



CSACI Newsletter

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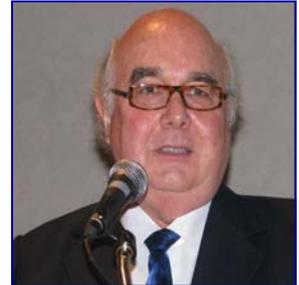
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

I hope that all of you had a pleasant and relaxing summer. Now it is time to prepare for our Annual Meeting in Halifax from October 22 to 25, which I trust all of you will be attending.



Progress continues with our journal and the website is now ready for submissions. I hope that everyone will enjoy the new "open access" and will be preparing manuscripts to submit. The CSACI is soon launching new print and electronic learning program for general practitioners entitled *Allergy Rounds*.

As you may know, Air Canada has changed its policy on pets traveling in the cabin and it appears that this policy is likely not to change in the near future, despite our protests. I would encourage all of you to join the effort by the Canadian Lung Association to bring this matter to the attention of Committee in Parliament. However, the CSACI Executive had a productive teleconference with West Jet officials and discussed a number of issues regarding their pet policy on planes.

It may be of interest to you that the R4 subspecialty selection process will now be through the CARMS match. How this will impact our training programs remains to be determined, but the Society continues to work on ways to increase the interest of medical students and residents in our subspecialty, a prerequisite to enhanced recruitment.

I look forward to seeing you all in Halifax.

Sincerely,

Dr. R. Warrington, CSACI President

ALLIED HEALTH

Why attend this year's CSACI annual scientific meeting?

During this past year we have seen Canadian unemployment in numbers not seen since the 1930's. Job positions promised to be secure were cut without warning. In my own province diabetic educators are being laid off, hospital emergency departments shut and operating suites closed. Compounding this grim situation is the persisting shortage of physicians particularly in the speciality of allergy and immunology. Alternate health care groups are stepping in to fill this health care void. Patients are seeking help from these sources and left vulnerable to pay for expensive treatments without satisfaction. Finally let us not forget the impact of global warming and increasing world wide pollution on allergic diseases. The prediction is: the demand for allergic care will increase dramatically over the next few years.

During this historic period of financial and environmental turmoil Allied Health Professionals need to stay informed and ready to take on added responsibility. Our expertise should expand beyond the basics of asthma management. To remain a vital component of the allergy health care management team we need to arm ourselves with a wide range of knowledge.

The theme for the Allied Health Symposium will be new emerging health care issues.

Michelle Vine from the Asthma Society of Canada will present data giving unique insight into our Canadian Aboriginal and Inuit Allergy

needs. You will learn how basic health issues are being neglected in a country that boasts of having a high standard of living. I will be presenting on Sleep Disorders and Respiratory Health. This presentation will discuss the importance of sleep, how poor sleep quality impacts on the immune system and can lead to a myriad of health problems including respiratory disease. Dr. Michael Mandl will discuss an updated perspective of The Food Pollen Syndrome. This presentation will provide a hypothesis for this increasingly common, clinical syndrome. Practical tools for patient education will be emphasized. The Allied Health Section Co-Chairs, Nancy Ross and Rishma Chooniedass will be using an interactive study format to explore unique case studies for our interest section meeting.

Comradeship, networking, sharing and learning are all components of the 2009 annual CSACI scientific meeting. Don't become a dinosaur and suffer their fate. Register today and I will see you there.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jo-Anna Gillespie
Allied Health Chair

INTEREST SECTION REPORTS

IMMUNOLOGY SECTION

National and International conferences:

| Date | Conference | Site |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Oct 4-9, 2009 | 4th International Autoimmunity Conference | Chania, Crete |
| Oct 15-17 2009 | Latin American Society for Primary Immune deficiencies. | Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. |
| Nov. 3-7, 2009 | Latin American Congress of Immunology | Viña del Mar, Chile |
| Nov 18-20, 2009 | European Workshop on Immune-Mediated Inflammatory Diseases. | Lisbon, Portugal |
| Dec. 5-8, 2009 | American Society of Hematology | New Orleans, LA |
| Feb 24-28, 2010 | BMT Tandem Meetings | Orlando, FL, |
| May 1-4, 2010 | Pediatric Academic Societies | Vancouver, BC |
| May 5-9, 2010 | 7th International Congress on Autoimmunity | Ljubljana, Slovenia |
| June 24-28, 2010 | Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies | Boston, MA |
| July 1-3, 2010 | 3rd Congress on Autoimmunity | Buenos Aires, Argentina |
| Aug. 22-27, 2010 | International Congresses of Immunology | Kobe, Japan |
| Oct 6-9, 2010 | European Society for Immune Deficiencies | Istanbul, Turkey |

INTEREST SECTION REPORTS

IMMUNOLOGY (cont'd)

Immunology Research Grants:

1. National Institute of Health- Investigations on Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases (R01)- <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-206.html>
2. Chaim Roifman Award, Canadian Immunodeficiency Society- <http://www.cisociety.com/files/research.html>
3. Sick Kids foundation National grants- <http://www.sickkidsfoundation.com/grants/default.asp>
4. March of Dimes- http://www.marchofdimes.com/professionals/691_14434.asp
5. CGD research trust- http://www.cgd.org.uk/cgd/research/research_grants_available
6. The Dana Foundation for new investigators patient-based immunology research- <http://www.dana.org/grants/human/>

Immunology papers:

1. Dendrou et al. Cell-specific protein phenotypes for the autoimmune locus IL2RA using a genotype-selectable human bioresource. Nat Genet. 2009 Sep
2. Chen et al, Direct expansion of human allospecific FoxP3+CD4+ regulatory T cells with allogeneic B cells for therapeutic application. J Immunol. 2009 Sep
3. Mackay F, Schneider P. Cracking the BAFF code. Nat Rev Immunol. 2009 July

Dr. Eyal Grunebaum, Section Head

ANAPHYLAXIS INTEREST SECTION REPORT

Greetings all from the world according to adverse reactions! I'm very pleased to report on a number of exciting developments coming through for October of interest to our members. At the Anaphylaxis Interest Section meeting of the CSACI annual scientific meeting on Saturday, October 24th (0945-1045) at the WTCC in Halifax, Dr. Anne Ellis from Queen's University (Kingston, ON) will present on the topic of "Biphasic Anaphylaxis – Incidence, Characteristics and Risk Factors". This promises to be an exciting update on the topic as a number of research studies have come down the pipeline in this field, particularly in the setting of biphasic reactions occurring post-immunotherapy.

Additionally, in the ensuing week, Dr. Wesley Burks, Professor of Paediatrics at Duke University, will be giving a special presentation at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario on October 29th, 2009 - funded through the Allergy Educational Research Fund. He will be giving Medical Grand Rounds at 11:30am on the 29th in Etherington Auditorium on Queen's campus, and his presentation is entitled "Food Allergy - Why are all of these families going nuts?". He is also planning on giving a public lecture on the evening of October 28th on the topic of food allergy as well, details are pending at this publication but we will forward these on to interested members either via our next newsletter or upon request – contact Dr. A. Ellis at ellisa@queensu.ca.

Dr. Anne Ellis
Section Head

INTEREST SECTION REPORTS

PEDIATRIC SECTION REPORT

We are looking forward to our section meeting this fall in Halifax. As in previous years, we plan to have a round table discussion and informal business meeting. The consensus from previous meetings has been that the group favors this format, in which members are able to discuss current topics of interest. Members have also indicated that they appreciate a forum in which they are able to compare their practices with colleagues across the country. Recurring topics that will again be discussed at the upcoming meeting include the possible development of consensus statements on dose recommendations for epinephrine auto-injectors, and the introduction of foods in early life. Everyone with an interest in the practice of Pediatric Allergy and Clinical Immunology is invited to attend.

During our last meeting, we performed a needs assessment for topics for the annual meeting. It is wonderful to see that several of the suggestions raised at that meeting have been incorporated into this year's meeting, including presentations on oral food immunotherapy, cutaneous and sublingual immunotherapy for aeroallergens and eosinophilic esophagitis. Additionally, the group expressed a desire for more audience participation sessions and pro-con debates, and these formats have been incorporated into this year's meeting as well.

Dr. Tim Vander Leek
Section Head

RHINOSINUSITIS SECTION REPORT

At the next CSACI meeting in Halifax, Dr. Mark Greenwald, Section Vice-Chair will make a presentation entitled "Allergy In The Nose: Not Just Passing Through", in which he will talk of the nose as a self initiating and self sustaining organ of allergy. The goals of his talk are to enable the participants to become familiar with the **IMMUNOBIOLOGY OF THE NOSE**, to discuss how an allergic immune response can be generated in the nose, understand how an allergic immune response can be maintained in the nose and appreciate how this knowledge may impact diagnosis and management of allergy.

I also intend to poll the audience regarding the impact the previous talk(s) given in the setting of the Rhinosinusitis Section have had on their practice.

Dr. Fanny Silviu-Dan, Section Head

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CSACI NEEDS YOU!
ASTHMA INTEREST
SECTION HEAD NEEDED

☆☆ As Section Head you play an important role in the society and to the functioning and operation of the CSACI.

☆☆ The success of CSACI is entirely dependent on the volunteer work which is done by members like you.

☆☆ The Board meets twice a year: at the Annual Scientific Meeting and at the Mid-Term Meeting to review the activities of the committee. We ask that you liaise with your committee members and chair an Interest Section meeting during the CSACI Annual Meeting.

☆☆ For more information, please contact the CSACI Head Office.

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AAIA/CAAIF GRANT AWARD

We are pleased to announce the 2009 AAIA / CAAIF Award for Ontario Research in Food Allergy was awarded to Dr. Manel Jordana and Dr. Susan Wasserman from McMaster University for their project entitled "Immunological Pathways Leading to Peanut-Induced Anaphylaxis".



Congratulations and thank you AAIA for your continued support.

- IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE -

Dear Colleagues,

Over the years the CSACI membership has consistently supported the Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation. CAAIF relies on contributions from the CSACI members which help maintain its annual activities, including the funding for a number of projects.

Given inflation, current donations provide little more than seed money for training, research, fellowships, studentships and grants. If we are to be in a position to offer more we will have to "dig a little deeper". Your donation will help build and sustain funding for CSACI Fellows-in-Training as well as introduce medical students to the specialty of allergy, asthma & immunology.

If you would like to help support, please visit the CAAIF website at: www.allergyfoundation.ca or call (613) 730-6272 or visit www.allergyfoundation.ca

YOUR DONATION IS 100% TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

Thank you for making a difference!

Dr. Eric Leith,
Chair, CAAIF

Silent Auction and Annual Fundraising Dinner - Halifax

As many of you know, each year the Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation (CAAIF), as part of a four-day Annual Scientific Meeting, holds a signature event to help raise funds to further research into the causes, prevention and treatment of allergic diseases and to educate health care professionals, patients and the public about the advances in research and treatment. Make a donation and you will be entered in a draw to win an incredible prize.

See attached donation form.

INTERESTING READINGS

Anaphylaxis in Schools & Other Settings



2nd Edition



Anaphylaxis Canada



2nd Edition of Anaphylaxis Guidelines

The CSACI, in collaboration with the Allergy / Asthma Information Association, Anaphylaxis Canada, the Association québécoise des allergies alimentaires, the Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation, is pleased to announce the latest edition of anaphylaxis guidelines - *Anaphylaxis in Schools & Other Settings, 2nd Edition* and *L'anaphylaxie à l'école et dans d'autres milieux, 2^e édition*.

The new edition involved the participation of an expanded group of reviewers, including 13 health-related organizations with an interest in anaphylaxis (10 national and 3 provincial groups). Available in late October, the new edition reflects current research and offers key recommendations for the management and treatment of anaphylaxis in the school and other environments. Guideline copies are being sent to the CSACI membership.

Dear Colleagues:

By visiting the CSACI website* under “What’s New” I have included some of the scenarios that I had envisioned for justifying our existence in a hospital setting. Feel free to circulate these widely and get input. I would hope that we might be able to get funding from AllerGen to pay for a health economist to provide some numbers pertaining to these various scenarios to show a dollar value of how much we can save hospitals and potentially the health care system with our expertise.

Donald F. Stark, MD

*The CSACI website can be found at www.csaci.ca

CMPA

The CMPA has published an interesting article ‘Learning from Adverse events’ and ‘Reporting and Responding to adverse events’.

This and other pertinent documents can be found on the CMPA website (<http://www.cmpa-acpm.ca/>)

NEW PARTNERSHIP - Summary of e-Learning Development Initiative

Anaphylaxis Canada (AC), the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (CSACI), and Dr. Anthony Levinson, Director, Division of e-Learning Innovation at McMaster and Vice-President Leap Learning Technologies Inc. (Leap) have collaborated on the development of an online training program for anaphylaxis education.

Essentially, AC and CSACI have developed excellent anaphylaxis education resources and training programs, and Leap has expertise, tools, technologies and methodologies for the development of high quality e-learning products. Moreover, Dr. Levinson has obtained research funding to study the use of e-learning for anaphylaxis training in schools; AC has secured a contract with another party/customer (Alberta Ed) to develop a comprehensive training program (including an e-learning component); and AC/CSACI have had preliminary discussions with another party/customer (Toronto District School Board) who is also interested in an online training product.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **CSACI Annual Scientific Meeting - October 22 – 25, 2009 - Halifax, Nova Scotia**
- **American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology - November 6-11, 2009, Miami Beach, Florida**
- **EAACI European Pediatric Allergy & Asthma Meeting - Venice, Italy, November 12 –14, 2009**
- **World Allergy Congress, Buenos Aires, Argentina - December 6-10, 2009**
- **Maintenance of Certification (MOC) deadline is January 31, 2010**
- **AAAAI Meeting - February 26 to March 2, 2010 - New Orleans, LA**
- **CSACI Mid-Term Canadian Dinner - Saturday, February 27, 2010 (Location TBD)**

OTHER MEETING:

**Canadian Network for Asthma Care (CNAC)
November 12-14, 2009**

**ASED 9: National Respiratory Care & Education Conference
“Going for Gold: Motivated for Excellence”**

Fairmont Chateau Whistler, Whistler, BC

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: www.cnac.net

CSACI ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER

Deadline for online registration is October 14, 2009

You may also register onsite in Halifax

JOIN YOUR COLLEAGUES IN HALIFAX CSACI ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OCTOBER 22-25, 2009

THE PREMIER ALLERGY AND CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY EVENT OF THE YEAR

For more information - visit the CSACI website at: www.csaci.ca

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 HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH FROM 08:30 TO 09:30 IN ROOM 200 E – HALIFAX CONVENTION CENTRE.

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.

Richard Warrington, MD, FRCPC
President, CSACI

Eric Leith, MD, FRCPC
Chair, CAAIF

Door prizes will be awarded

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