



Canadian Hemophilia Society
Help Stop the Bleeding

**The Canadian Hemophilia Society announces
its 2011 Research Program winners for *Dream of a Cure, Care until Cure*
and the CSL Behring – CHS - AHCDC *Hemostasis Fellowship***

Montreal (Quebec) – April 28, 2011 – The Canadian Hemophilia Society is happy to announce the names of the recipients of its research grants for 2011 in the following programs:

- *Dream of a Cure*
- *Care Until Cure*
- The CSL Behring – Canadian Hemophilia Society - Association of Hemophilia Clinic Directors of Canada (AHCDC) *Hemostasis Fellowship*

These programs support basic and clinical research aimed at improving the quality of life of people with hemophilia and other inherited bleeding disorders.

Dream of a Cure

For 2011 the two winners are:

- **Dr. Christine Hough** of Queen's University who received second-year funding for her project entitled: *An evaluation of FVIII expression in phenotypically distinct endothelial cells.*
- **Dr. Andrea Doria** of Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children who received first-year funding for her project entitled: *Novel imaging techniques for assessment of early cartilage and soft tissue changes in haemophilic ankles.*

Dream of a Cure: Lab Work Studentships/Summer 2011

For the summer of 2011, the two winning students are:

- **Ashley Warias** of McMaster University who will be working under the supervision of Dr. Vicky Breakey and Dr. Victor Blanchette of the Hospital for Sick Children of Toronto for her project entitled: *Validation of the HEI-Q in adolescents with hemophilia.*
- **Kuan-Chieh Wang** of the University of Toronto who will be working under the supervision of Dr. Andrea Doria of the Hospital for Sick Children of Toronto for his project entitled: *Quantitative ultrasound in a rabbit model of blood-induced arthropathy.*

Supporting research towards improving the quality of life for persons with hemophilia and finding a cure have been goals of the Canadian Hemophilia Society (CHS) since it was founded in 1953. Since 1989, through funds provided by the Hemophilia Research Million Dollar Club and generous individual donors to the CHS, the Society has funded basic scientific research grants and studentships aimed at developing treatments for hemophilia and finding a cure. Grants, awarded for one to two years with a maximum of \$75,000 per year are available through Dream of a Cure and \$6,000 is awarded to each summer studentship.

Care Until Cure

For 2011, the three winners are:

- **Dr. Jennifer Stinson** of Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children who received first-year funding for her project entitled: *Development and evaluation of an innovative Web-based educational program to promote self-management for teens with hemophilia.*
- **Dr. Paula James** of Kingston's Queens University who received first-year funding for her project entitled: *von Willebrand disease plasma and platelets: Functional characterization of quantitative and qualitative von Willebrand factor mutations.*
- Hamilton-based physiotherapist **Cecily Bos** of Hamilton Health Sciences Centre, and co-principal investigator, **Dr. Anthony Chan** of McMaster University, who received first-year funding for their project entitled: *Bone mineral density in Canadian children with severe hemophilia A or B: A multi-centre, cross-sectional, observational study.*

The Care until Cure Research Program was established in the year 2000 in collaboration with Wyeth Canada, now Pfizer. Funding for Care until Cure is made possible thanks to the generous support of Pfizer Canada.

This program allows Canadian investigators to conduct research on various medical and psychosocial aspects of bleeding disorders. Grants, awarded for one to two years with a maximum of \$75,000 per year, are given for clinical research, including outcome evaluation, in fields relevant to improving the quality of life of persons with hemophilia, von Willebrand disease or other inherited bleeding disorders, persons with treatment complications such as HIV or hepatitis C as well as carriers of an inherited bleeding disorder. In 2011, researchers were encouraged to submit proposals in the following areas of interest:

Hemophilia B:

1. Epidemiology / burden of disease / outcome research
2. Routine prophylaxis and preventative treatment
3. Surgical prophylaxis, dosing
4. Recovery experience (hemophilia B)
5. Joint outcomes and optimizing therapy

Transition and clinical issues:

1. Treatment adherence to prescribed regimens
2. Management of adolescent hemophilia patients
3. Management of aging hemophilia population

Clinical monitoring of hemophilia treatment

Product switching experience:

1. Rationale for switching products
2. Inhibitor development and safety associated with switches

Inhibitors

Factor VIII molecule

Antifibrinolytics

CSL Behring – CHS – AHCDC Hemostasis Fellowship

For 2011, the winner is: **Dr. Emily Rimmer** of the University of Manitoba who received one-year funding for her project entitled: *Optimizing hemostasis with DDAVP.*

The Hemostasis Fellowship Program, a fellowship in Congenital and Acquired Bleeding Disorders, was established in the fall of 2001 as a result of a collaborative effort between Novo Nordisk Canada Inc., the Canadian Hemophilia Society and the Association of Hemophilia Clinic Directors of Canada. Since 2010, the Fellowship is made possible thanks to the generous financial support of CSL Behring Canada. Each year, \$75,000 is awarded to a Fellow.

The goal of this fellowship program is to provide fellows in hematology or other relevant fields the opportunity to acquire the clinical or research skills necessary to improve the care and quality of lives of people living with hemophilia and other congenital bleeding disorders.

As a global leader in the plasma protein biotherapeutics industry, CSL Behring researches, develops, manufactures and markets biotherapies used to treat serious diseases. Their five core company values underscore their commitment to providing the best possible therapies and services: customer focus; innovation; integrity; collaboration; and superior performance. CSL Behring Canada is proud of its heritage that has delivered biotherapies for life for more than a century. They are committed to providing safe and effective biotherapies to Canadians, now and in the future. The AHCDC and the CHS are proud to be in a partnership with CSL Behring in order to offer this important Fellowship Program.

The Association of Hemophilia Clinic Directors of Canada was incorporated in 1994. The goal of the AHCDC is to ensure excellent care for persons with congenital bleeding disorders in Canada through clinical services, research and education.

The Canadian Hemophilia Society is a non-profit organization, committed since 1953 to improve the health and quality of life for all people with inherited bleeding disorders and ultimately to find a cure. Its vision is a world free from the pain and suffering of inherited bleeding disorders.

All CHS research grants are approved through a peer review process. More detailed descriptions of the research projects are available on the CHS Web site at www.hemophilia.ca/en/research.

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