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Spring arrives with its charms—but also its trials. It's a season when infectious illnesses may make a return.

Rabies is a contagious disease that can affect all mammals, meaning it can spread from infected animals to humans.

In Québec, vaccination campaigns targeting raccoons are underway and have proven highly effective. According to Government of Canada data, most reported animal cases occur in Ontario and Québec.

Ticks become active once temperatures rise above 4°C and the ground is free of snow. They are commonly found in wooded areas and tall grass. Infected ticks can transmit Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, and other illnesses.

Because they are so small, ticks can go unnoticed. Pets can also bring infected ticks into homes and yards.

Just like for humans, it's important to check your pets regularly and remove any ticks quickly. Protect yourself with a few simple tips to enjoy the outdoors without a tick!



The Charge Nurse makes an impact... in just three minutes flat!

On March 25, 2025, the University of Quebec in Outaouais (UQO) hosted its local competition of the **"My Thesis in 180 Seconds"** in Gatineau. The event drew a record number of graduate students, all eager to tackle the challenge of presenting and simplifying their thesis in just three minutes, in front of a panel of judges, the audience, and university community members.

Maripier Jubinville, professor at UQO and member of the Canada Research Chair in EconoPCI, took top honors that evening. She captivated the audience with her presentation titled: "Becoming a charge nurse: A coaching role that can be learned!"



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Maripier was awarded a \$750 scholarship and the honor of representing UQO at the national competition finals during the 92nd ACFAS Congress. Congratulations Maripier and good luck in the final stage!

Our Research Projects– Funded!!



The PRÉNA-E-COUT Project

This study, in collaboration with Prof. Lara Gauthier from the School of Public Health at the Université de Montréal, is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (\$413,100 over four years, 2025–2029). It **aims to qualitatively and quantitatively evaluate the healthcare experiences and costs for pregnant women without health insurance in Québec**. The project emphasizes participatory methods by directly involving stakeholders in the research process.

The TRANSFORMER Project

This project, in collaboration with Dr. Onadja Yentéma from the Institut supérieur des sciences de la population at Joseph Ki-Zerbo University in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, **aims to better address the overlooked aspects of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) among migrant or displaced women and adolescent girls living in informal settlements in Burkina Faso**, through a gender-transformative intervention. Funded by the International Development Research Centre (\$1,200,000 over three years, 2025–2028), the project seeks to promote responsible behaviors, transform attitudes, and strengthen equitable access to SRHR services.

Read more in the [UQO News](#) and watch the [Accès Local program on TVBL!](#) * French only

Spring marks a season of conferences and the local and international dissemination of our projects

- The Professional Society for Health Economics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR)
 - **Montreal**
- International Council of Nurses Congress (ICN)
 - **Finland**
- World Congress of the International Secretariat of Nurses of the French-speaking World (SIDIEF)
 - **Switzerland**
- International Conference on Integrated Care (ICIC)
 - **Portugal**
- Annual Conference of the Francophone Association for the Advancement of Knowledge (ACFAS)
 - **Montreal**
- European Health Management Association (EHMA)
 - **France**

