shared Documents DropBox folder, within the CIDSCaNN Activity Management folder. If you have trouble accessing it, contact Michelle (michelle.ouzounis@sickkids.ca).

Project Tracker on the shared Dropbox

Important Reminders



The CIDSCaNN shared documents DropBox has logo files, poster templates, branded powerpoint templates and the Project Tracker for member use.

Preparing a grant application? The budget builder is available by contacting Michelle at michelle.ouzounis@sickkids.ca.

CIDSCaNN provides financial support for the	Conference travel funds are available for trainees	Access the CIDSCaNN database. We encourage
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network-related submissions. Please email Suzanne at suzanne.shek@sickkids.ca for information.

and present abstracts of CIDSCaNN data.
Find the application form [on the website](#).

research protocols, abstracts and publications using information from the CIDSCaNN database. Find information on the [Governance & Policies](#) webpage.

Education Update



Missed the latest Education Session? No problem!

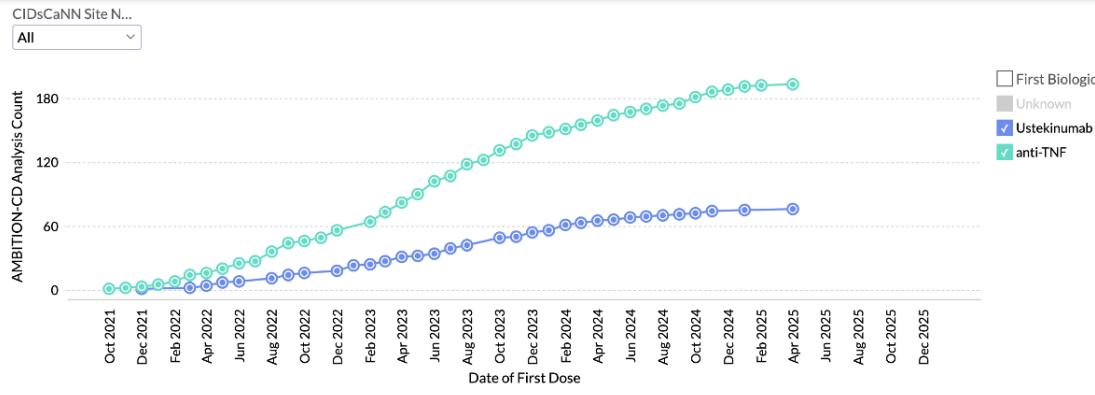
You can watch it on the [CIDSCaNN YouTube channel](#).

Have you subscribed to be notified of Education sessions?

This is intended to help us keep track of registration and notify participants of cancellations or changes. All you need to do is [visit the website](#) and fill in a short form.

[Go to the website](#)

Current Projects



Phase 2 CIDsCaNN: AMBITION-CD

Participating sites: All

Assessment of Mucosal Biochemical and clinical response to Interleukin-12/23 or TNF Inhibitors in biologic-naïve Crohn's Disease

Target: 200 antiTNF, 100 UST

Inclusion criteria: Children age 2-17y with Crohn's disease starting first biologic as antiTNF or UST for luminal Crohn's disease

AMBITION-CD Site Lead Meetings take place the second Tuesday of each month.

Contact: Hayley hayley.mckay@sickkids.caContact: Michelle michelle.ouzounis@sickkids.ca

Site	Enrolled in AMBITION-CD	Biologic	
		Ustekinumab	Anti TNF
Calgary	12	9	3
Ottawa	27	1	26
Montreal	4	3	1
Ste Justine	19	10	9
Vancouver	50	1	49
Toronto	66	20	46
London	20	5	15
Edmonton	28	18	10
Halifax	20	3	17
St Johns	4	0	4
Winnipeg	16	3	13
McMaster	4	3	1
Total	270	76	194

Biopsies	114 (45%)
DNA	215 (86%)
RNA	191 (76%)
Serum	196 (78%)
Stool	119 (47%)

PARTICIPATING SITES



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