

50 YEARS
ANS



UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA
HEART INSTITUTE
INSTITUT DE CARDIOLOGIE
DE L'UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF HEART

OTTAWA CARDIOVASCULAR
RESEARCH DAY

MAY 8, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA HEART INSTITUTE
AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

The Ottawa Cardiovascular Research Day
Planning Committee gratefully acknowledges the
support of our event partners:

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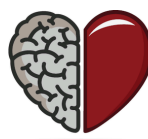
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WELCOME

On behalf of the planning committee, we are pleased to welcome you to the Ottawa Region Cardiovascular Research Day, celebrating 50 years of heart at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. This event brings together cardiovascular research groups from across the region and provides trainees with an opportunity to showcase their work and connect with investigators and peers.

Our keynote lecture will be delivered by Farah Sheikh, PhD, a researcher whose work focuses on improving health outcomes through thoughtful investigation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and a strong commitment to patient-centered care. Her research addresses key challenges in modern healthcare, generating insights that inform policy, enhance clinical practice, and support equitable access to care.

With 97 abstracts submitted, this year's program offers an excellent opportunity to learn about the impactful work happening across the region. We will feature an Innovation Award Competition comprised of three trainee pitches, highlighting creative ideas and the ability to communicate research to a lay audience. The day will conclude with an awards ceremony recognizing outstanding posters and oral presentations.

Institutional awards will also be presented, including:

- Ottawa Region Cardiovascular Trainee of the Year
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) in Research Trainee Award
- Dr. Frans Leenen Trainee Award for Publication Excellence

We invite you to join our Networking Social to connect with colleagues and spark future collaborations.

Finally, we extend our sincere thanks to all speakers, presenters, judges, session chairs, organizers, and sponsors for their support. Our gratitude goes to:

Platinum Sponsors: Novo Nordisk, UOHI Foundation

Gold Sponsor: Pfizer Inc.

Silver Sponsors: Boehringer Ingelheim, Capital BioVentures, Illumina, uOttawa Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology

Bronze Sponsors: Brain-Heart Interconnectome, ThermoFisher Scientific, uOttawa Department of Cellular & Molecular Medicine

Sincerely,
Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD
Chair, Research Day Committee

David Messika-Zeitoun, MD, PhD
Co-Chair, Research Day Committee



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PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Professor, Faculty of Medicine
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David Messika-Zeitoun, MD, PhD
Co-Chair, Research Day
Clinician Scientist, UOHI
Professor, Faculty of Medicine
University of Ottawa

Camille Rousseau, PhD
Postdoctoral Fellow, UOHI
Oral/Innovation Session
Moderator

Alex Pham
PhD Candidate, UOHI
Oral Session Moderator

Sam Khanlou
MSc Candidate, UOHI
Oral Session Moderator

Honora Labrana, PhD
Postdoctoral Fellow, UOHI
Oral Session Moderator

Chanele Polenz, PhD
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OTTAWA CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH DAY 2026

Friday, May 8th, 8:00 -17:30

Opening Remarks

8:00-8:15

Katey Rayner, PhD

Chief Scientific Officer, Vice-President
Research, UOHI

Rob Beanlands, MD

President & Chief Executive Officer, UOHI

Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD

Chair, Research Day

8:15-9:15

Oral Presentation Session 1

Moderators: Alex Pham, Sam Khanlou & Camille Rousseau

Theme: Reducing cardiac disease risk and progression across the lifespan

Auditorium (H-2367)

O-01: Effect of Aneurysm on Biaxial Mechanics and Circumferential Residual Stress in the Ascending Aorta

Noor Ghadie, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI

Supervisors: Munir Boodhwani, MD & Michel Labrosse, PhD

O-02: Sex Differences in the Progression of Aortic Stenosis: Divergent hemodynamic and structural patterns

Tzlil Grinberg, MD, Clinical Research Fellow, UOHI

Supervisor: David Messika-Zeitoun, MD, PhD

O-03: Considering Mental Disorders in Cardiovascular Disease Prediction Models: A cross-sectional survey of primary care providers

Sara Siddiqi, PhD Candidate, uOttawa

Supervisors: Jess Fiedorowicz, MD, PhD & Ian Colman, PhD

9:15-9:45

Trainee of the Year Lecture & Award Presentation

(Auditorium H-2367)

9:45-9:50

EDI In Research - Trainee Award Presentation

(Auditorium H-2367)

9:50-10:00



Health Break
Sponsored by Pfizer

Keynote Lecture (Hybrid)
Farah Sheikh, PhD

10:00-11:00

Professor of Medicine
Director, BMS Graduate Program
University of California San Diego

***Bench to Business to Bedside:
A Journey Into Developing Precision Therapies for Genetic Heart Disease***

11:00-12:30

Poster Session & Judging
Cardiac Rehabilitation Track (H-2330)

12:30-13:30

Lunch
Auditorium (H-2367)

&

Mentorship Session with Farah Sheikh, PhD

Pre-registration required
Executive Boardroom (H-2403)

13:30-14:20

Oral Presentation Session 2
Moderators: Alex Pham & Sam Khanlou

Theme: Improving care & outcomes for cardiac diseases and unique populations
Auditorium (H-2367)

O-04: Generation of Cardiac Pacemaker Organoids as a Model to Study the Effects of Wnt Signaling on Human Sinoatrial Node Function

Ernest Ngou, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD

O-05: Which PET Parameter Matters Most in Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy? A comparative evaluation of perfusion and flow parameters for predicting outcomes

Amir Aker, MD, Clinical Research Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Gary Small, MD

O-06: Digital Health Engagement and Acceptability of the StepOne Smartphone App for People Not Ready to Quit Smoking: A randomized controlled trial

Salma Mahmoodianfard, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

14:20-14:30



Health Break / Poster Hall
Sponsored by Novo Nordisk

Oral Presentation Session 3

Moderators: Sam Khanlou, Honora Labrana & Camille Rousseau

14:30-15:20

Theme: Putting the heart at the centre of whole-person health

Auditorium (H-2367)

O-7: DPP4 Promotes Atherosclerosis Through Mediating Local Vascular Inflammation Independent of Systemic Metabolic Effects

Ali Abdalbari, MSc Candidate, UOHI

Supervisor: Erin Mulvihill, PhD

O-08: Exploring Brain Alterations in a Pressure-overload Model of Heart Failure

Edwige Martin-Valiente, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI

Supervisor: Peter Liu, MD

O-09: Cortisol Trajectories, Attachment and Physiological Synchrony among Cardiac Couples during a Conflict Resolution Task

Eniko Kasos, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI

Supervisor: Heather Tulloch, PhD

Innovation Award Finalists

15:20-16:05

Moderator: Adim De, PhD

Auditorium (H-2367)

I-01: Restoring Brain Cholesterol Control in Alzheimer's Disease

Salah Hussein Aly, BSc Candidate

Supervisor: Mireille Ouimet, PhD

I-02: NanoCardio: A Tale of Two Tools for Heart Failure

Saif Rjaibi, PhD Candidate

Supervisor: Peter Liu, MD

I-03: Expanding Access to Clinical Trials: An AI-Driven Recruitment Approach

Ayah Rashwan, Clinical Research Coordinator

Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

Networking Reception

16:05-17:00

Cardiac Rehabilitation Track (H-2330)

Awards Ceremony

17:00-17:30

Moderators: **David Messika-Zeitoun, MD, PhD**
(Co-chair Research Day)

&

Adim De, PhD

(Innovation Advisor)

Auditorium (H2367)

Closing Remarks

Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD

Chair, Research Day

17:30

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Farah Sheikh, PhD

Professor of Medicine
Director, BMS Graduate Program
University of California San Diego

BENCH TO BUSINESS TO BEDSIDE: A JOURNEY INTO DEVELOPING PRECISION THERAPIES FOR GENETIC HEART DISEASE

Dr. Farah Sheikh is a Professor of Medicine at the University of California San Diego and an entrepreneur whose career bridges scientific discovery, biotechnology innovation, and leadership in the cardiovascular research community. Her work began with pioneering investigations into arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy, where her laboratory developed human-relevant disease models, identified novel therapeutic targets, and advanced adeno-associated viral gene therapy into Phase 1/2 clinical trials, with publications in *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, *Nature Cardiovascular Research*, and *Circulation: Heart Failure*.

She is also a builder of companies. Dr. Sheikh founded and successfully exited ARVC Therapeutics Inc. and Stelios Therapeutics Inc., whose assets contributed to the acquiring company's IPO, with her role recognized at NASDAQ. She now leads two new ventures—MyoTherapeutix and Papillon Therapeutics—focused on next-generation therapies for acquired and systemic cardiac diseases.

Her influence extends across the cardiovascular research ecosystem. She serves as Chair of the American Heart Association's Basic Cardiovascular Sciences (BCVS) conference and sits on the BCVS Leadership Council. She is Past Chair of the American Physiological Society's Cardiovascular Section, a newly elected APS Board member, and a Councilor for the International Society for Heart Research - North American Section.

At UC San Diego, Dr. Sheikh is Associate Director of the NHLBI Cardiology T32 training program, a Board Member of the UCSD Gene Therapy Initiative, and Director of the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program. She also contributes to the broader scientific community as Editor-in-Chief of *Life Sciences* and Associate Editor of *npj Regenerative Medicine*.

OTTAWA REGION CARDIOVASCULAR TRAINEE OF THE YEAR AWARD



Dominique Boucher, MD/PhD Candidate
Supervisor: Mireille Ouimet, PhD

A leader in uncovering why the heart is vulnerable after surgery while empowering the next generation of cardiovascular scientists.

The Cardiovascular Research Trainee of the Year Award celebrates outstanding research excellence by a trainee in the Ottawa region who is actively contributing to the field of cardiovascular science. Recognizing achievements from April to March each year, this award highlights a trainee who has demonstrated exceptional productivity, innovation, and impact in their research.

Congratulations to Dominique Boucher, MD/PhD Candidate under the supervision of Mireille Ouimet, PhD whose research, leadership, and scientific impact have positioned her as a promising emerging investigator in cardiovascular medicine. Dominique's work offers a groundbreaking explanation for a long-standing medical mystery: why so many patients suffer heart complications after major surgery, even when the surgery has nothing to do with the heart.

Her research shows that the intense inflammation triggered by surgery can rapidly disrupt the normal protective functions of HDL known to be the "good cholesterol" protecting the heart. HDL usually helps clear harmful cholesterol from blood vessels and keeps artery-blocking plaques stable. Dominique discovered that after surgery, inflammation alters the proteins that make up HDL, weakening its ability to remove cholesterol. As a result, plaques can become unstable far more quickly than previously understood, increasing the risk of heart injury in the days and weeks after surgery.

Importantly, Dominique also identified a potential solution. She tested a therapy using recombinant APOA1, a key component of HDL, and found that giving this treatment early after surgery can help stabilize plaques and reduce cardiovascular risk. This discovery opens the door to new strategies for protecting patients during one of the most vulnerable periods of their lives.

Dominique's work has been published in leading journals including *Advanced Science*, *ATVB*, and *Circulation Research* and has earned national and international recognition. In 2023 she received a prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship and is the most recent winner of the Elaine W. Raines Early Career Investigator Award at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions, along with numerous other presentation awards. Beyond her research, Dominique is a dedicated mentor and leader. She supervises undergraduate and graduate students, contributes to multiple collaborative projects, and has held major leadership roles, including Vice-President and representative of the MD/PhD program on the uOttawa Aesculapian Society council and co-founder of the Ottawa Science Policy Network.

Dominique unites rigorous discovery, translational vision, and outstanding leadership. Her work is already influencing the field, and she is unmistakably emerging as a future leader in cardiovascular medicine and research.

OTTAWA REGION EDI IN RESEARCH TRAINEE AWARD



Lisa-Marie Maukel, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow
Supervisor: Heather Tulloch, PhD

The Ottawa Region Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in Research Award recognizes trainees who challenge systemic barriers, advance inclusive research practices, and expand opportunities for under-represented groups. Honourees demonstrate exceptional commitment to strengthening the relevance, accessibility, and impact of cardiovascular research.

Congratulations to Dr. Lisa-Marie Maukel, Postdoctoral Fellow, recipient of the 2026 Ottawa Region EDI in Research Trainee Award. She is recognized for her remarkable productivity, intellectual depth, and scientific rigor in embedding EDI principles throughout her research. Her work at the intersection of cardiovascular and mental health is reshaping how clinicians understand and treat women and other under-served cardiac populations.

Since joining UOHI in 2024, Dr. Maukel has made major strides in addressing long-standing gaps in cardiovascular science by ensuring sex and gender are central to analysis, interpretation, and knowledge generation. Her research strengthens the validity and generalizability of findings, ensuring new knowledge is responsive to lived experience and relevant to diverse patient communities. Her contributions include leading analyses and manuscript development for the MINDSET pan-Canadian study, which examined sex differences in mental health outcomes and psychological intervention needs among patients with Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection (SCAD)—a condition that disproportionately affects women. She has also advanced research on women and microvascular disease, an area historically under-studied despite its clinical importance. Dr. Maukel has secured CIHR and BHI funding to support an international team co-designing a gender- and EDI-sensitive psychological intervention for SCAD using the ORBIT model. Developed with six diverse patient partners, the intervention ensures lived experience informs every stage of the work. She is now planning the follow-on proof-of-concept study to further evaluate feasibility and impact.

Beyond her research, Dr. Maukel has built strong, trust-based relationships with patient communities through educational sessions and workshops, including the UOHI Women's Heart Health Education Series, Sharing is Caring, and a national SCAD conference. As a mentor, she empowers trainees to address long-neglected questions in women's heart health and currently supervises a graduate student conducting a first-of-its-kind systematic review of mental health interventions for women with heart disease. Her commitment to systemic change extends across the broader cardiovascular community. She is an active member of the UOHI Women's Health and Brain-Heart Teams, the Canadian Women's Heart Health Alliance, and the Women's Health Special Interest Group within the Society of Behavioral Medicine. Through inclusive research design, meaningful mentorship, and patient-centered knowledge mobilization, Dr. Maukel is helping ensure cardiovascular research becomes more equitable and impactful for all.

Dr. Maukel's work exemplifies how thoughtful, inclusive science can reshape an entire field. She is emerging as a leader whose influence will continue to elevate cardiovascular research and improve outcomes for populations too often overlooked.



Deyanira Hernandez-Sanchez, PhD Candidate
Supervisor: Emilio Alarçon, PhD

The Dr. Frans Leenen Trainee Award for Publication Excellence is a prestigious recognition presented by the University of Ottawa Heart Institute (UOHI) to honour outstanding research by a trainee. Named after Dr. Frans Leenen—a respected clinician scientist and dedicated mentor—the award celebrates a trainee-led publication from 2025 that demonstrates innovation, impact, and scientific excellence.

Deyanira Hernandez Sanchez is a PhD Candidate at University of Ottawa Heart Institute whose research bridges engineering, biomaterials, and cardiovascular medicine. Deyanira's publication, Miniaturized Devices for On-the-Spot Generation of Small-Diameter Vascular Grafts, captures the essence of the Dr. Frans Leenen Award: bold innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and trainee-led research with real translational promise. Her first-authored work in *Advanced Materials Technologies* marks a significant advance in the way vascular grafts can be fabricated and tailored to patient needs.

This study introduces a tiny medical device that can create small blood vessel grafts right inside the body, exactly where they are needed. Using special light-activated materials that mimic natural tissue, the device can quickly form grafts that are customized, precise, and designed to help the body heal. This represents a major shift from traditional grafts, which rely on taking vessels from the patient or using pre-made synthetic tubes that often do not work well in small arteries.

Scientifically, this paper addresses a persistent challenge in cardiovascular surgery: the lack of reliable small-diameter grafts for procedures such as coronary artery bypass, peripheral artery reconstruction, and hemodialysis access. Clinically, it opens the door to potentially faster, more adaptable, and more personalized vascular repair, especially for patients who previously had no suitable graft options.

As first author, Deyanira played a central role in validating the technology. She led device testing, graft characterization, and feasibility studies, working across engineering and biomaterials teams to generate the experimental evidence that brought this concept to life. She also contributed to data analysis and manuscript preparation, helping advance the platform from an innovative idea to published translational research.

The publication has attracted significant attention featured in The Beat, the Ottawa Citizen, and CTV News Ottawa. This publication has sparked new international collaborations in Mexico, Brazil, the UK, and Denmark. This growing interest highlights the global relevance of technology and its potential to reshape future approaches to vascular reconstruction. Deyanira's work reflects trainee-driven innovation grounded in rigorous science and strengthened by interdisciplinary collaboration. This publication highlights her growing leadership in cardiovascular biomaterials with her and her teams potential to advance next-generation regenerative vascular therapies.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

P-01: Incidence, Recurrence, and Temporal Trends in Pericarditis: Clinical and sociodemographic phenotypes from an ICES population-based study

Faisal Ahmed, Medical Student, UOHI
Supervisor: Kevin Boczar, MD, PhD

P-02: CAD-RADS 2.0: Are all plaque burden (P) categories created equal?

Amir Aker, MD, Clinical Research Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Benjamin Chow, MD

P-03: Improving Left Atrial Wall Segmentation in 3D LGE MRI Using Cavity-Guided Transfer Learning

Yusri Al-Sanaani, PhD Candidate, CarletonU
Supervisor: Rebecca Thornhill, PhD

P-04: High-Intensity Interval Training Reduces MG-H1 Accumulation and Improves Cardiac Function Post-Myocardial Infarction via Proteasome Activation

Ines Amara, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD

P-05: Evaluation of the Ottawa Model for Smoking Cessation (OMSC): Insights from a re-engagement survey to strengthen follow-up

Terefe Gelibo, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-06: Irx1 and Irx2 Regulate Extra-Embryonic Vascular Development Through a Common Cardiogenic Progenitor

Termeh Aslani, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Kyoung-Han Kim, PhD

P-07: Persistent Lung Endothelial Injury due to Pathological Intimal Shear Stress Drives the Emergence of Cancer-like Arterial Endothelial Cells Responsible for Obliterative Arterial Remodeling in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

Jalil Azami, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, OHRI
Supervisor: Duncan Stewart, MD

P-08: Early Recombinant Apolipoprotein A1 Therapy Mitigates Postoperative Plaque Destabilization

Dominique Boucher, MD/PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Mireille Ouimet, PhD

P-09: Regulation of Macrophage Inflammation by Non-Canonical mRNA Translation

Deniz Ekin Camci, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-10: The Impact of Neighbourhood Walkability on Moderate-to-Vigorous Intensity Physical Activity Among Nurses in the Champlain Region of Ontario

Mia Carbone, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Karen Bouchard, PhD

P-11: Torso Phantom Validation of Attenuation Map Alignment of SPECT/CT Data using Data Consistency

Taylon Clark, PhD Candidate, CarletonU
Supervisor: Glenn Wells, PhD

P-12: Evaluating the Real-world Progression of Aortic Stenosis: Can we predict the disease course?

Michael Durr, MD, Resident, TOH
Supervisor: David Messika-Zeitoun, MD, PhD

P-13: Resolving the Flames: Lysine lactylation modulates macrophage transition from inflammation to resolution

Anastasia Fahlman, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-14: Development of A Pilot of Artificial Intelligent (AI)-Translated Patient Education for Pre-Cath Consent

Salar Farokhi Boroujeni, Medical Student, UOHI
Supervisor: Derek So, MD

P-15: Characterizing the Gynecological Health of Females Enrolling in Cardiovascular Rehabilitation Programs

Magalie Fournier, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Jennifer Reed, PhD

P-16: Collagen-inspired Biomimetic Peptides as Therapeutic Agents Against Methylglyoxal-mediated Damage

Sergio David Garcia Schejtman, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD

P-17: Vascular Complications and Urgent Surgical Interventions After Invasive Percutaneous Cardiac Procedures: A single-centre retrospective cohort study - preliminary one-year data

Austin Gerhart, MD, Resident, UOHI
Supervisor: Derek So, MD

P-18: Targeting Methylglyoxal after Myocardial Infarction: A Nanoparticle-Based Delivery Strategy for MG-Trapping Peptides

Micaela Giannetti, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD

P-19: A Multi-Stage Drop-the-Loser Design with Superiority Boundaries for the Post Operative Preventative Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation After Thoracic Surgery (POPARTS) Trial

Peter Greenstreet, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, OHRI
Supervisor: Tim Ramsay, PhD

P-20: Relationship Between Transvalvular Flow and Aortic Valve Calcification in Discordant Severe Aortic Stenosis

Tzlil Grinberg, MD, Clinical Research Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: David Messika-Zeitoun, MD, PhD

P-21: Patterns and Implications of Co-Use Between Vaping and Hallucinogens: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Krystal Grover, BSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-22: Uncoupling of Nitric Oxide Synthase by Depletion of Tetrahydrobiopterin Induces Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction

Savi Gupta, PhD Candidate, OHRI
Supervisor: Duncan Stewart, MD

P-23: Geometric Uncertainty in Stereotactic Arrhythmia Radioablation Is Predominantly Driven by Target Delineation Variability

Connor Haberl, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Robert deKemp, PhD

P-24: Cognitive Outcomes in Older Adults with Cardiac Arrhythmias: A Systematic Review

Ramtin Hakimjavadi, MD, Resident, UOHI
Supervisor: Kevin Boczar, MD, PhD

P-25: Investigating Vascular Cognitive Impairment in a Dual-disease Mouse Model of Atherosclerosis and Pneumonia Infection

Abagael Hudak, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-26: Methylglyoxal as a Potential Target in the Brain-heart Axis Post-myocardial Infarction

Ramis Ileri, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Erik Suuronen, PhD

P-27: Quantification of Myocardial Flow Reserve using Exercise Stress F-18-Flurpiridaz PET Imaging

Ameya Kabra, Medical Student, UOHI
Supervisor: Robert deKemp, PhD

P-28: Prognostic Value of Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Global T2 Mapping in Patients with Takotsubo Syndrome

Yoshito Kadoya, MD, Clinical Research Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Ian Paterson, MD

P-29: Regulation of Gap Junctions and Calcium Transporters by Wnt/ β -catenin Signaling in Ventricular Myocytes

Omar Kayyem, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD

P-30: Modelling Cardiometabolic Vulnerability during the Menopausal Transition: integrating estrogen deficiency, metabolic stress, and sleep fragmentation

Maha Khan, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Erin Mulvihill, PhD

P-31: Unravelling Biological Links between Irregular Heart Rhythms and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Sam Khanlou, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Kyoung-Han Kim, PhD

P-32: Empagliflozin Ameliorates Hepatic Steatosis and Fibrosis Through Direct Action on Hepatocytes via Ketogenesis-Dependent and -Independent Mechanisms

Sora Kwon, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Kyoung-Han Kim, PhD

P-33: Rosella-PLIN2 Reporter Reveals Lipophagy Heterogeneity in Atherosclerotic Foam Cells

Honora Labrana, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Mireille Ouimet, PhD

P-34: Profiling Sex-based Differences in Cardiac Remodelling and Altered Glutathione Metabolism in Ischemic Heart Failure

Michelle Levesque, MSc Candidate, uOttawa
Supervisor: Mary-Ellen Harper, PhD & Erin Mulvihill, PhD

P-35: Circulating Brain-derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF) in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation Undergoing Exercise Training

Lindsay Lew, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Jennifer Reed, PhD

P-36: Functional Characterization of a Novel PCSK9 Mutation Associated with Hypercholesterolemia

Lily Lim, BSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Thomas Lagace, PhD

P-37: Aged Macrophages Induce Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell Dysfunction and Death, Impairing Atherosclerosis Regression

Victoria Lorant, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD and Mireille Ouimet, PhD

P-38: Pharmacotherapies for Smoking Cessation among Indigenous Peoples: A systematic review of randomized controlled trials

Jake Miles, Medical Student, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-39: Temporal Trends in the Profiles of Patients Enrolled in Cardiovascular Rehabilitation Over 25 Years: A retrospective cohort study

Ariany Marques Vieira, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Jennifer Reed, PhD

P-40: The Impact of Frailty on Outcomes for Elderly Patients Undergoing PCI, CABG, or Medical Management Following ACS

Kayleigh Lianne Maxwell, MD, Cardiology Resident, UOHI
Supervisor: Michael Froeschl, MD

P-41: Evaluating the Clinical Utility of Cardiac Magnetic Resonance for Non-ischemic Cardiomyopathy: An appropriate use study

Connor McCafferty, MSc Candidate, uOttawa
Supervisor: Ian Paterson, MD

P-42: Integrative Multi-omics Analysis of S-glutathionylation and Metabolic Dysfunction in Heart Failure

Ella McIlroy, MSc Candidate, uOttawa
Supervisor: Mary-ellen Harper, PhD

P-43: Ionic Mechanisms of Non-canonical Wnt-induced Action Potential Prolongation in Ventricular Myocytes

Reda Moutaoukil, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD

P-44: High Incidence of Pacing-Induced Cardiomyopathy

David Nelson, MD, Cardiology Resident, UOHI
Supervisor: David Birnie, MD

P-45: Utility of Pyrophosphate Uptake Quantification for Assessment of ATTR-Cardiac Amyloidosis (ATTR-CA)

Derya Ozden Omaygenc, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Terrence Ruddy, MD

P-46: Heart-Derived Mediators of Inter-Organ Communication in Cardiac Cachexia

So Jeong Paik, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Kyoung-Han Kim, PhD

P-47: Irx5 Establishes Transcriptomic Heterogeneity Across the Normal and Diseased Ventricular Wall

Julie Pan, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Kyoung-Han Kim, PhD

P-48: Measuring Impact Beyond Quit Rates: A Donabedian-informed mixed-methods evaluation of the National Ottawa Model for Smoking Cessation

Erin Peter, MPH Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-49: Investigating the Roles of BMP9 and BMP10 in Atrial Fibrillation

Alex Pham, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Peter Liu, MD

P-50: Investigating the Relationship Between Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease and Depression/Anxiety

Chanele Polenz, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-51: The Cooperative Role of Irx1 and Irx2 Transcription Factors in Pancreatic α -Cell Identity

Shabnam Pourshojae, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Kyoung-Han Kim, PhD

P-52: Sex-Dependent Modulation of Cardiac Remodeling in Aged PAI-1-Deficient Mice

Serena Pulente, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Erin Mulvihill, PhD

P-53: Supporting Psychosocial Recovery after Heart Disease: The Women@Heart cohort study

Dan Quansah, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Kerri-Anne Mullen, PhD

P-54: Prednisone in the Management of Pericarditis: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Ghazal Razeghi, MD, Internal Medicine Resident, UOHI
Supervisor: Kevin Boczar, MD, PhD

P-55: Harnessing the Ability of Lung-Resident iNKT Cells to Target Senescent Cells as a Novel Therapeutic Strategy for Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

Elmira Safaie Qamsari, PhD Candidate, OHRI
Supervisor: Duncan Stewart, MD

P-56: Modeling the Menopausal Transition: Behavioral and molecular characterization of VCD-induced ovarian failure

Jonathan Salazar, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-57: Exploring Mural Cell Death in Atherosclerotic Cardio- and Cerebrovascular Disease

Rama Sarakbi, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-58: Cost-Effectiveness of Anakinra for Recurrent Pericarditis

Valerie Shirobokov, Medical Student, uOttawa
Supervisor: Kevin Boczar, MD, PhD

P-59: Furin-Cleaved PCSK9 as a Novel Contributor to Atherosclerotic Inflammation

Soumiya Sivasathiyathan, MD/PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Thomas Lagace, PhD & Mireille Ouimet, PhD

P-60: A Deep-Learning Approach to Reconstruction-Based Scatter Compensation in Multi-pinhole SPECT

Cordell Steele, MSc Candidate, CarletonU
Supervisor: Glenn Wells, PhD

P-61: Pre-existing Atherosclerosis Exacerbates Short- and Long-term Inflammatory Burden in Pneumonia

Cameron Stotts, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-62: Pharmacokinetic Evaluation of Methylglyoxal-trapping Peptides via PET/CT Imaging

Ryan Tu, BSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Benjamin Rotstein, PhD

P-63: Abdominal Surgery Triggers Hepatic and Neural Dysregulated Lipid Metabolism and Proinflammatory Remodeling: Implications for post operative delirium

Nysa Vinayak, BSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Mireille Ouimet, PhD

P-64: Non-canonical Wnt Signaling Promotes Ventricular Arrhythmias

Jerry Wang, PhD Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD

P-65: Aortic Root Abscess in Infective Endocarditis: Prognostic impact and safety of patch repair

Abeline Watkins, MD, Resident, UOHI
Supervisor: Fraser Rubens, MD

P-66: Interaction between Nav1.5, Cx43, and GABA-A Receptor $\alpha 4$ Subunit in Intercalated Discs of Ventricular Cardiomyocytes

Yasmeen Zebian, MSc Candidate, UOHI
Supervisor: Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD

P-67: Recruitment for the Aggressive Smoking Cessation Therapy Among People at Elevated Cardiovascular Risk (ASAP) Trial at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Aysha Aftab, Clinical Research Assistant, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-68: Semaglutide for Smoking Cessation in Patients with Diabetes: A pilot pandomized controlled trial (GLPI-SC)

Nidhi Agrawal, Clinical Research Coordinator II, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-69: Embedding Obesity Management into Cardiovascular Rehabilitation: Breaking stigma through the 5As framework and multidisciplinary support

Amanda Beck, Registered Dietitian, UOHI
Supervisor: Jennifer Harris

P-70: Preclinical Excelerator: Implementing “Reproducibility Practices” into preclinical research

Brian Dorus, Clinical Research Assistant, OHRI
Supervisor: Manoj Lalu, MD, PhD

P-71: Addressing Sensitive Topics in Smoking Cessation Recruitment: Staff Perspectives to Enhance Trust and Participant Engagement

Nawal Fatah, Clinical Research Coordinator, UOHI
Supervisor: Evyanne Quirouette

P-72: Using Social Media to Enhance Recruitment in Smoking and Vaping Cessation Research: Insights from three clinical trials

Leah Margetson, Clinical Research Coordinator, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-73: Comparing Emergency Department and Social Media Recruitment Populations in a Smoking Cessation Trial

Sophie Taljit, Clinical Research Coordinator, UOHI
Supervisor: Kerri-Anne Mullen, PhD

P-74: Carbon Monoxide Testing Challenges in a Virtually Recruited RCT

Chantelle Masterson, Clinical Research Coordinator, UOHI
Supervisor: Kerri-Anne Mullen, PhD

P-75: Enhancing Quality of Life and Cardiovascular Rehabilitation Access for the Frail and Complex Patient

Melanie Matta, Registered Nurse, UOHI
Supervisor: Jennifer Harris

P-76: Secondhand Smoke Exposure and Hypertension: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Ayah Rashwan, Clinical Research Coordinator, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-77: Optimizing Heart Health and Tobacco Reduction Outreach in Nunavut Through Collaboration

Julie Sawyer, Care Facilitator, UOHI
Supervisor: Jennifer Harris

P-78: Evaluating the Impact of Smoking on the Development of Dementia

Maalik Sheraly, Research Assistant, UOHI
Supervisor: Hassan Mir, MD

P-79: Modeling Disease Mechanisms for Discovery of Brain-Heart Interaction

David Smyth, Research Associate, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-80: HER-CROWN - Re-examining HER Cardiovascular Risks - Ottawa Women's Longitudinal Cohort Pilot Study - Protocol and Preliminary Analysis

Carolyn Van Dam, Clinical Research Coordinator, UOHI
Supervisor: Kerri-Anne Mullen, PhD

P-81: Flexible Scheduling Model of Care Delivery: A pilot project to increase enrollment & participation in cardiovascular rehabilitation for patients living in Nunavut

Alyssa Verbes-Budge, Registered Nurse, UOHI
Supervisor: Jennifer Harris

P-82: Silencing RIPK1 Can Prevent the Inflammation and Vascularity Loss that Hyperlipidemia Causes in the Hippocampus: Thinking slowly but surely

Violeta Guadarrama Perez, PhD, Research Volunteer, UOHI
Supervisor: Katey Rayner, PhD

P-83: Cardiac Computed Tomography Imaging Findings and Perivascular Adipose Tissue Fat Attenuation Index in Patients with Systemic Vasculitis

Shihab Sarwar, MD, Resident, UOHI
Supervisor: Kevin Boczar, MD, PhD

NOTES

SPECIAL THANKS

ALL PRESENTERS & ATTENDEES

RESEARCH DAY SPEAKERS

Farah Sheikh, PhD, Keynote

Rob Beanlands, MD, President & Chief Executive Officer, UOHI

Dominique Boucher, MD/PhD Candidate, Trainee of the Year

Katey Rayner, PhD, CSO & VP Research, UOHI

Wenbin Liang, MD, PhD, Chair, Research Day Committee

David Messika-Zeitoun, MD, PhD Co-Chair, Research Day Committee

INNOVATION AWARD JUDGES

Farah Sheikh, PhD, Keynote

Larissa Pikor, PhD, Managing Director, Discovery & Pre-Clinical Researcher, Capital BioVentures

Osmo Ramakko, B.Sc.(Civil Eng.) P. Eng., Patient Partner, UOHI

Damian Redfearn, MD, Clinician-Investigator, Cardiac Electrophysiologist, UOHI

Ryan Philippe - Senior Director, Ottawa Health and Life Sciences Innovation Hub, University of Ottawa

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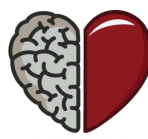
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