

CSACI

Newsletter

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Do you have feedback, concerns or suggestions? Share them with the membership!

Send your comments to
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This spring has been a busy time in terms of advocacy and planning for the future for CSACI.

A ministerial order was enacted by the B.C. Education Minister in September 2007 to protect anaphylactic students in B.C. CSACI, along with lay allergy organizations, has been speaking with the B.C. Department of Education regarding the training of school staff for recognition of anaphylaxis and the proper administration of both types of epinephrine auto-injectors. Federally, the amendments to the Food Labelling law have yet to be passed due to ongoing bureaucratic delays. An appeal has been sent to Prime Minister Harper to expedite the process and allow passage of this most important legislation for food-allergic families in Canada. CSACI members are being asked to encourage their food-allergic individuals to email the government using the link <http://www.allergicliving.com/>.

On May 23rd and 24th, a workshop on the Future of the Specialty was held at Millcroft Inn in Alton, Ontario. Allergists and clinical immunologists from across Canada were in attendance to discuss both the challenges and opportunities facing Allergy and Clinical Immunology in Canada. For more details, refer to the article in this newsletter entitled "The Future of the Specialty".

The new, improved CSACI website has now been launched. In addition to a Members Only section, there will also be the ability to register online for the annual scientific meeting. This newsletter contains further information about this new website.

Summer is now upon us. It is a good chance to get away from the office or research lab and spend time with family and friends. I wish you a relaxing and refreshing time this summer. I look forward to seeing you at the CSACI annual scientific meeting in Hamilton in October.

Dr. Charles Frankish
President, CSACI

~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

- ◆ 14th International Congress of Immunology - Aug. 22-27, 2008, Kobe, Japan
- ◆ **CSACI Annual Meeting - October 23 to 26, 2008
Hamilton, Ontario**
- ◆ XIX World Congress of Asthma, November 5-8, 2008, Monte-Carlo, Monaco
- ◆ American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology - November 7-12, 2008 Seattle, WA
- ◆ American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology - March 13-17, 2009, Washington, DC
- ◆ **CSACI Mid-Term Canadian Dinner - March 14, 2009
Washington, DC**



Improving the quality of life

New CSACI Website

feel better

The new CSACI website is up and running and is able to provide a variety of new services for members with internet access. The re-build of the site has focused on a complete IT redevelopment, allowing CSACI members a secure area dedicated solely to Member services. Members access this area by using their CSACI member identification number as their Username and their last name (in lower case) as their Password. (**Your member ID number is located on your membership dues receipt.**) Once logged in, CSACI members have access to a member menu and customized member services. A key consideration in the construction of the Member only site was to give each Interest Section Group, as well as the Allergy residents, a chance to join their colleagues in a discussion group, post meetings and view pertinent information. Ideally the CSACI site will facilitate discussion of interesting and challenging cases amongst members in the allergy and clinical immunology community and provide an opportunity to ask questions and share ideas.

Members Only Login

Username

Password

Login

By visiting www.csaci.ca you will now be able to register online for the upcoming 2008 annual scientific meeting, stay updated on all CSACI activities, and much more.

Dr. Richard Warrington and the Website Committee (Eyal Grunebaum, Liliane Grendreau-Reid, Eric Leith and Chuck Frankish) have strived to make the site as user-friendly as possible in an effort to ensure that all CSACI Members benefit from what the site has to offer. "We are quite pleased with the site. After a lot of hard work, we feel that the resources the site can offer our members across Canada and potentially the world will be a great asset", said Dr. Warrington. The site was redesigned by MEDIAFORCE, a website development company located in Ottawa.

We respect your right to privacy. If you DO NOT wish to have your name listed on either the public (under Patient Info) or private secure area of the website (under Membership - Directory), please indicate by either sending us an email or by telephoning the CSACI Head Office at (613) 730-6272.

We look forward to your comments, suggestions or feedback by emailing csaci@rcpsc.ca.

Louise Tremblay,
CSACI Manager

The Future of the Specialty: The Future of Allergists and Clinical Immunologists in Canada

A workshop on the Future of the Specialty, co-sponsored by CSACI and AllerGen, took place at the Millcroft Inn in Alton, Ontario on May 23rd and May 24th. Allergists and clinical immunologists from across Canada met to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing our specialty. Presentations from the program directors of the existing Allergy programs in Canada were considered and discussed. Physicians seeking to establish new programs in Halifax, Edmonton, and Vancouver spoke of the challenges facing them. Dr. Deborah Danoff, a past president of CSACI and former director of the Office of Education of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, spoke on the structure and functioning of the Royal College and its requirements for approval of new residency programs. The participants spent time brain-storming and strategizing how to make the specialty stronger and more vibrant and ways to attract new physicians into the field of Allergy and Clinical Immunology here in Canada. The next step is to take the many suggestions generated from this workshop and establish a definite one year, three year and five year plan of how to strengthen the specialty and attract more physicians into the field of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

I would like to recognize the staff of AllerGen for all their work in organizing and facilitating this meeting. I would particularly like to thank Diana Royce, managing director of AllerGen, and Brendan Osborne, partnership coordinator of AllerGen, for their considerable contributions to making this workshop a success.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions for the taskforce on The Sustainability of the Specialty, chaired by Dr. Susan Wasserman, please forward your comments to Louise Tremblay at csaci@rcpsc.ca.

Dr. Charles Frankish

CAAIF FOUNDATION NEWS

Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation Awards

We wish to announce that the Allergy/Asthma Information Association – Atlantic / Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation (CAAIF) Award for Peanut Allergy Research in Canada and the CAAIF 2008 Research Grant Competition deadline is now over. Winners will be announced prior to the CSACI Annual Scientific Meeting.

CAAIF is pleased to announce the following winners:

- ◆ \$25,000—Anaphylaxis Canada/CAAIF Award for Anaphylaxis Research in Canada by Dr. Manel Jordana, from Hamilton, for his project entitled “Impact of PAF Receptor Blockade in Murine Peanut-Induced Anaphylaxis”.
- ◆ \$10,000—CAAIF Research Grant Competition research project by Dr. Marie-Noël Primeau, from Montreal, for her project entitled “Establishing a registry of persons with sesame allergy to further understand the diagnosis, impact and management of sesame allergy and estimate the rate of accidental exposure to sesame containing food”.

Allergy Asthma Information Association Walk Run

On May 25th, Dr. Eric Leith, CAAIF Chair, Dr. Charles Frankish, CSACI President, and Louise Tremblay, Manager (CSACI and CAAIF) took part in the Allergy Asthma Information Association Walk Run. A portion of the proceeds from this AAIA run/walk will be directed to research and education of allergic and immunologic diseases.

Anaphylaxis Guidelines Sent to Public Schools/School Boards across Canada

The consensus guidelines, *Anaphylaxis in Schools & Other Settings*, were included as part of an “Anaphylaxis Resource Kit” and sent by the Ontario Ministry of Education in January 2006 to all public schools and school boards in the province in support of Sabrina’s Law. Through the financial support of several organizations, including the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency, Dairy Farmers of Canada, King Pharmaceuticals Canada and the Peanut Bureau of Canada, a program was launched in January 2007 to extend the guideline distribution to the remaining publicly-funded schools and school boards across Canada. Various Departments and Ministries of Education were involved in coordinating the allocation of English and French guideline copies within their province or territory. More than 10,000 copies were distributed over a 15 month period and the program was completed in March 2008.

These guidelines are now being translated into Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun.

Joni Huang
Anaphylaxis Canada / CSACI

Dear fellow residents,

Residents' Corner

As your fellow-in-training (FIT) representative on the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (CSACI) Board of Directors, I will continue to keep you informed of activities of the CSACI board of directors and learning opportunities for FITs over the upcoming months.

The Journal of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology would like to encourage fellows-in-training to become associate reviewers for the CSACI's official publication. Fellows would be paired with local allergists/immunologists who would act as mentors in review of manuscripts.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you would like for me to bring your name forward to the editorial board.

Sincerely,

Sari

Sari Herman-Kideckel, PGY-4 Clinical Immunology and Allergy
University of Toronto

CSACI 2008 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

The CSACI will be hosting its 63rd Annual Scientific Meeting from October 23 to 26 in Hamilton, Ontario. The latest advances in research, diagnosis, and treatment of allergic and immunologic diseases will be presented at this meeting. There will be plenary sessions covering the areas of bronchial asthma, allergic rhinitis, and food allergy. On Sunday morning, there will be a literature review. New this year, there is a "Fellows-in-Training Symposium on Thursday October 23 which will showcase topics from immunotherapy to career planning.

LIBATION AMONG THE POSTERS

Don't miss this popular event. It is an excellent opportunity to share your work and interact with colleagues from across Canada and abroad. There will be a new poster presentation format this year. Abstract submissions for the 2008 annual scientific meeting are now open. All abstracts will be published in "Allergy, Asthma, and Clinical Immunology" the Official Journal of the CSACI. Guidelines for submitting an abstract can be found on the CSACI website.

All abstracts must be submitted electronically. Prizes to be won for the best abstract.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS IS AUGUST 15, 2008.

NEW THIS YEAR! - ONLINE REGISTRATION

For the first time, participants can register online for the CSACI annual scientific meeting.

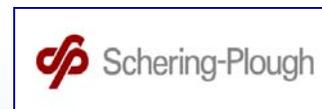
For more information regarding the meeting, please visit the CSACI website at www.csaci.ca or contact the CSACI Head Office at 613-730-6272 or at csaci@rcpsc.edu.

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