



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope most of our members have enjoyed their summers more than those few of us in Edmonton have, where we have been plagued by cool rainy weather until these past 2 weeks. As the days get noticeably shorter, we face the depressing reality that winter is just around the corner.



Of course, that also means that we are fast approaching our Annual Scientific Meeting in Quebec City from October 20-23, and I am looking forward to the excellent meeting Dr. Richard Warrington has assembled as Program Chair.

This meeting will mark the end of my first year as President of our Society, so it seems appropriate now to update you on the various projects your Board of Directors have been addressing since the Victoria meeting.

Last fall and winter, we were deeply involved in discussions with the Government of Canada regarding their proposed changes to food labeling, which were finally passed into law, coming into effect last month. The changes should make it easier for our food-allergic patients to read labels and more successfully avoid the most common and problematic priority allergens.

We were also busy helping Air Canada establish their policy in response to Transport Canada's decision to rule peanut allergy a formal disability. Obviously, it is hard to craft a policy that will please everyone, especially given the lack of firm science in the area, however in the end I think Air Canada did a reasonable job balancing the convenience of its staff and passengers with the safety of its peanut-allergic clientele.

On a somewhat related note, the CSACI and particularly Drs. Don Stark and Richard Warrington have long been campaigning for Air Canada to reconsider its unfortunate decision to allow furred pets to be transported in the passenger cabin. Hopefully the recent decision by the Canadian Medical Association to also adopt this position will help apply the necessary public pressure.

The Society, and particularly the Pediatric Section, have also been busy reviewing proposed changes to Health Canada's infant feeding guidelines, and we trust our suggestions will be incorporated into their final documents. Additionally, the CSACI has partnered with HealthLink BC to update their excellent document addressing current strategies for reducing allergic risk for infants.

In an ongoing partnership between CSACI, Anaphylaxis Canada, and Leap Learning Technologies, we were excited to see the e-learning Anaphylaxis Readiness Course recently launched in the US, an excellent program developed with the scientific input of several of our members (<http://allergyready.com/expert-team/>).

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Head Office / Bureau Chef

Louise Tremblay

Manager/Gestionnaire
774 promenade Echo Drive
Ottawa, ON K1S 5N8
Tel/Tél: 613-730-6272
Fax/Télécopieur: 613-730-1116
E-mail/c-élec:
csaci@royalcollege.ca
Website: www.csaci.ca

CSACI NEWS AND SECTION REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Continued from page 1)

The Society has also been campaigning against the decision by Gamma Dynacare in Ontario to offer food-specific IgG testing directly to consumers. We are also encouraging the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario to adopt a more appropriate and evidence-based policy towards unproven alternative (non-allopathic) healthcare approaches, as their proposed draft policy is woefully inadequate.

Finally, the CSACI has agreed to partner with the Canadian Thoracic Society, AllerGen, and the Canadian Lung Association to name a few in hosting the World Asthma Congress in Quebec City in August 2012. We have also entered a preliminary bid to cohost the 2017 World Allergy Organization meeting in Montreal, and we will definitely keep you posted as these exciting events play out.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at csaci@rcpsc.edu or stuart.carr@ualberta.ca, or approach me directly at our meeting if you have any issues you would like Society to address, or if you have any comments or criticisms regarding our work on your behalf.

I look forward to seeing you all in Quebec City soon,



Stuart Carr, MD, FRCPC, FAAAAI
President, Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

ANAPHYLAXIS AND ADVERSE REACTIONS INTEREST SECTION REPORT

Well, yet another summer has come and gone! As we look forward to our upcoming meeting in October, I'd like to encourage members of the interest section to bring to my attention any areas of interest/concern for discussion. This year we will focus on formalizing the interest section membership and identify key priorities/topics for ongoing CME to the CSACI membership at large, but we should still have time for a formal presentation if there are specific topics that the membership would like to discuss.

Please contact me at ellisa@queensu.ca with your ideas/suggestions.

Dr. Anne Ellis
Section Head

PEDIATRIC INTEREST SECTION

At the 2010 Pediatric section meeting in Victoria, there was continued discussion about the lack of Canadian guidelines for introduction of foods in infants and allergy prevention. Since then, the CSACI has officially endorsed a document originally created by HealthLink BC, entitled "Reducing Risk of Food Allergy in Your Baby". It has been revised with CSACI input, and will be posted shortly. In spring 2011, we also reviewed Health Canada's new Nutrition for Healthy Term Infants guideline.

I look forward to discussing the above at the upcoming 2011 Pediatric section meeting in Quebec, and continuing our round table discussion format. I would like to encourage you to please bring additional topics of interest you have thought of in the past year to the Pediatric section meeting.

Dr. Edmond Chan
Section Head

INTEREST SECTION REPORTS - CONTINUED

IMMUNOLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION

Diagnosis and management of primary immunodeficiency (PID) is an ongoing process with primary PID providers actively working to stay current in this rapidly advancing field. Listening to the needs of our CSACI membership we are working on a new website for Canadians. This website is an information resource for patients and will also, when completed provide a current resource for information regarding diagnosis and management of many PIDs. Using the site practitioners will be able to access individuals with specific expertise and find diagnostic laboratories for patient samples. Although still a work in progress, CSACI members can view the site at www.cprimes.mcgill.ca. This is a Canada-wide initiative aimed at addressing an important need for PID health care providers and patients. Input and suggestions from CSACI members is welcome and encouraged. Those interested in participating in the C-Primes registry can contact Duncan Lejtenyi at Duncan.lejtenyi@muhc.mcgill.ca for further information.

We hope to see as many PID providers and interested investigators in Quebec City in October.

Dr. Christine McCusker
Section Head

RHINITIS AND SINUSITIS

The highlight of the Rhinosinusitis Section Meeting at this year's Quebec Meeting will be a talk entitled: "Immunotherapy 100 Years Old: The Original Papers by Noon and by Freeman. Lessons for today."

Objectives of the talk:

Expose allergists to the foundation papers of allergy immune therapy / vaccine.
Examine the methodology of 100 years ago and compare to current research to establish relevancy.
Assess conclusions and how they can inform our allergy vaccine practice.

The audience should gain from listening to the talk:

Exposure to foundational studies they may have never seen.
An appreciation for the principles established.
Understand the current relevancy of work done 100 years ago.
How the original research should inform allergy vaccine practice today.

Speaker:

Dr. Mark Greenwald

Everyone is invited to this important review of what we knew, what we know and what we don't know after theorizing about it and practicing it for 100 years...

Dr. Fanny Silviu-Dann
Section Head

ASTHMA REPORT

GOALS FOR 2011

1. Reposition CSACI as a partner with the CTS in the generation of asthma guidelines. No or very little CSACI presence in recent iterations of Canadian asthma guidelines.
2. Form a group within CSACI to elaborate asthma guidelines for children < 6 years of age. The most recent CTS guideline excludes children under 6. Unless CSACI becomes a partner with CTS, CSACI should consider producing a guideline for that age group.
3. Write and publish a guide for primary care on the management of preschool wheezing. In the short term, the section will write a brief article to serve as a guide to primary care practitioners dealing with young children on management of preschool wheezing up to step 2. The focus of the article is to generate a written action plan.

PROGRESS TO DATE

1. After several approaches by several Board members to engage with the CTS in the asthma guidelines committee and a response from the CTS expressing a desire for collaboration, no formal activities have developed concerning participation in the asthma guidelines process. Nevertheless, the CSACI has been invited to participate in the CTS Pan-Canadian Respiratory Standards Initiative for Electronic Medical Records (PRESTINE Project) in September.
2. Due to personal circumstances, Dr. Noya has had to postpone action on this objective.
3. Due to the same reason, Dr. Noya has delayed the drafting of this guide to the winter of 2012.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

1. During the Asthma Section meeting, Dr. Noya will present two important and provocative trials: inhaled corticosteroids as rescue treatment in mild persistent pediatric asthma and maintenance versus intermittent corticosteroids in preschool wheezing.
-FD Martinez et al. *Use of beclomethasone dipropionate as rescue treatment for children with mild persistent asthma (TREXA): a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial.* Lancet 2011; 377:650-7.
-Zeiger RS et al. *Maintenance vs. intermittent inhaled steroids in wheezing toddlers (MIST Protocol).* Presented at the 2011 annual meeting of the AAAAI, San Francisco.
Dr. Kim will discuss the upcoming ACAAI asthma review and compare it with the CTS current recommendations.
2. Dr Kim and Dr. Noya will co-moderate the asthma plenary session on the morning of Sunday, October 23. The program includes a presentation of vitamin D in asthma and another on perfumes and airway symptoms.

Presented by Dr. Francisco Noya
Section Head

ALLIED HEALTH SECTION REPORT

As Allied Health members we often provide a link from research to patients. CAEs and CSACI Allied Health members Shauna Filuk and JoAnne St. Vincent have been working on an exciting Knowledge Translation Project with research provided by the SAGE Study of Asthma, Genes and the Environment. The goal was to provide study participants, family and public access to the outcomes of this long term study.

Out of this goal the SAGEnet Blog was born. SAGEnet is meant to share the information learned during the 5-year longitudinal Study of Asthma, Genes, and the Environment (SAGE). Families and participants can read through the Frequently Asked Questions to know more about this study or send us a comment or a question through the "Ask a Researcher" tab. Subscribe via email to be notified of new postings. If you have any helpful resources to share with our CSACI Allied Health members please email us. nlross@hsc.mb.ca or rchooniedass@mich.ca

The blog can be accessed through the following link:

<http://sagenet-sage.blogspot.com/>

SAGE - The Study of Asthma, Genes and the Environment

Welcome to the SAGEnet Blog, a site where YOU can keep updated on the latest in asthma research! SAGEnet is meant to share the information learnt during the 5 year longitudinal Study of Asthma, Genes, and the Environment. Read through the Frequently Asked Questions to know more about this study.

SAGE
Study of Asthma Genes and the Environment

Home | Frequently Asked Questions

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2011

What have we learned? - March 24th, 2011

Join us on Thursday, March 24th, 2011 from 7 - 9 pm at Canad Inns, Polo Park. Come meet the some of the researchers involved in the SAGE study and hear the results. This time you ask the questions! Door prizes available to be won... iPad and an iTouch. Let us know you are coming by email at jstvincent@hsc.mb.ca or at 787-4593.

Posted by SAGEnet at 11:23 AM

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Rishma Chooniedass & Nancy Ross
Allied Health Section Co-Chairs

JOURNAL NEWS: ALLERGY, ASTHMA & CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY

CSACI is pleased to announce that the Society has purchased a Shared Support Membership in BioMed Central on behalf of our members.

This means that CSACI members wishing to submit an article to AACI will pay a reduced article processing charge that will be approximately half the regular fee.

We hope that this innovation will encourage you to submit more manuscripts to your journal. Please contact CSACI for information on how to take advantage of this benefit.

Richard Warrington Editor-in-Chief, AACI

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES – 2011/2012

- **CSACI Annual Scientific Meeting – October 20-23 – Hilton Hotel, Québec City, Québec**
- **American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Meeting – November 3-8 – Boston, MA**
- **XXII WAO International Scientific Conference, 4-8 December 2011 – Cancun, Mexico**
- **Maintenance of Certification (MOC) deadline is January 31, 2012**
- **CSACI Canadian Dinner – Orlando, Florida – (Location TBD) - March 3, 2012**
- **AAAAI Meeting - Orlando, Florida - March 2 to 6, 2012**

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XXX OF THE CSACI BYLAWS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE CSACI WILL BE HELD IN QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22 FROM 08:30 TO 09:30 IN “PALAIS ROOM” – HILTON HOTEL.

The Annual General meeting (AGM) is an important event for every organization. It gives its members a broad overview of the current directions and financial health of the organization. All CSACI members are invited to attend the CSACI and CAAIF AGMs.

The agenda and other pertinent documents will be available on site.

Stuart Carr, MD, FRCPC, FAAAAI
President, CSACI

Eric Leith, MD, FRCPC
Chair, CAAIF

DOOR PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED !

CSACI ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

MARK YOUR AGENDAS

JOIN YOUR COLLEAGUES FOR THE
2011 CSACI ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
OCTOBER 20 TO 23
IN BEAUTIFUL QUÉBEC CITY!
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
WWW.CSACI.CA

VISIT OUR 2011 SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS

Don't miss the opportunity to participate in the **CSACI Passport Program**. Visit our participating sponsors and exhibitors, and have your passport signed. Drop off your completed passport in the Exhibit Hall.

You will be entered to win some great cool prizes!

**Daily prizes will be drawn during
Networking breaks!**

**YOU MUST BE IN THE EXHIBIT HALL
TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE!**

Join us for cappuccinos, ice cream and other treats!

Exhibiting Hours:

Friday, October 21, 07:00 – 15:45

Saturday, October 22, 07:00 – 14:00

Sunday, October 23, 10:00 – 10:30

FOUNDATION NEWS (CAAIF)

2011 FELLOWSHIPS

Dr. Anne Ellis, Queen's University, has been awarded **\$60,000** for the Allergy/Asthma Information Association (**AAIA**) and Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation (CAAIF) **Fourth Award for Ontario Research in Food Allergy** for her project entitled "**Developmental Origins of Food Allergy: Role of Epigenetics and Regulatory T Cells**".

Dr. Christine McCusker, Meakins-Christie Laboratories, McGill University, has been awarded **\$63,000** for the 2011 Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation (CAAIF) "**Walk to Axe Anaphylaxis**" **Research Award for Anaphylaxis Research in Canada** for her project entitled "**Modulation of food-induced anaphylaxis by STAT6 inhibition Beyond IgE**".

Dr. Qutayba Hamid, Meakins-Christie Laboratories, McGill University, has been awarded **\$10,000** for the 2011 **CAAIF Research Grant Competition** for his your project entitled "**Association Study of Mitophagy in Refractory Asthma**".

JOIN US!

WALK TO AXE ANAPHYLAXIS



**OCTOBER 18TH,
2011**

**Earl Bales Park
TORONTO,
ONTARIO**

**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION
PLEASE VISIT
www.walktoaxe.ca**

SILENT AUCTION AND FUNDRAISING RECEPTION QUÉBEC CITY

As many of you know, each year CAAIF, as part of the Annual Scientific Meeting, holds two signature events to help raise funds to further research into the causes, prevention and treatment of allergic.

**IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF YOU
COULD DONATE A GIFT**

++ YOU CAN GET A TAX RECEIPT ++

The more money we raise for the Silent Auction and the Fundraising reception the more we can give back to assist others!

Your attention in this matter is greatly appreciated!

For further information, please contact the CAAIF Head Office.