



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Spring 2019



### Donica Janzen

My name is Donica Janzen, and I am a doctoral student in the College of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba. I moved to Manitoba in 2011, after graduating from the University of Saskatchewan with my Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. I practiced pharmacy in a remote, northern health centre, where I gained a broad set of clinical experience in primary care, acute care, mental health and long-term care. I started my Master's level training at the University of Manitoba in 2016 under the supervision of Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini with a focus on utilization of antipsychotic drugs. Last year, I had the opportunity to transfer directly to the PhD program and continue my research with an expanded focus on long-term health and social outcomes associated with long-acting injectable antipsychotics.

For my thesis project, I am using the Manitoba Population Data Repository housed at the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy to link prescription dispensing records to other administrative health databases. We are interested to see how the use of long-acting injectable antipsychotics may impact adherence, hospitalization and mortality in the Manitoba population. I will also link to justice data to study the relationship between antipsychotic treatment and the risk of being accused of a crime or the victim of a crime. My research has been supported by the Manitoba Graduate Scholarship, the Evelyn Shapiro Award for Health Services Research, the Manitoba Training Program for Health Services Research and the William G. Eamer/College of Pharmacists of Manitoba Graduate Scholarship.

I was pleased to attend the CAPT 2018 Scientific Program this past October and present some recent findings from my research. I was even more pleased to have received the CAPT award for the best student oral presentation for my talk "Interrupted time series analysis of long-acting injectable antipsychotic use." In this project, we demonstrated the market entry of a novel long-acting injectable formulation of the atypical antipsychotic, risperidone, resulted in an increase in use of long-acting injectable antipsychotics of 5.6% per year. Our next steps will be to determine whether this increase has led to improved clinical outcomes in patients diagnosed with psychotic disorders. I'm very grateful to CAPT for their generous support of research trainees like myself.