

SCHOLARSHIP  
in  
*the* department

1964-2024

James.Hanley@McGill.ca  
<https://jhanley.biostat.mcgill.ca>

60th Anniversary Symposium  
Nov 18th, 2025

recorded: Oct 09

# McGill

1979-80  
FACULTY OF  
MEDICINE

McGill University  
Montreal

## **Epidemiology and Health**

*Chairman* – R.O. Oseasohn

*Professors* – M.R. Becklake, S.S. Lee, F.D.K. Liddell, W.O. Spitzer

*Associate Professors* – M. Arhirii, D.G. Bates, W.D. Dauphinee, L. Davignon, F. Fenton, G.W. Gibbs, A.S. Macpherson, P.V. Pelnar, I.B. Pless, S. Shapiro, J.W. Stamm, N. Steinmetz

*Assistant Professors* – J-F Boivin, D. Clarkson, G. Eyssen, W.G. Goldthorpe, J. Hoey, J. Hoffman, I. Horowitz, M. Kramer, J. Siemiatycki, D.C. Thomas

*Lecturers* – A.M. Clarfield, H. Ghezze, C. Larson, B. Pollak

*Associated Members* – C. Dixon, J. Lella

FRITHWORTH DE USING SOCIAL NETWORKS TO BETTER CONCEPTUALISE RISK FOR BLOODBORNE VIRUSES AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS Ph.D. 2007

G.A. BELLERA HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN BAYESIAN MODELING OF POST-RADIOTHERAPY PROSTATE CANCER Ph.D. 2006

LEON BELL EFFECTS OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: HOW IN AFGHAN REFUGEE VILLAGES IN PAKISTAN (1997-1999) M.Sc. 1996

CHRISTINA M. BAUCEJ IMMIGRANT WOMEN, WORK AND HEALTH M.Sc. 1997

MARCEL A. BALZAN SLEEP APNEA AND CLINICAL CONSEQUENCES OTHER THAN SNOORING M.Sc. 1998

ARI AZOLUAY, B. CHAN THE USE OF THE TRANSITION SPEECH TO COMBINE COSTS BETWEEN CANADA M.Sc. 2001

S. AHMED RESPONSE SHIFT AND HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE POST-STROKE Ph.D. 2004

STEVEN ADES HUMAN LEUKOCYTE ANTIGEN POLYMORPHISMS AND RISK OF CERVICAL NEOPLASIA M.Sc. 2005

NEENA S. ABRAHAM THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF A POLYCYCLOPHENOLIC SODIUM IN THE PREVENTION OF GASTROINTESTINAL DYSOSIS: A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL M.Sc. 2002

ODD ARNOLD WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE CONCEPT OF "VERY LOW BIRTHWEIGHT"? 1989

CHAVITAL ARCHER, MD LA PALUDISME: L'OVERSAMPLAGE A LA GHIROPHOPHILUS DES VOYAGERS 1991 M.Sc. 2007

HANA ARSAGHI INEQUITIES IN ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE BY INCOME AND PRIVATE INSURANCE COVERAGE: A LONGITUDINAL ANALYSIS M.Sc. 2007

NUSHA ALMEIDA MEASURES OF MATERNAL TOBACCO SMOKE EXPOSURE AND FETAL GROWTH M.Sc. 2007

ITEL FORTNATION AND RESPONSES TO A HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE ROBERT ALLARD

JAM BLANDJERIC AN INTERACTION BETWEEN STATINS AND CLOPIDOGREL: A PHARMACODYNAMIC/TOXICOLOGY CLINICAL STUDY WITH SURVIVAL TIME ANALYSIS M.Sc. 2007

L.M. BIEBRE CHANNELLING IN NON-EXPERIMENTAL PHARMACOPIDEMIOLOGIC RESEARCH: ITS ROLE IN UNDERSTANDING CONFOUNDING BY INDICATION Ph.D. 2003

HAROLD S. BERGER, M.D. THE RELATIVE MERITS OF ALTERNATIVE INTRAVENOUS CERVICAL DYSPLASIA TREATMENTS... 1994 Ph.D. 2001

S. BERNATSKY MALIGNANCY IN SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS M.Sc. 2001

DO INFANT FORMULA SAMPLES AFFECT BREAST-FEEDING? YVES BERNHARTIN 1983 M.Sc. 2006

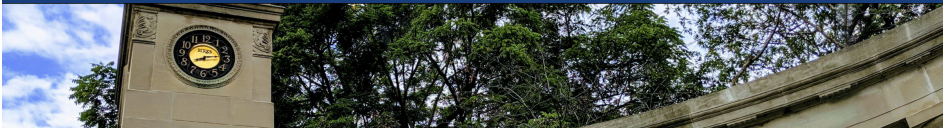
S. ASSOLINE VALIDITY AND RESPONSIVENESS OF AN ADAPTED VERSION OF RACIST RESPONSE EVALUATION CRITERIA IN SOLID TUMORS TO ASSESS RESPONSE IN NON-SMOKERS: A COMPARISON OF ORAL CONTRACEPTIVE USE IN EAST AND WEST GERMANY (1990-1992) M.Sc. 1997

ANITA ASSMAN ANTIHYPERTENSIVES, HYPERTENSION AND THE RISK OF CANCER Ph.D. 2008





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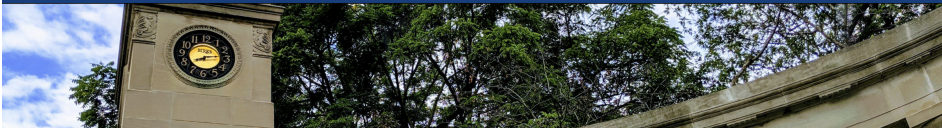
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Enter search terms or select 'Go' to browse. **THE Department ... Theses 1964 - 2024**

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MSc and PhD theses

1964-2024

by students in what is now named

The Department of

Epidemiology,

Biostatistics,

and

Occupational Health

## MSc and PhD theses, THE Department : 1969 - 1978

1 1969 MSc Boelen, Charles L.	Les réactions secondaires aux médicaments: approche épidémiologique et critique d'enquêtes
2 1971 MSc Tourillon, Paule	Relation entre le spina bifida occulta, le spina bifida cystica et l'anencéphalie
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10 1977 MSc Pouliot, Bernard	La mortalité associée à l'exposition à la chrysotile dans une usine de textile du Québec /
11 1977 MSc Rogers, Iris Barbara	The evaluation of a school readiness screening program /
12 1977 MSc Seely, Janet E.	The influence of sex and growth on resting and exercise cardiorespiratory function in adolescence.
13 1977 MSc Sheps, Samuel Barry	The use of laboratory tests in a pediatric emergency room /
14 1977 PhD Aubry, Francine	Prevalence study of respiratory effects associated with long-term exposure to community air pollution in three greater Montreal populations
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16 1977 PhD Thomas, Duncan C.	Analysis of longitudinal studies with interval-censored response times.
17 1978 MSc Allard, Robert	The influence of item formulation on responses to a multiple-choice questionnaire on health beliefs and physician-patient communication /
18 1978 MSc King, Norman.	Criteria and methods for evaluating an occupational health service in medium-sized industry
19 1978 MSc Verreault, René	Enquête sur l'usage de sièges d'enfants et de la ceinture de sécurité en automobile chez les enfants
20 1978 PhD Piper, Martha C.	The Prevention and Remediation of Down Syndrome

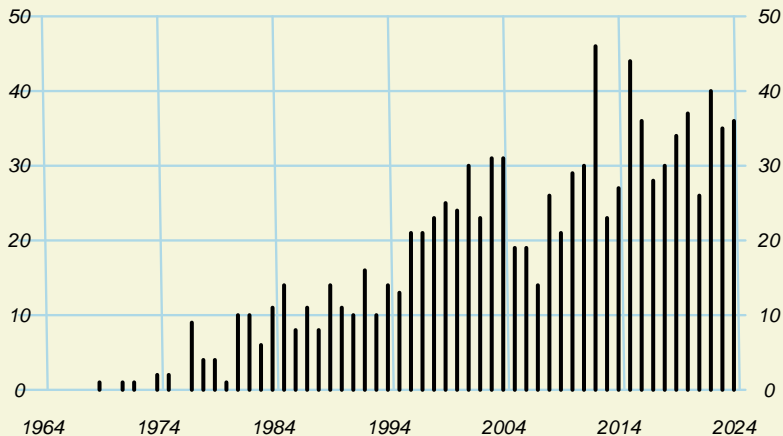
## MSc and PhD theses, THE Department : 2024 - 2024

1001	2024 MSc Parsons, Kristina	The association between pre-existing type 2 diabetes on breast cancer-related and all-cause mortality among women with breast cancer
1002	2024 MSc Pirwani, Sabah	Association of Nurse-to-Patient Ratios in the First 72 Hours of Admission and Outcomes of Very Preterm Infants: A Multicentre Cohort Study
1003	2024 MSc Ramnawaz, Shaainee	Associations between daily variations in summer temperatures and mental health-related emergency department visits in Ontario, Canada
1004	2024 MSc Salimian, Samaneh	Predictive modeling for adverse outcomes in patients with heart failure
1005	2024 MSc Wang, Wanning	Emulating randomized controlled trials using real-world evidence: The case of long-acting insulins among patients with type 2 diabetes
1006	2024 MSc Weight, Charlene	Economic impacts and cost-effectiveness of housing first interventions for people experiencing homelessness
1007	2024 MSc Xiu, Vanessa	Characteristics of the sexual networks of gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men and impact of past interventions on mpox transmission during the 2022 outbreak in Montréal, Toronto, and Vancouver (Canada)
1008	2024 PhD Davis, Laura	Measurement and effect of income on colorectal cancer survival and the diagnostic interval
1009	2024 PhD Douwes-Schultz, Dirk	Coupled Markov switching models for spatio-temporal infectious disease counts
1010	2024 PhD Joyce, Caroline	The Impact of India's National Health Insurance Program on Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes
1011	2024 PhD Kuchukhidze, Salome	Intimate partner violence and HIV in sub-Saharan Africa: implications for HIV control in women, girls, and infants
1012	2024 PhD Kutcher, Stephen	Investigating the effectiveness and safety of dual-antiplatelet therapies in acute coronary syndrome patients
1013	2024 PhD Lee, Martha	Impacts of Beijing's coal to clean energy policy on local air quality and acute myocardial infarction in adults
1014	2024 PhD Lim, Jihoon	Real-world evidence on harm reduction strategies: A multidisciplinary evaluation
1015	2024 PhD Michal, Victoire	Areal data: disease mapping and small area estimation
1016	2024 PhD Mussa, Joseph	Examining patterns of gestational diabetes and gestational hypertension as risk indicators of cardiometabolic disease following two consecutive pregnancies
1017	2024 PhD Wang, Chinchin	Investigating the relationship between changes in physical activity levels and injury risk among children and adolescents
1018	2024 PhD Willard, James	Improving Bayesian adaptive clinical trials with covariate information
1019	2024 PhD Winters, Nicholas	Optimizing treatment for tuberculosis infection and multidrug-resistant tuberculosis
1020	2024 PhD Yang, Kai	Contributions to Robust and Efficient Methods for Analysis of High-Dimensional Data

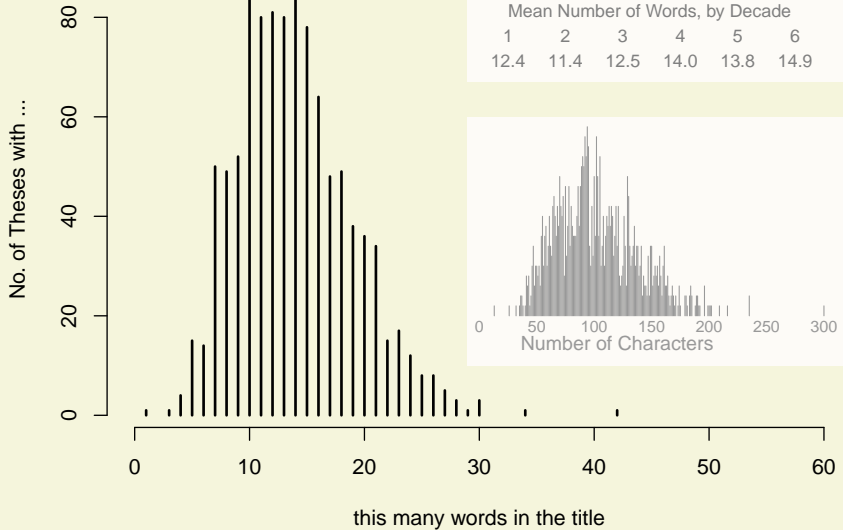


## Number of Theses each Year / Decade

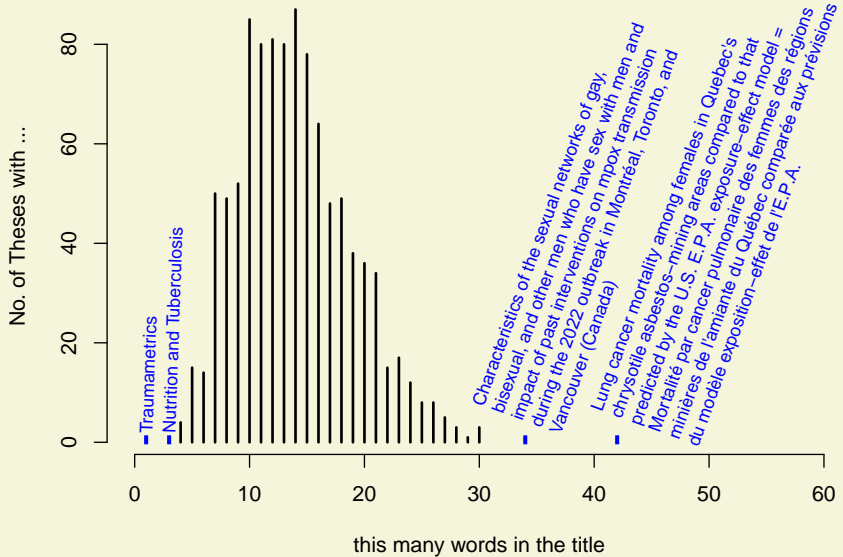
MSc:	4	43	82	156	179	205	<b>669</b>
PhD:	1	14	34	86	75	141	<b>351</b>
Fr:En	1:4	9:48	20:96	5:237	0:254	0:346	<b>35:985</b>



## Number of Words in Title



## Number of Words in Title



## Subjects\*

471	Health Sciences	9	Obstetrics and Gynecology	3	Genetics
317	Epidemiology and Biostatistics	8	Gerontology	3	Human Development
195	Epidemiology	8	Rehabilitation and Therapy	3	Immunology
127	Public Health	8	Statistics	3	Individual and Family Studies
63	Biology	7	Pathology	3	Mental Health
57	Biostatistics	6	Psychology	3	Occupational Health and Therapy
56	General	5	Pharmacy	3	prevention & control
51	Medicine and Surgery	4	Canada	2	Adrenergic beta
49	Engineering	4	Health	2	Biomedical
30		4	Medicine and Health Sciences	2	Clinical
18	Occupational Health and Safety	4	Nutrition	2	Health Care Management
15	Pharmacology	4	Public and Social Welfare	2	Medicine
13	Oncology	4	Quebec	2	Ophthalmology
11	Sociology	3	adverse effects	2	Pure Sciences
10	Education	3	Environmental Sciences	2	Radiology
9	Epidemiology and Health	3	Ethnic and Racial Studies	2	Recreation

\* 1700 in all; 85 'singletons' omitted.

Here's the **category distribution** across the 1,020 thesis titles:

Category	Count
Biostatistical & Methodological Research	231
Chronic & Non-Communicable Diseases	220
Other / Multidisciplinary	179
Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	152
Maternal, Child & Reproductive Health	87
Health Services Research & Policy	61
Occupational & Environmental Health	58
Social & Behavioral Health	13
Genetics & Molecular Epidemiology	12
Indigenous, Refugee & Global Health	7

Would you like me to refine things further — for example, reducing the size of **"Other / Multidisciplinary"** by

You need GPT-5 to continue this chat because there's an attachment. Your limit resets after 2:41PM.

New chat

Get Plus

No, that's already a big help. Thanks





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Thèse de Maîtrise en Sciences  
(Epidémiologie et Statistiques Médicales)

LES REACTIONS SECONDAIRES AUX MEDICAMENTS :  
APPROCHE EPIDEMIOLOGIQUE ET CRITIQUE D'ENQUETES

Charles Boelen, M.D., D.H.P.

Département d'Epidémiologie et de Santé  
Université McGill  
3775, rue Université  
Montréal, P.Q., Canada

Thèse de Maîtrise en Sciences  
(Epidémiologie et Statistiques Médicales)

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Université McGill  
3775, rue Université  
Montréal, P.Q., Canada

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- Résumé :

Une revue assez étendue de différents problèmes soulevés par les réactions secondaires aux médicaments a été entreprise .  
La littérature spécialisée a été revue et critiquée suivant un schéma d'étude épidémiologique .

Une enquête rétrospective menée dans deux hôpitaux universitaires de Montréal a éprouvé un nouveau système de détection des réactions secondaires aux médicaments .

Des méthodes et des résultats des plus importantes études épidémiologiques sur le sujet ont été comparés .

En conclusion, certains aspects du problème des réactions médicamenteuses ont été nouvellement identifiés et certaines suggestions pour l'amélioration des procédés de recherche ont été avancés .

# Boelen, Charles L courtesy chatGPT<sup>1</sup>, Google<sup>2</sup> & Dr Paul Grand'Maison<sup>3</sup>

- ▶ <sup>1</sup>Professional biographies and organisation pages list Charles Boelen, MD, MPH, MSc(epid), MSc(Edu) and describe him as **Belgian-born, a public-health physician and international consultant**.
- ▶ <sup>1</sup>He had a long career at the **World Health Organization (Geneva)** (several pages note ~30 years' service and roles such as coordinator for human resources for health).
- ▶ <sup>1</sup>He is a well-known figure in **medical education / social accountability** (author of influential papers, **originator of the “five-star doctor” concept**) and there is an **international AFMC award named after him** (the Charles Boelen International Social Accountability Award).



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- ▶ <sup>1</sup>He continues to appear in recent professional materials and conference/consultancy pages (ResearchGate, ICHPE and other organizations show ongoing activity and publications).
- ▶ <sup>3</sup>2001: **doctorate honoris causa, Université de Sherbrooke**. See my webpage for more information from his collaborator of 35 years, and good and close friend, Dr Paul Grand'Maison, Professeur émérite, Université de Sherbrooke - as well as a link to their 2025 article.
- ▶ <sup>2</sup>2008: **Interviewed** by Associate Editor, *Education for Health* : The article "Making a Difference: Uniting Stakeholders in Improving Health Care throughout the World" begins with his time in Montreal and McGill.

## How did your public health education in Montreal prepare you for your work in Ethiopia?

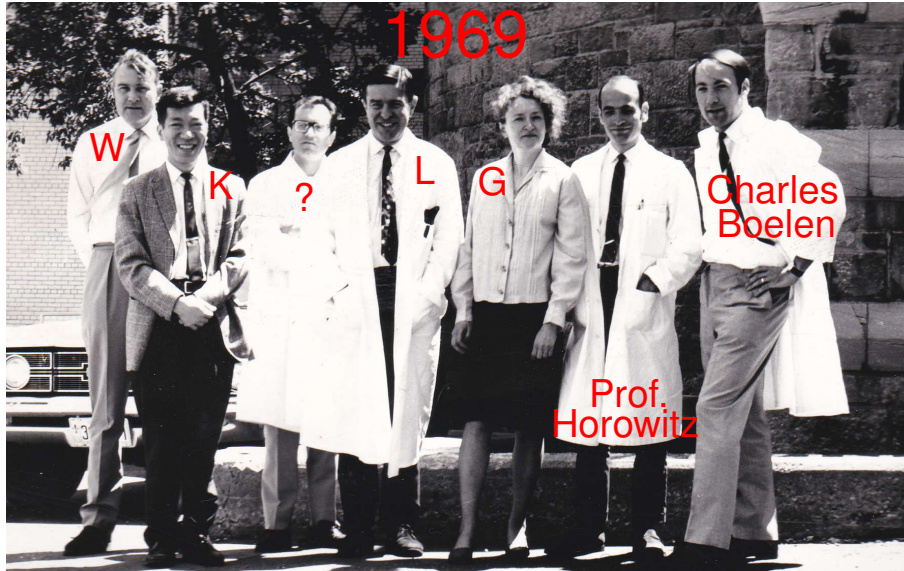
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I felt that my MPH\* (master's in public health) was too theoretical, but at least I learned some new vocabulary and began to have a better idea of what my professional goals could be. Fortunately, I obtained the best score in my class. This allowed me to receive a grant from the Government of Quebec to register for a master's program in epidemiology and medical statistics at McGill University. In 1970 I became the first holder of such a master's degree in Canada.

My training contributed to reinforcing my sentiment that public health might be a domain in which I could make a career. At least I felt more secure in identifying health development challenges and in elaborating projects in the health sector. But my main learning took place the next two years in Ethiopia.

\*from Université de Montréal.

1969



W: Prof. Williams, an epidemiologist

K: Kuo, the Chinese colleague who graduated years later

L: Prof. Liddell, a statistician

G: Mrs. Gagnon, Canadian, who graduated 2 years after me



A MULTIVARIATE STATISTICAL APPROACH TO THE  
PROBLEM OF INFECTIONS DURING THE EARLY MONTHS  
OF PREGNANCY AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO ABORTION,  
STILLBIRTH, CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS, AND  
NEONATAL AND INFANT MORTALITY.

Author

John A. Stewart

A thesis submitted to the  
Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for the degree of Master of Sciences

Department of Epidemiology and Health  
McGill University  
Montreal

March, 1974

**A MULTIVARIATE STATISTICAL APPROACH TO THE  
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**John A. Stewart**

**Department of Epidemiology and Health**

**McGill University**

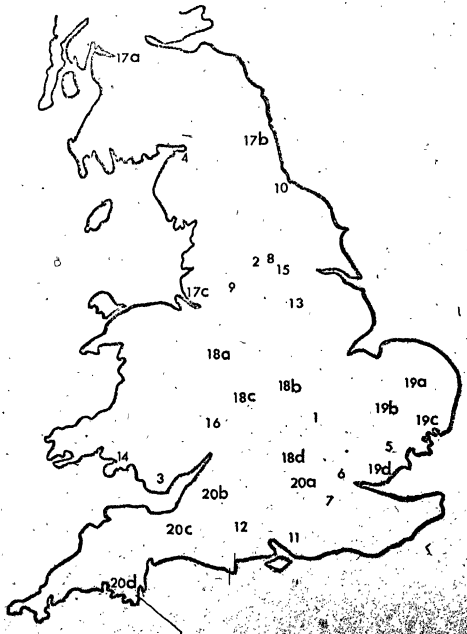
**Montreal**

**March, 1974**

**© John A. Stewart 1974**



For a study of the effects of infection during pregnancy on outcome, information about 11,815 pregnancies in 1959-60 had been collected in 31 clinics throughout Great Britain, and a stratified sample of 2,172 sera from these pregnant women had been tested for anti-bodies to some 20 infections. Starting in 1971, the author has analysed these data. After standardizing for age, parity, etc., it was found that, in most clinics, mothers of liveborn infants had lower titers to some infection than had mothers of deadborn infants. No marked differences in titers were found between mothers of normal infants and mothers of liveborn infants with major congenital defect(s). A reason for the weak associations may be that the only assessment of infections utilised had been from a single serum sample; thus, the infection may have been subclinical or have occurred before conception. Another possible reason lies in the low expectations of abnormal outcomes due to specific infections.



1 Bedford	17 Northern	17a Glasgow
2 Bradford		17b Newcastle
3 Cardiff		17c Liverpool
4 Carlisle		
5 Chelmsford	18 Midlands	18a Stafford
6 Colindale		18b Leicester
7 Guildford		18c Birmingham
8 Leeds		18d Oxford
9 Manchester		
10 Northallerton	19 Eastern	19a Norwich
11 Portsmouth		19b Cambridge
12 Salisbury		19c Ipswich
13 Sheffield		19d Southend
14 Swansea		
15 Wakefield	20 Southern	20a Reading
16 Worcester		20b Bath
		20c Taunton
		20d Plymouth

For 21 months in 1959-60,  
some 31 antenatal clinics  
in England and Scotland  
enrolled almost  
12,000 pregnant women at  
their visit at the end of or  
just after their first  
trimester.

Name of clinic \_\_\_\_\_

Investigation of Infections in Early Pregnancy**ANTENATAL RECORD**

(Laboratory)

(Serial No.) \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ (yrs)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen \_\_\_\_\_ Date of first  
day of L.M.P. \_\_\_\_\_No. of previous: ☐ abortions ☐ stillbirths ☐ live birthsDetails of any defects noted in  
any previous live or still births: \_\_\_\_\_Record of any evidence of infection since L.M.P.

Date of onset	Symptoms	Diagnosis
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Has the patient <u>ever</u> suffered from:	"cold sores" (herpes simplex)	YES	NO
	shingles (herpes zoster)	YES	NO
	recurrent ulcers in mouth (aphthous stomatitis)	YES	NO

\* (This record should be made and a blood sample taken between 12th &amp; 16th wk of pregnancy)

Investigation of Infections in Early Pregnancy

**FOLLOW-UP RECORD**

(Laboratory)

(Serial No.)

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of antenatal record \_\_\_\_\_

Section 1. - To be completed 7-28 days after termination of pregnancy

Outcome of pregnancy (encircle appropriately)      abortion,      stillbirth,      live birth.

Date pregnancy ended \_\_\_\_\_ Birth weight \_\_\_\_\_ lb. \_\_\_\_\_ ozs.

Is the infant still alive?    YES    NO    If not, date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Were any defects noted    YES  
in infant (live or still-  
born)?                              NO

Details:

If stillbirth or neonatal    YES  
death, was autopsy done?    NO

Findings:

Doctor's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

HPA

Section 2. - To be completed one year after birth.

Is the infant still alive? YES NO If not, date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Has, or had, the infant any defects?

YES

NO

Details:

If the infant died, was an autopsy done?

YES

NO

Findings:

Do you suspect the presence of any further abnormality not mentioned above?

YES

NO

Details:

Doctor's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### 3) Serological sample

In the latter part of 1962 (after the last child born had passed his first birthday), certain sera were selected for serological examination. First, the sera were included from all mothers who had had a spontaneous abortion or stillbirth (463), or whose liveborn infant had died in the first year (228), or whose infant despite survival for at least a year had a major congenital defect (438). These totaled 1,129,

### 3) Serological sample

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and the available resources allowed the inclusion of a like number of sera from a sample of all the other mothers. A one in ten systematic sample, selecting each mother whose serial number ended in the digit 5, provided 1,043 sera. These 2,172 selected sera were sent to a central laboratory to be tested. The 20 types of antibodies for which all sera in this sample were tested are shown in Table 2. The results of these tests were recorded on M/S(3) shown in figure (A3) of Appendix A.

To summarize ...



# To summarize ...

- ▶ Wording (and punctuation!) matter  
(Lynne Truss: "*Eats, shoots & leaves*")

# To summarize ...

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\* "*The sophisticated use and understanding of case-control studies is the most outstanding methodologic development of modern epidemiology.*" Ken Rothman.

# Website: Presentation and Materials

<https://jhanley.biostat.mcgill.ca/EBOH-60thAnniversary>



# Thanks to

## **1964-**

All of the students, staff, and colleagues in our department

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1020 Graduates,

*the* department

1964-2025

LINK to MOVIE