

# PiPER Newsletter

September 2025

## What Have We Been Up To...

### WCH x UHN Symposium

 **May 8, 2025**

Women's College Hospital and University Health Network co-hosted a "Redefining Patient Engagement: Shaping Research Together" symposium to:

- Bring together people with lived experience (PLEX), researchers and leaders in patient engagement
- Discuss important or controversial issues and sources of miscommunication
- Identify opportunities for improvement and propose joint solutions on how organizations can better engage people with lived experience



Over 120 people joined us in-person and virtually to discuss emerging and pressing topics in engaging people with lived experience in research.

Over half of the attendees identified as people with lived experience and we were joined by researchers, educators, clinicians, patient engagement professionals and representatives from non-profit and government-funded organizations. *A summary report is coming soon!*

### PiPER Grants

We're excited to announce that two PiPER Community Grants have been awarded. Additionally, we've received numerous applications:



**15 for PiPER Partnerships Grants**

**19 for PiPER Innovations Grants**

This showcases a strong and growing interest in collaborative and creative solutions for engaging PLEX in research. Stay tuned...Winners will be announced at PiPER Research Day.



Curious about **Research Plain Language Summaries?** See page 2.



## Events & Opportunities



### The PiPER Community of Practice (CoP)

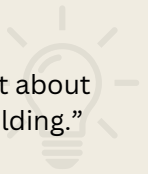
Judy Gargaro and the team's PLEX partner will be speaking about "How to Make Caregiving 'E.A.S.I.E.R' Advocating for Better Caregiver Support After Brain Injury"

Tune in on **September 24 from 12PM-1PM (EST)**.

Zoom link [here](#).

### A Snippet of Wisdom

"PLEX engagement in research is not just about sharing opinions, it is about capacity building."



### PiPER 2025 Calendar

**September 17**

**PiPER Network of Networks Meeting.**

**September 22-26**

UHN's 3rd annual **Week of Gratitude** is a celebration of the people who make UHN Canada's #1 Hospital.

**October 8**

This year's **PiPER Research Day** theme is **on Research Engagement in Action: Do the right thing, Share it with others, Build a better tomorrow**. The event is held in-person at the Guild Inn Estate in Scarborough. Register [here](#). See page 3 for more information.

**PiPER Grantees** will be announced.

**October 16**

**Plain Language Summaries Workshop**  
from 12 - 1 PM.

**October 29**

**PiPER Community of Practice.**

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## Research Plain Language Summaries

A plain language summary (PLS) is:

- A summary of a research study and/or study results that is active (currently ongoing) or completed, written in an **easy-to-understand language**
- Avoids **technical details, acronyms, and jargon** so it can be understood by the general public

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- In many countries, laws mandate that public agencies use plain language to increase access to programs and services
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities includes plain language in its definition of communication
- Ethics Boards and funders now require a plain language summary to be submitted with applications

**91%** of research participants wanted to be informed about the study results

**68%** would not participate in future research if they were not informed about the study results

Sood, et al. Mayo Clin Proc. 2009;84(3):243-247

**SUBMIT**

UHN Research teams can submit plain language summaries to [piper@uhn.ca](mailto:piper@uhn.ca) for posting on a new public facing website.

On the [UHN Clinical Research Hub](#), information can be found for:

Text Templates - Active & Completed Studies

Readability Tools

Guidance on Using Artificial Intelligence

Infographic Templates - Active & Completed Studies

Tools for making Visual Infographic PLS

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Allyship

**VOTE**

A **website** with a repository of plain language summaries is in development. Make your voice heard! Check out our [LinkedIn poll](#) to vote for the website name.

## Become a PiPER Member

Visit [www.uhnpiper.ca](http://www.uhnpiper.ca) OR scan the **QR code** to access a form



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## Upcoming Event

### Pride in Patient Engagement in Research RESEARCH DAY 2025


Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025



Guild Inn Estate, Scarborough



In-Person

REGISTER HERE!



 For more information, visit the [PiPER Research Day website](#).

### 2025 Theme



#### Research Engagement in Action:

*Do the right thing, Share it with others, Build a better tomorrow*

### Why Attend?

A chance for researchers, PLEX partners, students, and others to gather in-person, build relationships, share success stories and exchange the latest information while promoting and strengthening the current practices of patient engagement in research.

### Audience

- People with Lived Experience
- Healthcare Providers
- Healthcare Administrators
- Researchers/Research Staff
- Trainees/Students
- Community Researchers

### Presentation Types



In-Person Posters



Creative Works (Art)



Team Workshops



Oral Presentations


Lived Experience Storysharing  
[PLEX and Researcher Stream]

Interactive Panel  
or Fireside Chats

### LATE-BREAKING POSTER ABSTRACTS

Did you miss the abstract submission deadline? Here is your second chance!  
Submissions are OPEN until September 17<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59 PM (EST).

### Sponsors

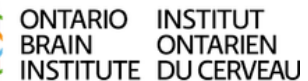
A special thank you to our current sponsors:



#### Silver Sponsor



#### PLEX Sponsors



## Beyond UHN

1



is hosting a 9th Annual Patient-Centred Approach to Clinical Trials Conference. Link [here](#).

OCT 28 + OCT 29, 2025

LIVE at the Holiday Inn & Suites,  
Montreal Centre-Ville Ouest

**RESEARCH IS CARE AND  
CARE IS RESEARCH**

*Unlocking faster innovation for  
better access, outcomes and hope*

2

Patient's Voice 2025 is hosting a 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference. Link [here](#).

**Where's the Patient's Voice in Health  
Professional Education 20 Years on?**

November 12 - 15, 2025  
Vancouver, Canada