Advances in Heart Failure Management: The Science and the Art

3rd Annual Ottawa Heart Research Conference

APRIL 24-25
OTTAWA, 2015

Shaw Centre – 55 Colonel By Drive
The 3rd Annual Ottawa Heart Research Conference

Overall Learning Objectives

- Analyze the latest translational research findings and treatment therapies for heart failure
- Describe the latest clinical practice guidelines and provincial strategies and their impact on cardiovascular care

Please remember to complete and submit your conference evaluation sheets to the registration desk.

OUR CONFERENCE PARTNERS
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Accreditation

This program has been reviewed and approved by the University of Ottawa, Office of Continuing Professional Development (OCPD). This program is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for 15.75 credits. This program also meets the accreditation criteria of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been accredited by the OCPD for up to 15.75 Mainpro-M1 credits.

SoCRA

The Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA- www.SoCRA.org) accepts documentation of candidate participation on continuing education programs for recertification if the program is applicable to clinical research regulations, operations or management, or to the candidate’s clinical research therapeutic area. This program offers a maximum of 15.75 hours of CE credits.
Welcome Message

We are pleased to welcome you to the 3rd Annual Ottawa Heart Research Conference highlighting the science and the art of the advances in heart failure management. This conference brings together National and International experts in heart failure and will showcase state of the art lectures covering current topics from the bench right to the bedside including discussions on health care delivery in heart failure.

Heart failure is the new epidemic in chronic cardiovascular disease, and will affect 1 in 5 Canadians over their lifetime. Heart failure is currently the most costly chronic health condition in developed countries with both high mortality and high costs of hospitalization. Considering the global burden of this disease, this meeting is timely and intended to be a catalyst for the change in discourse on heart failure management.

The program is extraordinary and covers a wide range of topics in the world of heart failure. We are fortunate to have Dr. Douglas Mann give the Heart and Stroke Foundation’s MacDonald Lectureship on the role of innate immunity in cardiac injury and repair; Dr. Alan Maisel will discuss the role of biomarkers in guiding therapy; and Dr. John Burnett will enlighten us with the latest updates on understanding the mechanisms of action from the PARADIGM-HF trial.

This meeting is supported by our partners, The Heart and Stroke Foundation, The Canadian Cardiovascular Society and the University of Ottawa and we are grateful for our sponsors for making this meeting possible.

Through this meeting you will receive the latest translational research findings and treatment therapies for heart failure and be able to incorporate the latest clinical practice guidelines and provincial strategies in the care of the heart failure patient.
Planning Committee

Planning committee members' biographies are available on:

**Robert Beanlands, MD, FRCPC**
Chief of Cardiology;
Director, National Cardiac PET Centre;
Director, Molecular Function and Imaging Program;
*University of Ottawa Heart Institute*
Professor, Department of Medicine;
Professor, Department of Radiology;
*University of Ottawa*

**Ross Davies, MD, FRCPC, FACC**
Cardiologist, Division of Cardiology,
*University of Ottawa Heart Institute*
Professor, Faculty of Medicine
*University of Ottawa*

**Justin Ezekowitz, MMBCh, FRCPC**
AI-HS Population Health Investigator
Co-Director,
*Canadian VIGOUR Centre*
Director, Heart Function Clinic,
*Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute*
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine,
*University of Alberta*

**Mark Fraser, MD, CCFP, FCFP**
Family Physician,
*West Carleton Family Health Team*

**Haissam Haddad, MD, FRCPC, FACC**
Director, Heart Failure Program;
Medical Director, Heart Transplant Program;
*University of Ottawa Heart Institute*
Vice President, Medical Staff,
*The Ottawa Hospital*
Professor, Faculty of Medicine,
*University of Ottawa*

**Jonathan Howlett, MD, FRCPC**
President,
*Canadian Heart Failure Society*
Director of Heart Failure,
*Foothills Medical Centre*
Clinical Professor,
*University of Calgary*

**Robert McKelvie, MD, PhD, FRCPC**
Chair,
*Canadian Cardiovascular Society Heart Failure Consensus Conference Program*
Medical Director, Exercise Laboratory;
Medical Director, Cardiac Health and Rehabilitation Centre;
Medical Director, Heart Function Clinic;
*Hamilton Health Sciences*
Professor, Department of Medicine
*McMaster University*

**Gordon Moe, MSc, MD**
Director of Heart Failure Program,
*St. Michael's Hospital*
Co-Chair/Chair of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Consensus Conference Guidelines of Heart Failure 2010-2014
President, Chinese Canadian Council,
*Heart and Stroke Foundation*
Professor, Department of Medicine,
*University of Toronto*

**Joel Niznick, MD, FRCPC**
Staff Cardiologist,
*The Ottawa Hospital*

**Heather Sherrard, BScN, MHA**
Executive Vice President Clinical Operations;
Chief Nursing Officer;
*University of Ottawa Heart Institute*

**Duncan Stewart, MD, FRCPC**
CEO & Scientific Director;
Senior Scientist, Regenerative Medicine Program;
Evelyne and Rowell Laishley Chair;
*Ottawa Hospital Research Institute*
Vice President, Research,
*The Ottawa Hospital*
Professor, Department of Medicine,
*University of Ottawa*

**Balwant Tuana, PhD**
Professor, Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine,
*University of Ottawa*
### FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH – ROOM 215

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:15 - 8:00</td>
<td>REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST – Rideau Canal Atrium</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 - 8:15</td>
<td>Welcome Messages</td>
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<td>Dr. Thierry Mesana and Dr. Peter Liu, University of Ottawa Heart Institute</td>
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<td>8:15 - 9:05</td>
<td>SESSION 1: Current and Novel Biomarkers: Bench to Bedside</td>
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<td>Chair: Dr. Lisa Mielniczuk, University of Ottawa Heart Institute</td>
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<td>Session Objective: Explain the process of new biomarker discovery and applications in heart failure management.</td>
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<td>• Current and New Applications of Biomarkers in Heart Failure – Dr. Gordon Moe, St. Michael’s Hospital</td>
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<td>• Discovery and Validation of Novel Biomarkers – Dr. Peter Liu, University of Ottawa Heart Institute</td>
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<td>• Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>9:05 - 10:45</td>
<td>SESSION 2: Management of Pulmonary Hypertension in Heart Failure</td>
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<td>Chair: Dr. Ross Davies, University of Ottawa Heart Institute</td>
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<td>Session Objective: Describe new concepts in management of pulmonary hypertension in heart failure patients.</td>
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<td>• Epigenetics in Pulmonary Hypertension and the Associated Right Heart Failure – Dr. Sébastien Bonnet, Laval University</td>
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<td>• Pulmonary Hypertension Associated with Left Heart Disease: A target for therapy? – Dr. Jocelyn Dupuis, Montreal Heart Institute</td>
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<td>• Update on the Diagnosis and Management of Right Heart Failure and Pulmonary Hypertension in the Setting of Left Heart Disease – Dr. Lisa Mielniczuk, University of Ottawa Heart Institute</td>
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<td>• The Right Ventricle: How changes in ischemia and metabolism determine adaptive vs maladaptive hypertrophy in pulmonary hypertension - Dr. Stephen Archer, Queen’s University</td>
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<td>• Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>10:45 - 11:00</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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AGENDA: FRIDAY, APRIL 24th

11:00 - 12:00  SESSION 3: Heart and Stroke Foundation MacDonald Lectureship
Chair: Dr. Peter Liu, University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Session Objective: Explain the latest findings that suggest that heart has intrinsic "hard-wired" repair systems that were designed to lead to repair and/or regeneration of cardiac tissue.
- The Role of Innate Immunity in Cardiac Injury and Repair - Dr. Douglas Mann, Washington University in St. Louis
- Discussion

12:00 - 13:00  LUNCH – Rideau Canal Atrium
Trainee Career Networking: Experts on the spot
- Room 215 – See page 13 for more details.

13:00 - 14:20  SESSION 4: Current Perspectives for Treatment of Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction (HFpEF)
Chair: Dr. Balwant Tuana, University of Ottawa

Session Objective: Describe the current trends in treatment of heart failure with preserved ejection fraction.
- Hope for HFpEF?: New insights into pathophysiology and management - Dr. Akshay Desai, Brigham and Women's Hospital
- A Role for Myofilament Protein Deacetylation in the Pathogenesis of HFpEF - Dr. Tim McKinsey, University of Colorado Denver
- HFpEF: An arterial disease? Role of the Arteries in the Mechanisms Predisposing to HFpEF - Dr. Thais Coutinho, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
- Panel Discussion

14:20 - 15:40  SESSION 5: Promising Tools for Heart Failure Management
Chair: Dr. Duncan Stewart, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

Session Objective: Interpret the findings of ongoing trials that show promising therapeutic application in heart failure management.
- New Therapeutic Candidates Under Evaluation – Dr. Jonathan Howlett, University of Calgary
- IMAGE – HF Trial: Emerging modalities – Dr. Rob Beanlands, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
- Cardiac Cell Therapy: What can we expect? – Dr. Duncan Stewart, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute
- Panel Discussion
15:40 - 15:50  BREAK

15:50 - 16:50  SESSION 6: Other Systemic Diseases
Chair: Dr. Chris Johnson, The Ottawa Hospital

Session Objective: Describe the link and elucidate mechanisms between other systemic diseases and heart failure.
• Improving Cardiac Safety: Advanced Cancer Care – Dr. Susan Dent, The Ottawa Hospital
• Inflammatory Conditions in Heart Failure – Dr. Girish Dwivedi, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
• Panel Discussion

17:00 – 18:00  Poster Presentations and Judging
Wine & Cheese Reception – Rideau Canal Atrium

Day 1 Conclusion
Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Heart Failure Guidelines

7:15 - 8:00 BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION – Rideau Canal Atrium

8:00 - 8:10 Welcome Message
Dr. Jonathan Howlett, University of Calgary

8:10 - 9:30 SESSION 1: Canadian Cardiovascular Network Strategy for Community Management of Heart Failure
Chair: Dr. Haissam Haddad, University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Session Objective: Demonstrate the strategies for Community Management of Heart Failure as prescribed by the Canadian Cardiovascular Network.
- Exploring Factors That Lead to Hospital Admission and Readmission for Heart Failure – Dr. Jonathan Howlett, University of Calgary
- Reviewing the Community Family Doctor's Needs Regarding Heart Failure – Dr. Mark Fraser, West Carleton Family Health Team
- Measuring Quality of Heart Failure Care: Challenges and opportunities – Dr. Jack Tu, Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences
- Panel Discussion

9:30 - 10:50 SESSION 2: Current Status of Clinical Trials in Heart Failure
Chair: Dr. Rob Beanlands, University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Session Objective: Describe the mechanisms and application of current high profile clinical trials in heart failure.
- Insights from the SHIFT Trial – Dr. Haissam Haddad, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
- PARADIGM-HF: Where do we go from here? – Dr. Eileen O’Meara, Montreal Heart Institute

Keynote Presentation

Learning Objective: Understanding mechanisms of action LCZ696, importance of angiotensin II and natriuretic peptides.
- Heart Failure Clinical Trials: Paradigm (mechanism) – Dr. John Burnett, Mayo Clinic
- Panel Discussion
10:50 - 11:00  BREAK

11:00 - 11:10  POSTER PRESENTATION AWARDS - ROOM 215

11:10 - 12:00  SESSION 3: Applying Canadian Cardiovascular Society Heart Failure Guidelines to Special Groups
Chair: Dr. Haissam Haddad, University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Session Objective: Interpret and employ the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Heart Failure Guidelines to patient groups with multiple co-morbidities.
- Salt in the Diet: Does it matter for heart failure? – Dr. Justin Ezekowitz, University of Alberta
- Heart Failure with Multiple Co-Morbidities – Dr. Gordon Moe, St. Michael’s Hospital
- Panel Discussion

12:00 - 13:00  LUNCH – Rideau Canal Atrium
Heart Failure Across the Spectrum of Care - Room 215
See page 16 for more information

13:00 - 13:30  Keynote Presentation: Biomarkers

Session Objectives: Explain the process of new biomarker discovery and applications in heart failure management.
- Biomarkers for Guiding Therapy: Present and future – Dr. Alan Maisel, University of California
- Discussion

13:30-14:50  SESSION 4: Transitions in Care
Chair: Dr. Karen Harkness, Cardiac Care Network

Session Objective: Identify key aspects of the Heart Failure Strategies Roll Out in Ontario. Evaluate and compare the different approaches to supportive and palliative care.
- Heart Failure Strategies Roll Out in Ontario – Dr. Robert McKelvie, McMaster University
- Managing Transitions: Challenges and opportunities – Ms. Heather Sherrard, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
- Integrating Palliative Care Into Heart Failure Management – Dr. John Scott, The Ottawa Hospital
- Panel Discussion
14:50-16:10

**SESSION 5: Devices for Treatment of Heart Failure**
Chair: Dr. Lisa Mielniczuk, University of Ottawa Heart Institute

**Session Objective:** Evaluate the application of devices for treatment of heart failure.

- Transcatheter Mitral Therapies for Heart Failure Management – Dr. Marino Labinaz, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
- Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy: Past, present and future – Dr. David Birnie, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
- Left Ventricular Assist Device – Dr. Sharon Chih, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
- Panel Discussion

16:10 - 16:20

**Conference Closing Remarks**
Dr. Lisa Mielniczuk
Program Highlights

Friday, April 24th, 2015

The Heart and Stroke William L. MacDonald Lectureship

The Heart and Stroke William L. MacDonald Lectureship series was established in 1970 by the Board of Directors of the Heart and Stroke Foundation (previously known as Ontario Heart Foundation) in memory of the President of the Board, William L. MacDonald. The lectureship, presented annually at one of the six medical schools in Ontario, provides an opportunity for the research community and clinicians to share and discuss the latest issues with leaders in the cardiovascular field.

This year’s Heart and Stroke MacDonald lectureship will be delivered by Dr. Douglas L. Mann, Chief of Cardiology at the Washington University School of Medicine, who will be speaking on the Role of Innate Immunity on Cardiac Injury and Repair. Dr. Mann is the Lewin Chair and Professor of Medicine, Cell Biology and Physiology, Chief of the Division of Cardiology at the Washington University School of Medicine, and Cardiologist in Chief at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

About the lecture:
The Role of Innate Immunity in Cardiac Injury and Repair

This talk will review the studies that suggest that heart has intrinsic “hard-wired” repair systems that were designed to lead to repair and/or regeneration of cardiac tissue. However, when this intrinsic repair system is excessively activated for a prolonged period of time it can lead to adverse consequences, including dilation and dysfunction of the heart, that lead to the development of heart failure.

Saturday, April 25th, 2015

The program for this day was specifically built in honour of the 10th Anniversary of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Heart Failure Guidelines in Canada.

Keynote Presentation:
Heart Failure Clinical Trials: Paradigm (mechanism)
- Dr. John Burnett, Mayo Clinic

Keynote Presentation:
Biomarkers for Guiding Therapy: present and future
- Dr. Alan Maisel, University of California
Interactive Events

Trainee Career Networking: Experts on the spot
April 24th - starting at 12:15pm in room 215

The aim of this event is to give trainees the opportunity to learn about different career paths in cardiovascular research: from bench to bedside. Students and fellows will sign up to share a lunch table with two experts. Over lunch, the experts will discuss how to network and progress within their field, en route to a final career destination.
Grab your lunch and go to your assigned table at 12:15pm. You will have 20 minutes at your top 2 chosen tables. Happy networking!

Table 1: Dr. Susan Dent and Dr. Sebasten Bonnet
Table 2: Dr. Douglas Mann and Dr. Lisa Mielniczuk
Table 3: Dr. Tim McKinsey and Dr. Jonathan Howlett
Table 4: Dr. Robert McKelvie and Dr. Peter Liu
Table 5: Dr. Alan Maisel and Dr. Stephen Archer

See the speaker biographies on page 17 for more information on the experts at your table!

Poster Presentations and Judging
April 24th at 17:00-18:00 in the Rideau Canal Atrium

This year, regional trainees’ posters will be critiqued by our esteemed conference speakers and a cash prize will be awarded to to both the highest rated poster and the runner-up. Join us for this exciting Poster Presentation Competition and Wine and Cheese Reception in the Rideau Canal Atrium!

Judging: Friday, April 24th at 5:00pm - 6:00pm
Winner Announcement: Saturday, April 25th at 11:00am in room 215

1. Expression of Nuclear Factor of Activated T cells (NFAT) and the Downstream Targets in Ground Squirrel Cardiac Muscle
   Yichi Zhang, Kenneth B. Storey
2. **Functional Regulation at the 9p21.3 Genetic Risk Locus in Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)**
   Darlene Antoine, Naif Almontashiri, Alexandre F.R. Stewart

3. **Fatty Acid Oxidation Inhibition as a Potential Novel Treatment Strategy in Pulmonary Artery Hypertension and Right Heart Failure**
   Ali Ahmadi, Jennifer Renaud, Julia Petryk, Tayebeh Hadizad, Rob S. Beanlands, Robert A. deKemp, Gary D. Lopaschuk, Lisa M. Mielenzuk

4. **Genetic and Sex Related Differences in Severe Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Induced by SU5416 in a Hyper-Responsive Sub-Strain of Sprague Dawley Rats**
   Ketul R. Chaudhary, Yupu Deng, Baohua Jiang, Anli Yang, Duncan J. Stewart

5. **Thioridazine Improves Pulmonary Arterial Pressure in the SU5416/Chronic Hypoxia Rat Model of Severe Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension**
   William S. Foster, Yupu Deng, Mohamad Taha, Colin M. Suen, Duncan J. Stewart

6. **Functional Benefits of Collagen-Ccn1 Matrix for the Treatment of Myocardial Infarction**
   Brian McNeil, Branka Vulesevic, Nicholas Blackburn, Marc Ruel and Erik J. Suuronen

7. **Caspase-dependent Pathways Governing Cardiac Hypertrophy**
   Charis Putinski, Mohammad Abdul-Ghani, Rebecca Stiles, Steve Brunette, Sarah A. Dick, Pasan Fernando, Lynn A. Megeney

8. **Methylglyoxal as a Cause of Endothelial Dysfunction in Diabetes and its Consequences**
   B. Vulesevic, B. Mcneill, F. Giacco, M. Brownlee, R. Milne, E. Suuronen

9. **Hsp70, a Novel GATA4 Interacting-Partner Necessary for Cardiomyocyte Survival**
   Whitcomb, J. Aries, A. Shao, W. Komati, H. Saleh, M. and Nemer, M.

10. **Application of Framingham Risk Score in Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 positive (HER2+) Breast Cancer Patients Referred to a Cardio-oncology Clinic**
    Wyanne Law, Freya Crawley, Moira Rushton, Nadine Graham, Christopher Johnson, Jeffrey Sulpher, Susan Dent

11. **Central Mechanisms Mediating AngII-Salt Hypertension in Rats**
    Jiao Lu, Hongwei Wang, Monir Ahmad, and Frans HH Leenen
12. Effect of Exercise Training on Cardiac Function in Rats Post MI  
Heow Won Lee, Monir Ahmad, Frans Leenen

13. Strain-Specific Differences in Right Ventricular Adaptation and Survival in the Rat Model of Severe Pulmonary Arterial  
Colin Suen, Baohua Jiang, Yupu Deng, Mohamad Taha

14. The Use of the Diastolic Pressure Gradient in the Diagnosis of Group 2 Pulmonary — Hypertension Can Identify Patients at Increased Risk for Adverse Events  
Mišo Gostimir, Ross Davies, George Chandy, Duncan Stewart, Vladimir Contreras Domingues, Rosemary Dunne, Carolyn Pugliese, Lisa Mielniczuk

15. Collagen Matrix Mediates Cardiac Fibroblast Activity  
Thara Ali, Nick J. R. Blackburn, Brian McNeill, Marc Ruel, Erik J. Suuronen

16. Timing Underpins the Benefits Associated with Injectable Collagen Biomaterial Therapy for the Treatment of Myocardial Infarction  

17. Directional Resolution of Limited Angle Pinhole SPECT Cameras  
Sarah G. Cuddy-Walsh, Rolf Clackdoyle, R. Glenn Wells

18. Targeting Glucose Metabolism Through the Tail-Anchored Membrane Protein SLMAP1  
Aaraf Dewan, Maysoon Salih, Christopher Triggle, Hong Ding, Balwant Tuana

19. GATA6 Orchestrates Remodeling and Maturation of the Heart Aortic Valve  
Lara Gharibeh, Abir Yamak, Hiba Komati, Mona Nemer

20. Investigating the use of Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell Derived Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells in Conjunction with HUVECS in Vascular Network Formation  
Mirabelle S.H. Ho, Duncan J. Stewart

21. Pre-treating the Myocardium with Collagen Matrix Improves the Efficacy of Cardiac Stem Cell Therapy for Myocardial Infarction  
Kay Maeda, Ghazaleh Rafatian, Richard Seymour, Marc Ruel, Darryl R. Davis, Erik J. Suuronen
Heart Failure Cases from Across the Spectrum of Care
April 25th - starts at 12:15pm in room 215

This event is structured around presenting real-life and complex Heart Failure cases followed by a panel discussion with the aim of garnering input from across the spectrum of care. The event starts at 12:15pm.

Presenter:
**Dr. Joel Niznick, MD, FRCPC**
Staff Cardiologist, The Ottawa Hospital

Panel:
**Dr. Jean Paul DeYoung, MD**
Internist, Cornwall Community Hospital

**Dr. Mark Fraser, MD, CCFP, FCFP**
Family Physician, West Carleton Family Health Team

**Dr. Karen Harkness, RN, PhD**
Clinical Lead - Heart Failure and Cardiovascular Chronic Disease Management, Cardiac Care Network Assistant Clinical Professor, McMaster University Nurse Clinician, Hamilton Health Sciences

**Gordon Moe, MSc, MD**
Director of Heart Failure Program, St. Michael’s Hospital Co-Chair/Chair of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Consensus Conference Guidelines of Heart Failure 2010-2014 President, Chinese Canadian Council, Heart and Stroke Foundation Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto

**Mrs. Christine Struthers, APN**
Chronic Cardiac Care, University of Ottawa Heart Institute

**Dr. Jean Paul DeYoung, MD**
Chief of Medicine; Director of Heart Function Clinic; Director CCU; Cornwall Community Hospital Lecturer, University of Ottawa

Moderator:
**Dr. Lisa Mieleniczuk, MD, FRCPC**
Staff Cardiologist, Division of Cardiology; Medical Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic; Medical Director, Telehealth Home Monitoring Program; Director, Heart Failure Program, University of Ottawa Heart Institute Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Ottawa
Speaker Biographies

**Stephen Archer, MD, FRCPC**
Cardiologist,  
*Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston General Hospital, Providence Care*

Professor;  
Head of Department of Medicine;  
*Queen’s University*

**Background:** Dr. Stephen Archer is a renowned cardiologist and physician scientist, accomplished author and dedicated educator. His research focus is on the mechanism of oxygen sensing, mitochondrial biology and experimental therapeutics for pulmonary hypertension and cancer. Having spent 12 years as a Chief of Cardiology at the University of Alberta and then at the University of Chicago, Dr. Archer returned to his medical school roots in 2012 to Queen’s University. He now serves as the Head of Medicine at Queen’s University, Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston General Hospital, and Providence Care.

**Research Interests / Achievements:** Directing a NIH and CIHR funded research lab, Dr. Archer and his associates study basic mechanisms of oxygen sensing in the vasculature and investigate the role of mitochondria, both as oxygen sensors and regulators of cell proliferation. Dr. Archer’s clinical interests include pulmonary hypertension, persistent ductus arteriosus, strategies for improving cardiovascular care, and training the next generation of physician-scientists. He has published 200 papers and his translational cardiovascular research has been recognized with numerous awards, including being named the Chicago American Heart Association Coeur d’Or recipient for 2013.

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**Robert Beanlands, MD, FRCPC**
Chief of Cardiology;  
Director, National Cardiac PET Centre;  
Director, Molecular Function and Imaging Program;  
*University of Ottawa Heart Institute*
Professor, Department of Medicine;  
Professor, Department of Radiology;  
*University of Ottawa*

**Background:** Dr. Beanlands received his MD from the University of Ottawa in 1983. He is the founding Director of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute’s National Cardiac PET Centre, the only PET facility in Canada dedicated to
cardiovascular disease. He has served on several committees/advisory boards for government, industry and professional organizations impacting healthcare policies and practice guidelines and serves as an Associate Editor for the Canadian Journal of Cardiology and the Journal of Nuclear Cardiology. Dr. Beanlands is past-president of the Canadian Nuclear Cardiology Society, Ontario Governor for the American College of Cardiology and was the Annual Meeting Chair for the Canadian Cardiovascular Society. Dr. Beanlands is the chair of the Heart and Stroke Foundation Scientific Review Committee.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Beanlands’ research applies imaging to understand cardiovascular disease and treatment. He has established the Molecular Function and Imaging Program, which focuses on translational research and transdisciplinary training. He has led the multicentre imaging research initiatives PARR2, IMAGE-HF, CADRE Registry and is the Co-PI for the Canadian Atherosclerotic Imaging Network (CAIN). He has more than 210 peer reviewed publications. He is a Career Investigator (HSFC) and is the Tier 1 Chair in Cardiovascular Research (uOttawa). Recent awards include the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal for contribution to Canada (2012), and the SNMMI Hermann Blumgart Award for research achievement (2013).

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**David Birnie, MD, MRCP**

Staff Cardiac Electrophysiologist;  
Director, Arrhythmia Service;  
*University of Ottawa Heart Institute*  
Associate Professor, *University of Ottawa*  
Phase II Clinical Scientist,  
*Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario*

Background: Dr. David Birnie was appointed Staff Cardiac Electrophysiologist at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in May 2002. He was educated in Scotland and received his medical degree (MB ChB) from Glasgow University in 1990. After completion of Internal Medical training at Aberdeen University he gained his MRCP (UK) in 1993. He spent three years as a cardiology research fellow at Glasgow University from 1993 studying the immunology of atherosclerosis and was awarded his PhD equivalent (MD) in 1996. Between 1996 and 2001 he did cardiology training at Glasgow University and received his Certificate of Completion of Specialist Cardiology Training in 2001. In addition he spent a year in 1999-2000 as a Cardiac Electrophysiology Fellow at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Birnie is the Director of the Arrhythmia Service at UOHI. His clinical focus is on all aspects of cardiac electrophysiology including arrhythmia pharmacotherapy and radiofrequency ablation of simple and complex arrhythmias including atrial fibrillation. He also has a major
clinical interest in all aspects of implantation and follow-up of device therapy for arrhythmias. This includes pacemakers, implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICD) and cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT). Dr. Birnie has been awarded seven peer reviewed research grants as Principal Investigator, two from the British Heart Foundation, two each from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and CIHR and one from the Bickell Foundation. To date, he has been involved in over 285 peer reviewed presentations, publications, and book chapters. He has managed to combine work with his major hobby, serving as cardiologist for the Medical Advisory Committee of the Canadian Soccer Association.

Sébastien Bonnet, PhD, FAHA
Canadian Research Chair in Vascular Pathology
Principal Investigator, Pulmonary Hypertension Research Group
Associate Professor, Laval University

Background: After having completed a doctorate degree in vascular physiopathology in France and a post-doctorate degree in vascular biology in Alberta, Dr. Bonnet settled in Québec city as an associate professor at Université Laval and a researcher at the Research Centre of the IUCPQ where he continues his research in the cardiovascular field.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Bonnet was named Fellow of American Heart Association and Director of the Canadian Research Chair in vascular pathology. This title, considered as one of the greatest honors in the scientific community, is allotted to researchers who showed leadership, creativity and exceptional competence in the advancement of fundamental and clinical research in the cardiovascular field. The accomplishments of Dr. Bonnet led to the discovery of mechanisms causing pulmonary arterial hypertension, a fatal disease which strikes mainly young adults. His team also discovered two substances likely to treat this disease effectively.

John C. Burnett Jr., MD
Canadian Research Chair in Vascular Pathology
Principal Investigator, Pulmonary Hypertension Research Group
Associate Professor, Laval University

Background: Dr. Burnett obtained his MD from Loyola University in Chicago. He is the Marriott Family Professor of Cardiovascular Research and Director Cardiorenal Research Laboratory, Mayo Clinic in Rochester.
Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Burnett’s research interests include natriuretic peptide biology and therapeutics in heart failure and hypertension. He has 539 publications, has trained 43 research fellows and is a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation and Association of American Physicians.

Sharon Chih, MBBS, PhD, FRACP
Cardiologist, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa

Background: Dr. Chih attended medical school at the University of Western Australia. After training in cardiology at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in Perth, she completed a PhD at the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute in Sydney followed by a fellowship in advanced heart failure and transplantation at the University of Toronto. She returned to Perth as a heart failure and transplant cardiologist in 2012 and subsequently joined the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 2014.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Chih’s clinical focus is heart failure and transplant. Dr. Chih’s research interests include allosensitization, antibody-mediated rejection and heart failure-transplant cardiac magnetic resonance imaging.

Thais Coutinho, MD
Cardiologist, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa

Background: Dr. Coutinho received her MD from the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2004. Shortly after, she moved to Rochester, Minnesota, USA to pursue training in Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Vascular Medicine, advanced Echocardiography and research at the Mayo Clinic.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Coutinho has had many presentations at national and international meetings and has published several peer reviewed manuscripts in the field of cardiovascular disease. She has received numerous awards, including the American Heart Association’s Young Investigator and Women in Cardiology Awards, the American College of Cardiology’s Young Investigator Award (2nd place), Mayo Clinic’s Summerskill Award for Research by a Fellow with a Clinical Appointment, and the Mayo Clinic’s Cardiovascular Division Outstanding Achievement Award. She is board certified in Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Vascular Medicine and Echocardiography. She joined the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 2013.
Susan Dent, MD, FRCPC  
Medical Oncologist, The Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre  
Associate Professor, University of Ottawa

Background: Dr. Dent obtained her MD at McMaster University and completed her postgraduate training in Internal Medicine at the University of Ottawa. She continued her training in Medical Oncology in Ottawa, followed by a fellowship year in Clinical Research with the National Cancer Institute of Canada Clinical Trials Group.

Research Interests / Achievements: Presently, she is a member of Cancer Ontario Breast Disease Site Group Practice Guidelines Committee, IND working group for the Breast Cancer Disease Site Committee of the National Cancer Institute for Canada Clinical Trials Group and Grant Review Panel member for the Canadian Institute of Health Research. She is Vice Chair of the Quality & Clinical Services Committee Department of Medicine, University of Ottawa. Her areas of interest include breast cancer, treatment toxicities and cardiotoxicity. She is the founder of the Ottawa Cardiac Oncology Program as well as the Canadian Cardiac Oncology Network, organizations dedicated to improving our understanding of how cancer treatments impact cardiovascular health with the ultimate goal of preventing cardiotoxicity.

Dr. Akshay Desai, MD, MPH  
Associate Director, Brigham Cardiovascular Consultants  
Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

Background: Dr. Desai received his undergraduate education at Princeton University, where he graduated Summa Cum Laude in 1992 with an AB in Public and International Affairs. He was subsequently awarded a Rhodes Scholarship for study at Oxford University, where he completed an M. Phil. in European Politics and Society at Balliol College in 1994. Following on this, he began his medical training at Harvard Medical School where he was awarded the MD degree in 1998. He completed his internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in 2001 and subsequently elected to pursue fellowship training in Cardiovascular Medicine at the same institution. During the final years of subspecialty training in cardiology, he completed additional fellowship training in Heart Failure and Transplantation under the direction of Dr. Lynne Stevenson. Concurrently, he conducted translational research in vascular medicine and diastolic heart failure under the supervision of Dr. Mark Creager. He was awarded an MPH in 2004 from the Harvard School of Public Health.
Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Desai currently divides his time between clinical care of patients with advanced heart disease and clinical research in cardiovascular clinical trials, with an emphasis on the pathophysiology, pharmacologic treatment, and ambulatory management of patients with heart failure. Particular areas of research interest include the pathophysiology and management of heart failure with preserved ejection fraction and the design of disease management strategies to reduce heart failure readmission in high risk groups.

Jocelyn Dupuis, MD, PhD, FRCP
Cardiologist, Montreal Heart Institute
Professor, University of Montreal

Background: Dr. Dupuis obtained his MD from the University of Montreal in 1986 and his PhD in experimental medicine from McGill University in 1990. He completed his internal medicine training in 1991 and his cardiology training in 1993 at Université de Sherbrooke.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Dupuis’ research interests include pulmonary circulation in health and disease, molecular imaging of the pulmonary circulation, novel therapies of pulmonary hypertension and pulmonary hypertension associated with left heart disease. Dr. Dupuis is the former National Researcher of the Fonds de la recherche en Santé du Québec. He has over 112 peer reviewed publications and 140 abstracts.

Girish Dwiedi, MD, PhD
Cardiologist, University of Ottawa Heart Institute
Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa

Background: Dr. Dwivedi completed his MD from the University of Delhi, India, in 1998 and his PhD from the University of Manchester, England, three years later. He then secured one of the most prestigious clinical lectureships in the United Kingdom, the National Institute of Health Research Clinical Lectureship at the University of Birmingham, and was awarded the Certificate of Completion of Specialist Training in Cardiology.

Research Interests / Achievements: He moved to the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 2011 to obtain further experience in cardiac CT, SPECT and PET imaging techniques, and was awarded the prestigious CIHR Banting Fellowship. He has obtained training and accreditation in echocardiography, cardiac MRI, cardiac CT, PET and SPECT. He joined the staff of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 2013. Dr. Dwivedi’s clinical and research
interests centre on cardiac imaging, with special emphasis on inflammation as the cause of atherosclerosis, heart failure and cardiomyopathy, and application of myocardial contrast echocardiography.

**Justin Ezekowitz, MBBCh, FRCPC**
AI-HS Population Health Investigator  
Co-Director, Canadian VIGOUR Centre  
Director, Heart Function Clinic, Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute  
Associate Professor, University of Alberta

*Background:* Dr. Justin Ezekowitz completed medical training at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. He completed his medical residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre in Dallas, Texas and then returned to Canada to complete a heart failure fellowship and research training with Dr. Paul Armstrong and Dr. Finlay McAlister. He also completed a Masters of Science in clinical epidemiology at the University of Alberta Public Health Sciences and cardiology fellowship at the University of Alberta.

*Research Interests / Achievements:* Dr. Ezekowitz dedicates 75% of his time to clinical research in order to improve the process of care, quality of care and outcomes for patients with heart failure. He is involved in numerous clinical trials in heart failure both as a site investigator, steering committee as well as the design and conduct of multicenter international trials. Primary interests include clinical research into heart failure with a preserved systolic function, population health of heart failure, and novel strategies and therapies for acute heart failure. Dr. Ezekowitz is the Chair of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Guidelines on Heart Failure, and advises the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta and Canadian Institutes of Health Research. He holds grants for clinical research from CIHR, Heart and Stroke Foundation and Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions.

**Mark Fraser, MD, CCFP, FCFP**
Family Physician, West Carleton Family Health Team

*Background:* Dr. Fraser received his MD from the University of Ottawa in 1981, and completed his Family Medicine Residency at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto. He is a Fellow of the College of Family Physicians, is on active Staff at the Queensway Carleton Hospital, and is Co-Lead Physician of the West Carleton Family Health Team, which was awarded Family Practice of the Year by the Ontario College of Family Physicians for 2010.
Research Interests / Achievements: In 2013, Dr. Fraser received an Award of Excellence from the College of Family Physicians of Canada for innovation in chronic disease management and health promotion. He was honoured by Canada Health Infoway in 2013 as co-developer of West Carleton FHT’s national-award-winning Patient Health Portal. His special interest lies in medical informatics and the application of EMR data analytics to optimize population-based management of cardiovascular and other chronic diseases in Primary Care.

Haissam Haddad, MD, FRCPC, FACC
Director, Heart Failure Program; Medical Director, Heart Transplant Program; University of Ottawa Heart Institute Vice President, Medical Staff, The Ottawa Hospital Professor, University of Ottawa

Background: Following a family medicine practice in Syria, Dr. Haddad immigrated to Canada and trained in Internal Medicine at Dalhousie University and successfully completed his Cardiology training at the University of Alberta. In 1997, Dr. Haddad joined the Division of Cardiology at Dalhousie University and was Medical Director of the Heart Transplant Program and Director of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program. Dr. Haddad was recruited to the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 2001. Dr. Haddad was a member of the Primary Panel of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society’s consensus conferences on the management of heart failure (2001-2010), on heart transplantation in adults (2003) and on heart transplantation in pediatrics (2005). He also chaired the Society’s consensus conference for heart transplant in 2008-2009. Dr. Haddad was the chair of The Canadian Cardiac Transplant Group, 2006-08. He is currently the Vice President of the Canadian Heart Failure Association. He is the founder of the annual educational meeting for The Canadian Cardiac Transplant programs (Ottawa 2008, Calgary 2009, Quebec City 2010).

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Haddad has earned numerous prestigious awards, namely the Anemia Institute for Research and Education Award in 2005, and the 1st Award Prize in the International Competition of the American College of Physicians in 2000.

Jonathan Howlett, MD, FRCPC
President, Canadian Heart Failure Society Director of Heart Failure, Foothills Medical Centre Clinical Professor, University of Calgary

Background: Dr. Howlett attended and graduated from Medical School at the University of Toronto in 1989. He went on to train Internal Medicine and Cardiology
Fellowship at Dalhousie University in from 1989-1994 and continued with fellowship studies at the Toronto Congenital Cardiac Centre for Adults, University of Toronto from 1994-1995. Dr. Howlett was on active staff at the Dalhousie University and the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre from September 1995 to August 2008, where he developed the first Heart Failure Program and was Medical Director of the QE II Heart Function and Transplantation Clinic. He also pioneered, in Halifax, the only Congenital Interventional Program east of Quebec.

Research Interests / Achievements: His current activities include clinical research in heart failure, as well as evaluation of health care delivery and outcomes and knowledge translation. Dr. Howlett initiated and led the $2.8 M study, A Strategy of Telehomecare for the Treatment of Heart Failure (STARTEL), a multicentre Canadian study evaluating the impact of telehomecare treatment for heart failure patients with issues of difficult access to care in Atlantic Canada. He serves on several International Clinical Trial Steering and Executive Committees, as reviewer for numerous medical journals and national funding agencies. He serves on several international consensus guideline committees such as for the European Society for Cardiology, Heart Failure Society of America, American College of Cardiology, Canadian Cardiovascular Society, and the North American Society for Electrophysiology and Pacing. Dr. Howlett has over 110 peer reviewed articles published.

Marino Labinaz, MD, FRCPC, FACC
Cardiologist;
Director, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory;
Director, Cardiac Fellowship Program;
University of Ottawa Heart Institute
Professor of Medicine, University of Ottawa

Background: Dr. Labinaz earned his undergraduate degree and did his medical training at Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario, followed by a three-year residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Western Ontario in London. Following training in Cardiology, he completed a two-year interventional fellowship at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina, after which, in 1994, he returned to the University of Ottawa Heart Institute as a full-time member of the Division of Cardiology.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Labinaz is involved in all aspects of interventional cardiology, including establishing and maintaining programs in intravascular ultrasound, percutaneous closure of atrial septal defects, patent foramen ovales and perivalvular leaks. He established a stand-alone interventional program in Thunder Bay, Ontario, and served as its Medical Director for two years. He and
Dr. Marc Ruel created a new program for percutaneous aortic valve implantation at the Heart Institute. Dr. Labinaz was involved in developing STEMI. He has chaired a Cardiac Care Network panel on the Utility of Primary Angioplasty for Acute Myocardial Infarction for Ontario. He has served as the site principal investigator in over 30 clinical trials and has been a contributing co-investigator in another 30 clinical trials. Dr. Labinaz has also served on the Steering Committee of several international multicentre trials. He has received peer reviewed funding from the Heart and Stroke Foundation and has served as co-principal investigator on a number of grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Dr. Labinaz has published over 185 research publications, presentations, book chapters and reviews.

Peter Liu, MD, FRCPC
Chief Scientific Officer / Vice President Research;
Research Director, Cardiac Function Laboratory;
University of Ottawa Heart Institute
Professor, University of Ottawa
Professor, University of Toronto

Background: Dr. Liu received his MD and completed his postgraduate training in Internal Medicine and Cardiology at the University of Toronto and Harvard Medical School. Formerly, as the inaugural Director of the Heart & Stroke/Richard Lewar Centre of Excellence at the University of Toronto, Dr. Liu successfully fostered collaboration amongst researchers from various institutions, while increasing the impact of publications. Subsequently, as Scientific Director of the Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health at CIHR, Dr. Liu launched national networks in imaging, clinical trials and knowledge translation and fostered national and international research networks. Dr. Liu was recruited as Scientific Director to UOHI in 2014 and has designed the Ottawa Region Cardiovascular Research Strategy (ORACLE) and is implementing it in stages.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Liu directs several large-scale national and international research programs. Dr. Liu, and his team, holds a number of peer reviewed grants including recently being awarded a Genome Canada grant, in collaboration with Roche Diagnostics, for a project aimed at improving heart failure care in hospitals around the world. Dr. Liu has been recognized with numerous awards, including both the Research Achievement Award and the Life Time Achievement Award of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society; the Rick Gallop Award of the Heart & Stroke Foundation; the Institute of Circulatory & Respiratory Health Distinguished Lecture Award of CIHR; and the Margolese Award from UBC, amongst others.
Alan Maisel, MD  
Director, Coronary Care Unit and Heart Failure Program,  
Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System  
Professor of Medicine, University of California, San Diego  

Background: Dr. Alan S. Maisel graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School, received his internal medicine training at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, and completed a cardiology fellowship at the University of California, San Diego. Dr Maisel is considered one of the world’s experts on cardiac biomarkers and has over 300 scientific publications. He has authored several ground-breaking publications that have paved the way for development of diagnostic tools for patients with congestive heart failure. In particular, he was the leading investigator on studies that brought the use of BNP into clinical practice. He just finished a ten year stint as Associate Editor of the Journal of the American College Cardiology.

Research Interests / Achievements: His work on cardiac biomarkers has led to a connection between diet, cardiovascular disease and breast cancer, and currently works on two biomarkers that predict the development of breast cancer. Dr Maisel is also a writer of medical fiction. His first novel, Bedside Manners was optioned to Warner Brothers. His second novel, Brain Chicane, is about a young and idealistic physician working at the premier multiple-organ transplant hospital in Chicago where he investigates overdose cases that are not totally kosher. He is also co-founder of a mitochondrial drug company and a biomarker discovery company.

Douglas Mann, MD  
Lewin Chair and Professor of Medicine;  
Chief of the Division of Cardiology,  
Washington University School of Medicine  
Cardiologist in Chief, Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis  

Background: Dr. Mann received his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia and completed fellowships in clinical cardiology at the University of California, San Diego and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Mann’s primary research interest has been the molecular and cellular basis of heart failure, with particular emphasis on the role of innate immunity in disease progression and recovery of the failing heart. The author of numerous peer reviewed articles on the role of inflammatory mediators in cardiac remodeling and myocardial recovery,
Dr. Mann is also the editor of *Heart Failure, A Companion to Braunwald’s Heart Disease*, and a co-editor of *Braunwald’s Heart Disease*, the leading textbook in cardiovascular medicine. He is currently on the Editorial Board for a number of leading cardiovascular journals. Dr. Mann is a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, the Association of University Cardiologists, the Heart Failure Society of America and the American Clinical and Climatological Association. He is the Past President of the Heart Failure Society.

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**Robert McKelvie, MD, PhD, FRCPC**

Chair, *Canadian Cardiovascular Society Heart Failure Consensus Conference Program*

Medical Director, Exercise Laboratory;
Medical Director, Cardiac Health and Rehabilitation Centre;
Medical Director, Heart Function Clinic;

*Hamilton Health Sciences*

Professor, *McMaster University*

**Background:** Dr. McKelvie is the Medical Director of the Cardiac Health and Rehabilitation Program as well as the Medical Director of the Heart Failure Program at the Hamilton Health Sciences. Dr. McKelvie is the Chair of the Heart Failure Working Group, Cardiac Care Network of Ontario as well as a member of their Cardiac Rehabilitation and Heart Failure Collaboration. He is Chair of the Quality Indicators Heart Failure Working Group, for the Canadian Cardiovascular Society/Public Health Agency of Canada; as well, he is a Member of two of their Steering Committees: 1. Quality Indicators Data Definitions Working Group for Atrial fibrillation; and 2. Quality Indicators Field Testing National Protocol Working Group for Atrial Fibrillation. He is a member of the Hamilton Integrated Research Ethics Board, Hamilton Health Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University. Dr. McKelvie is also member of two Expert Advisory Panels for Health Quality of Ontario: 1. Quality-Based Episode of Care for Acute Congestive Heart Failure; 2. Quality-Based Episode of Care for Management of Congestive Heart Failure in the community.

**Research Interests / Achievements:** Dr. McKelvie has approximately 240 peer reviewed articles, 190 abstracts and has given more than 400 lectures and presentations.
Timothy McKinsey, PhD
Associate Professor;
Associate Division Head for Translational Research;
University of Colorado Denver

Background: Dr. McKinsey is Associate Professor and Associate Division Head for Translational Research in the Department of Medicine/Division of Cardiology at The University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver. Prior to joining the faculty of the University of Colorado, Dr. McKinsey was Associate Director of Biology at Myogen and Gilead Inc. (Myogen was acquired by Gilead in 2006), where he led a group focused on small molecule drug discovery for heart failure. Dr. McKinsey grew up in Springfield, Missouri, USA, and received a BSc in Biology from the University of Missouri, Columbia. Dr. McKinsey obtained a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, where he studied NF-κB signaling in lymphocytes in the laboratory of Dr. Dean Ballard. Dr. McKinsey’s postdoctoral training was done in the laboratory of Dr. Eric Olson at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, where he studied transcriptional control of muscle development and growth.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. McKinsey’s laboratory at the University of Colorado is focused on understanding the signaling and gene regulatory mechanisms that control heart failure. The group is particularly interested in the roles of epigenetics and reversible lysine acetylation in regulating the pathological cardiac hypertrophy, fibrosis and contractile dysfunction that contribute to the pathogenesis of heart failure.

Lisa Mielniczuk, MD, FRCPC
Staff Cardiologist, Division of Cardiology;
Medical Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic;
Medical Director, Telehealth Home Monitoring Program;
Director, Heart Failure Program;
University of Ottawa Heart Institute
Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa

Background: Dr. Mielniczuk graduated medical school from McMaster University in 1998 and then completed internal medicine training at Queen’s University in Kingston and a cardiology residency at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. Following her cardiology training, Dr. Mielniczuk pursued a fellowship in heart failure and cardiac transplantation at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston and a Masters of Science Degree in Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics from the Harvard School of Public Health.
Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Mielniczuk’s research interests include clinical outcomes related to heart failure and pulmonary hypertension and the evaluation of myocardial energetics in right heart failure. She currently holds clinical and basic science grants from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada evaluating right ventricular metabolism in pulmonary hypertension. She is also co-investigator of the CIHR IMAGE-HF team grant and co-investigator on studies evaluating cardiac energetics using C-11-acetate in patients with heart failure and sleep apnea being randomized to CPAP vs. standard therapy. She has over 36 peer reviewed publications and 50 abstracts presented at scientific meetings.

**Gordon Moe, MSc, MD**
Director of Heart Failure Program, *St. Michael’s Hospital*
Co-Chair/Chair of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Consensus Conference Guidelines of Heart Failure 2010-2014
President, Chinese Canadian Council,
Heart and Stroke Foundation
Professor, University of Toronto

Background: Dr. Moe obtained his MD from University of Toronto and received internal medicine training in University of Toronto and cardiology training in Queen’s University. Dr. Moe is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada and a Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Cardiology, Diplomate and American Board of Internal Medicine.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Moe completed research training at the University of Toronto and Harvard Medical School. Dr. Moe’s research interests include: translational research; cardiac remodeling and biomarkers in heart failure; ethnicity and cardiovascular disease.

**Joel Niznick, MD, FRCPC**
Staff Cardiologist, *The Ottawa Hospital*

Background: Dr. Niznick completed his medical training at the University of Manitoba. He undertook internal medicine training at the University of Toronto and completed his cardiology training at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 1986. Dr. Niznick has been in practice since 1986 attending at the Riverside Hospital and served as Director of the ICU for the hospital’s last eight years. He is Managing Partner of the Ottawa Cardiovascular Centre.
Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Niznick’s main areas of clinical interest include cardiovascular risk reduction and clinical evidence dissemination and implementation. He has designed and developed the Continuing Medical Implementation website www.cvtoolbox.com which is a premier knowledge translation site for cardiovascular disease management. He has developed and deployed the Lipid Optimization Tool Database which is used to audit cholesterol control and practice performance at the Ottawa Cardiovascular Center (OCC). Dr. Niznick has participated in Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS) Consensus Conference Panels on Heart Failure (Primary Panel), Cardiovascular Disease in the Elderly (Primary Panel) where he authored the chapter on Secondary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in the Elderly, the Consensus Conference-Fitness for Flying and Driving (Secondary Panel) and the Consensus Conference on Refractory Angina.

Eileen O’Meara, MD, FRCPC
Cardiologist, Heart Failure and Echocardiography department; Director anticoagulation clinic;
Montreal Heart Institute
Associate Professor, University of Montreal

Background: Dr. O’Meara received her MD from the University of Montreal in 2003, after which she pursued a Fellowship in Heart Failure at the Western Infirmary & Glasgow Royal Infirmary in the UK, and another in Stress Echocardiography and Tissue Doppler at Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou in Paris. Dr. O’Meara has been a member of the American Society of Echocardiography, the Canadian Cardiovascular Society and the American Heart Association since 2006. She is also a member of the Heart Failure Society of America, and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada in both Internal Medicine and Cardiology. From 2007 to 2010, Dr. O’Meara was in charge of resident training/teaching at the Montreal Heart Institute’s Echocardiography Laboratory. She is a former member of the Institute’s Pharmacology Committee, and is currently Co-Chair of the Primary Panel for the CCC Heart Failure Guidelines. She is also a Reviewer for the Canadian Journal of Cardiology, Circulation and Circulation: Heart failure, the European Journal of Heart Failure, and the Journal of Cardiac Failure, among others, and does abstract grading for the European Society of Cardiology and CCC meetings.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. O’Meara’s research focuses on cardiorenal-anemia syndrome and other biomarkers in HF, including cardiac imaging biomarkers; with a current focus on HFP EF. She and her team have been mandated to study circulating biomarkers of left ventricular remodeling as well as pharmacogenomics in patients with HFP EF involved in the Treatment of Preserved Cardiac Function Heart Failure with an Aldosterone
Antagonist (TOPCAT) trial. Dr. O’Meara is the Canadian leader of the ongoing PARAGON-HF trial, evaluating the role of LCZ696 in HF with preserved EF. She has 55 publications, 4 students and is the current member of the course committee for Multisystems diseases, University of Montreal.

John Scott, MD
Associate Professor, University of Ottawa

Background: In 1975 Dr. Scott assisted Dr. Balfour Mount in developing Canada’s first palliative care program at McGill University, Montreal. Trained in medicine, theology and clinical epidemiology, Dr. Scott was recruited in 1988 to establish Canada’s first university Division of Palliative Medicine. Presently, he is Consultant Physician in Palliative Care at the Ottawa Hospital and the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and Associate Professor, Division of Palliative Medicine, University of Ottawa.

Heather Sherrard, BScN, MHA
Executive Vice President Clinical Operations; Chief Nursing Officer, University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Background: Ms. Sherrard obtained her BScN (Nursing) at the University of Saskatchewan and her Masters in Health Administration from the University of Ottawa. She is a senior health care administrator and researcher with 30 years experience in nursing and 20 years in senior health care management. She has held a variety of clinical and administrative positions in the acute care hospital sector, most of which have been in the area of cardiovascular care. Ms. Sherrard holds positions on a number of provincial committees dealing with issues related to cardiac care including: implementation of best practices; development of quality based procedure funding and transplantation. She has served on a number of Boards including the Cardiac Care Network of Ontario; eHealth Ontario and the Ontario Health Services Network. She is a member of the editorial board of the Canadian Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing.

Research Interests / Achievements: Ms. Sherrard’s ongoing research interests are in health services related to cardiac care. Her current research includes studies on the use of technology to enable care and the implementation and spread of best practices.
Duncan Stewart, MD, FRCPC
CEO & Scientific Director;
Senior Scientist, Regenerative Medicine Program;
Evelyne and Rowell Laishley Chair,
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute
Vice President, Research, The Ottawa Hospital
Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Ottawa

Background: After beginning his career in academic cardiology at McGill University in Montreal, Dr. Stewart moved to Toronto as Head of Cardiology at St. Michael’s Hospital and later became Director of the Division of Cardiology and Executive Director of the McLaughlin Centre for Molecular Medicine at the University of Toronto. He was recruited to lead the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI) in 2007.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Stewart is a pioneering Canadian cardiovascular researcher, recognized for his many important discoveries in blood vessel biology, as well as his dedication to translating these discoveries into benefits for patients and society. Dr. Stewart has published more than 200 peer reviewed manuscripts and has received a number of distinctions and prizes, including the Dexter Man Chair of Cardiology and Research Achievement Award of the University of Toronto, and the Research Achievement Award of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society. Throughout his career, Dr. Stewart has demonstrated leadership in bringing diverse groups of clinicians and scientists together to put Canada on the world stage for translational cardiovascular and regenerative medicine research.

Jack Tu, MD, MSc, PhD, FRCPC
Scientist, Evaluative Clinical Sciences, Schulich Heart Research Program, Sunnybrook Research Institute
Senior Scientist, Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences
Canada Research Chair in Health Services Research, Tier 1 Professor, University of Toronto

Background: Dr. Tu obtained his MD in 1988 from the University of Western Ontario. He completed his MSc in clinical epidemiology in 1993 from the University of Toronto. He then went on to obtain his PhD in health policy in 1996 from Harvard University.

Research Interests / Achievements: Dr. Tu is an internationally recognized health services researcher, who has published over 300 peer reviewed journal articles, including articles in The New England Journal of Medicine, Journal of American Medical Association, Annals of Internal Medicine, Circulation and other leading general internal medicine and subspecialty journals. He has held
several million dollars in peer reviewed grants as a principal investigator from the CIHR, Heart and Stroke Foundation and other funding agencies. He is the team leader of the Canadian Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Team, a group of more than 30 of Canada’s leading cardiac outcomes researchers, who are conducting a number of innovative projects on access to quality cardiac care in Canada. He is a co-principal investigator on the Ontario Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Database initiative. Dr. Tu’s academic honours include the Canadian Society of Internal Medicine Senior Investigator Award, a Harkness Associate Award from the Commonwealth Fund, New York and the CIHR National Knowledge Translation Award. He has been elected to membership in the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

Pictures from Ottawa Heart Research Conference 2014

Top picture (left to right): Dr. Rob Beanlands, Dr. Peter Liu, Dr. Ruth McPherson, Dr. Katelyn Rayner, Ms. Coralie Lalonde, Dr. Rob Roberts, Dr. Thierry Mesana.
Bottom pictures (left to right): Dr. Peter Liu, Ms. Coralie Lalonde, Dr. Rob Roberts.
Faculty Disclosure

Dr. Gordon Moe
Novartis - Member of regional and national Advisory Board, currently participating in a clinical trial
Otsuka - Member of regional board, received research grant

Dr. Peter Liu
Novartis, Roche - member of Advisory Board
Servier, Novartis, Roche Diagnostics - received grants or honorarium

Dr. Sebastien Bonnet
Bayer - received an award

Dr. Jocelyn Dupuis
PulmoScience - holds a patent, holds investments

Dr. Lisa Mielniczuk
Actelion, Bayer - member of an Advisory Board, member of a Speakers bureau, received research grant

Dr. Douglas Mann
National Institute of Health - grant/research support
Biocontrol medical, Janssen - consultant
Cardioxyl, miRagen, LoneStar Therapeutics - Scientific Advisory Board

Dr. Akshay Desai
St. Jude Medical, Relypsa, Merck - consulting, Advisory Board member, received honoraria for consulting or speaking
Novartis - received honoraria for consulting or speaking
AtCor Medical - received grant support
Dr. Jonathan Howlett  
AstraZeneca, Bayer, Novartis, Servier, Medtronic, Merck, Otsuka  
- member of advisory committee, currently participating in or has participated in a clinical trial within the past two years

Dr. Rob Beanlands  
Lantheus, DRAXImage - member of Advisory Board  
GE, Lantheus, DRAXImage - received grants or an honorarium

Dr. Susan Dent  
Hoffman-La Roche, GlaxoSmithKline - received honorarium for talks, currently participating in clinical trials  
Pfizer - currently participating in clinical trials

Dr. Eileen O'Meara  
Novartis, Pfizer, Servier - member of Advisory Board, member of the Speakers bureau, received payment for speaking engagement and being Principal Investigator of clinical trials  
Novartis, Bayer - currently participating in or has participated in clinical trials within the past two years

Dr. John Burnett  
Capricor, Novartis - member of advisory board, received payment for membership on Advisory Board  
Zumbro Discovery - holds investments

Dr. Justin Ezekowitz  
Alere, Amgen, Merck, Ortho-Biotech, Servier, Trevena - received research grant or support  
AstraZeneca, Bayer, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Abbot Labs, Medtronic, Ortho-Biotech, Servier - consulting or other services for personal income

Dr. Joel Niznick  
Pfizer - received honorarium or a grant
Dr. Alan Maisel
Critical Dx, Sphingotec - member of Advisory Board
Alere, Critical DX - member of Speakers Bureau
Nexus, ResMed, Roche - received grants or honorarium
Abbott Labs, Alere - currently participating or has participated in clinical trial within the past two years

Dr. Robert McKelvie
Novartis - member of Advisory Board
Bayer - has received honorarium

Dr. David Birnie
Medtronic, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim - currently participating in or has participated in a clinical trial within the past two years

The following speakers declared that they had no financial interests, arrangements and/or affiliations with organizations sponsoring this program:

Dr. Tim McKinsey  Dr. Thais Coutinho
Dr. Duncan Stewart  Dr. Girish Dwivedi
Dr. Jack Tu  Dr. Mark Fraser
Dr. Haissam Haddad  Ms. Heather Sherrard
Dr. John Scott  Dr. Marino Labinaz
Dr. Sharon Chih  Dr. Stephen Archer
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