

23rd
annual

Research Day 2026

April 28 | McMaster University



Scientific Café

Understanding HIV in Ontario: Insights from the OHTN Cohort, Data Linkages, and Emerging Priorities



April 28, 2026
3:45–4:30 p.m. ET



Ron Joyce Centre
4350 South Service Road
Burlington, ON L7L 5R8



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BACKGROUND

The Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study (OCS) is one of Canada's longest-running clinical cohorts of people living with HIV, integrating clinical, laboratory, and participant-reported data to support equity-informed surveillance, research, and policy in Ontario. OCS-based research has generated important insights into HIV epidemiology, engagement in care, aging with HIV, comorbidities, diagnostics, and health system performance.

This *Scientific Café* will highlight key findings from OCS research and identify priority knowledge gaps aligned with Ontario's HIV agenda. A particular focus will be placed on opportunities to strengthen evidence through administrative data linkage, including health services use, hospitalizations, mortality, and social determinants of health. The session will foster dialogue among trainees, clinicians, researchers, and community organizations to inform future, policy-relevant HIV research in Ontario.

SPEAKERS & HOST



Ann Burchell

Scientific Café Speaker
Co-PI, OCS
Department of Family and
Community Medicine,
University of Toronto



Tanya Lazor

Scientific Café Speaker
Postdoctoral Fellow
CIHR HIV/AIDS and STBBI
Research Initiative



Lawrence Mbugbaw

Scientific Café Host
Chair and PI, OCS
Department of Health Research
Methods, Evidence, and Impact,
McMaster University