

Canadian Chiropractic Research Bulletin #10



Dr. Chris Martin DC
Chair, CCA Research Committee

The CCA Research Committee

Dr. Chris Martin (BC) - Chair
Dr. Frank Mangoni (NB)
Dr. Debbie Brake-Patten (NF)
Dr. Deb Kopansky-Giles (ON)

The CCA Mission Statement

The Mission of The Canadian Chiropractic Association is to help Canadians live healthier lives by:

- informing the public of the benefits of Chiropractic,
- promoting the integration of Chiropractic into the health care system,
- facilitating chiropractic research.

As Research Committee Chair and CCRF President respectively, both I and Dr. Rob Allaby would again like to acknowledge both organizations, The CCA and the Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation (CCRF) for their exemplary leadership roles and commitment to improving the health of Canadians. In this bulletin, we want to briefly update you on some of our exciting initiatives and let you know what some of our researchers are doing.

Our priorities have been to build inter-professional collaboration, increase our research capacity, facilitate a growing chiropractic research culture in Canada, increase the quantity and quality of chiropractic research, promote the CCRF, stimulate CCRF fund-raising activities, and facilitate university-based Chiropractic Research Chairs across Canada.

University-based Chiropractic Research Chairs

Dr. Greg Kawchuk DC, PhD, Canada's 1st university-based Chiropractic Research Chair has become a "Canada Research Chair" at the University of Alberta in Edmonton (greg.kawchuk@ualberta.ca). He is funded by Industry Canada, Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), University of Alberta, CIHR, NSERC, the Ontario Chiropractic Association and the CCRF with several million dollars.

Dr. Mark Erwin DC, PhD is our 2nd university-based Chiropractic Research Chair and he is at the University of Toronto (mark.erwin@utoronto.ca). The **Ontario Chiropractic Association** has provided exemplary leadership in co-funding this 4 year CIHR/CCRF partnered award and the entire OCA Board of Directors is to be commended. Building our intellectual research capacity and integrating our researchers into the conventional university system will mobilize interdisciplinary research and clearly ensure our future. Dr. Erwin's position is funded by the Ontario Chiropractic Association, the Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and represents a \$300,000 investment in chiropractic research.

Our 3rd university-based Chiropractic Research Chair will be announced shortly and represents a \$500,000 initial investment in people. Stayed tuned!

Three New CCRF/CIHR university-based Chiropractic Research Chairs are scheduled to come on stream shortly. We will know which researchers and which universities in April 2006. This represents a \$1.5 million dollar investment in chiropractic researchers.

Our strategies of building *relationships* with federal granting agencies, universities, and research organizations, advances our integration into Canada's health care system. The strategy of "**invested in people**" has been tremendously successful.

New Research Projects underway

RCT Acute LBP

Dr. Paul Bishop DC, MD, PhD has been awarded a \$200,000 WCB grant entitled, "Outcome Assessment of Clinical Practice Guidelines in the Medical and Chiropractic Management of Patients with Acute Mechanical Lower Back Pain: A Randomized Control Trial". Dr. Jeff Quon DC, a PhD candidate at UBC, is a co-investigator. Other co-investigators include Dr. Marcel Dvorak, the Director of CNOSP and the Clinical

Chair of ICORD, and Dr. Charles Fisher, an Orthopaedic Spine Surgeon and the Director of Research in CNOSP.

Stroke Study

In a collaborative initiative, two leading principal investigators will undertake a population based case-crossover study and a case control study to answer the question – Are chiropractic services associated with an increased risk of stroke? Dr. J. David Cassidy DC, PhD, Dr Med Sc is a Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Toronto and a Senior Scientist in the Division of Outcomes and Population Health at the Toronto Western Hospital. Dr. Pierre Côté DC, PhD is an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Toronto and a Scientist at the Institute for Work and Health. Co-investigators include Dr. Sue Bondy from the University of Toronto, Dr. Sheilah Hogg-Johnson from the Institute for Work and Health and Dr. Frank Silver (neurologist) from the University Health Network.

The research team will address the limitations of two prior epidemiological studies of the risk of stroke following neck manipulation (Rothwell et al 2001, Smith et al 2003) by using a design (case-crossover study) that allows for a more efficient control of confounders. The study will also benefit from a larger sample size and clinically relevant case definitions for stroke. The study will rely on CIHI data to identify relevant strokes and determine who visited chiropractors. The project has undergone an Ethics Review at the University of Toronto. The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care has provided funding of approximately \$360,000 and it is estimated that the project will take 3 years to complete.

Accolades

Dave Cassidy – 2nd PhD

Dr. David Cassidy DC, PhD recently completed his **2nd PhD** at Karolinska Institute in Injury Epidemiology (Dr. Med. Sc.). Congratulations!

Carlo Ammendolia DC, PhD

Dr. Carlo Ammendolia DC, successfully defended his PhD thesis at the end of September. His supervisor was Dr. Claire Bombardier at the Institute for Work and Health. Dr. Ammendolia's work focused on adherence to clinical practice guidelines in radiology for low back pain, utilization and costs of lumbar and full spine radiography, and assessing attitudes among radiology department heads of all the 32 chiropractic schools world-wide regarding the use of radiography for LBP. Congratulations!!

Simon Dagenais DC, PhD

Dr. Simon Dagenais DC, PhD has returned to Canada. He is a Research Scientist with the Chalmers Research Group at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute in Ottawa. Dr. Dagenais received his DC in 2000 from SCUHS and his PhD in

2005 in epidemiology and public health from the University of California, Irvine.
Congratulations!

John Stites DC, DACBR

Dr. John Stites DC, DACBR has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the JCCA. Dr. Stites is a Professor at the Palmer College of Chiropractic, a Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Board of Radiology, and the Past Chief Editor of Topics in Diagnostic Radiology and Advanced Imaging.

John Srbely DC

Dr. John Srbely DC, received the CCA 2005 Young Investigator Award for his abstract entitled "Stimulation of myofascial trigger points causes systematic physiological effects" which was presented by Dr. Srbely at the Chiropractic Research Symposium held in Montreal. This project was funded by NSERC. Dr. Srbely is a PhD student at the University of Guelph under the supervision of Dr. Jim Dickey PhD who is a Consortial member. The Award carries a prize of \$1000 and a plaque which will be presented to Dr. Srbely at the CCA President's Reception in November. Congratulations!

Shari Wynd MASc, DC

Dr. Shari Wynd DC, recently did a podium presentation entitled "Vertebral artery dissections: can cervical manipulation cause these injuries?". The abstract, co-authored by Dr. T. Anderson, Dr. J. Tyberg, and Dr. G. Kawchuk, was selected for a podium presentation at the 6th Alberta Biomedical Engineering conference in Banff. There were a total of 36 presentations, with prizes to be awarded to the top three presenters. Some of the judges of these presentations included the invited lecturers: Dr. Amyl Ghanem (Dalhousie), Dr. John Linehan (Stanford University), and Dr. Ted Gross (University of Washington). Dr. Wynd's presentation was the third prize winner. A summary of her presentation and innovative research assessing how cSMT affects a pre-existing VAD in a canine model." appears in the December issue of the JCCA. Congratulations!

So what are some our Canadian Chiropractic Researchers doing?

Ammendolia

Carlo Ammendolia DC, PhD successfully defended his PhD thesis in September at the Institute of Medical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. His thesis was "A prospective validation of a decision aid tool for x-ray use in patients with acute low back pain".

Blouin

Jean-Sebastien Blouin DC, PhD is a post-doctoral fellow in neurophysiology and biomechanics at the University of British Columbia, School of Human Kinetics. He recently published "Isometric force production parameters during normal and experimental low back pain conditions" in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders (2005; 6(6):1-6), and "Repositioning accuracy and movement parameters in low back pain subjects and healthy control subjects" in European Spine Journal (2005 ;14(2):185-191),

and “Contribution of the cerebellum to self-initiated synchronized movements: a PET study” in *Experimental Brain Research* (2004;155(1):63-68). He is being funded by CIHR, the Michael Smith Foundation, ICCP (Christopher Reeves Foundation), Fondation Chiropratique du Québec, and the BC Neurotrauma Fund.

Boily

Karine Boily DC has an MBA from Laval University which specialized in the management of occupational health and safety. She is a PhD candidate in epidemiology also at Laval University and her work is focused on evaluating the impact of a prevention program on musculoskeletal disorders in the workplace. The work is supported by the NIOSH Institute.

Bishop

Paul Bishop DC, MD, PhD is the Director of Non-Operative Care and an Associate Professor in the Department of Orthopedics, Combined Neurosurgical and Orthopaedic Spine Program (CNOSP) and the ICORD (International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries) Spine Institute, in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia. He recently presented four papers at WFC conference, “Composition of herniated intervertebral disc and severity of acute sciatica”, “Morphology of herniated intervertebral disc and outcome of selective nerve root block in patients with acute sciatica”, “Outcome evaluation of operative and nonoperative management of lumbar disc protrusion causing radiculopathy”, and “*Knowledge translation of clinical practice guidelines in family physicians managing patients with acute lower back pain: a prospective randomized control trial*”. This last paper has just accepted for publication in *The Spine Journal*. This study showed that despite the scientific evidence that chiropractic treatment is effective for patients with acute lower back pain (i.e. the clinical practice guidelines) family physicians are not recommending it.

Busse

Jason Busse DC, is a PhD student in clinical epidemiology and biostatistics at McMaster University. His PhD thesis is focused on therapeutic ultrasound and fracture healing and he is conducting a pilot study of 50 patients to assess the feasibility of conducting a large randomized, placebo-controlled trial to determine the effect of low-intensity, pulsed ultrasound on functional outcomes following operatively treated tibial shaft fractures in skeletally mature adults at least 18 years of age. This study has the potential to resolve the role of therapeutic ultrasound in healing of the most common long bone fracture, the tibia, an issue that has remained unresolved for over five decades. If therapeutic ultrasound does significantly reduce time spent disabled following tibia fracture the socioeconomic benefits would prove substantial.

Cassidy

David Cassidy DC, PhD just completed his 2nd **PhD** at Karolinska Institute in Injury Epidemiology (Dr. Med. Sc.). He is a Senior Scientist in the Division of Outcomes and Population Health at the Toronto Western Hospital Research Institute and Research Chair in Artists’ Health within the University Health Network. In addition to being a Professor of Epidemiology with the Department of Public Health Sciences in the Faculty of

Medicine at the University of Toronto, he has authored over 120 scientific papers in books and journals, including publications in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Spine*, *Pain*, *Medical Care*, *Clinical Epidemiology*, *Accident Analysis and Prevention*, the *Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine*, the *Canadian Journal of Public Health* and the *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*. He is Scientific secretary for the World Health Organization's Collaborating Centre Task Force on Mild Traumatic Brain Injury and the Decade of the Bone and Joint 2000-2010 Task Force on Neck Pain.

Côté

Pierre Côté DC, PhD is a Scientist at the Institute for Work and Health in Toronto and an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology in the Department of Public Sciences, Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. He is the 1st chiropractor to be appointed in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. He also holds an academic appointment at the W.P. Carey School of Business Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. He recently published "Initial patterns of clinical care and recovery from whiplash injuries in the Archives of Internal Medicine (2005;165:2257-2263). The study was a population-based cohort study of Saskatchewan patients with whiplash and examines patterns of care and recovery. The findings are relevant for health care policymakers and health care providers, including chiropractors.

Crowther

Ted Crowther DC has a Masters of Science in Health Services Administration. His thesis compared the cost-utility of chiropractic and pharmacologic management of chronic low back pain in adults. He is now pursuing his Doctor of Education (EdD) in Health Policy focused on knowledge application.

Dagenais

Simon Dagenais DC, PhD is a Research Scientist with the Chalmers Research Group at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute in Ottawa. He received his PhD in 2005 in epidemiology and public health from the University of California, Irvine. He recently published the following: 1. Dagenais S, Haldeman S, Polatin P. It is time for physicians to embrace cost-effectiveness and cost-utility analysis research in the treatment of spinal pain. *Spine J.* 2005;5(4):357-360. 2. Dagenais S, Haldeman S, Wooley JR. Intraligamentous injection of sclerosing solutions ("prolotherapy") for spinal pain: a critical review of the literature. *Spine J.* 2005;5(3):310-328. 3. Kohlbeck FJ, Haldeman S, Hurwitz EL, Dagenais S. Supplemental care with medication-assisted manipulation versus spinal manipulation therapy alone for patients with chronic low back pain. *J Manipulative Physiol Ther.* 2005;28(4):245-252.

Descarreaux

Martin Descarreaux DC, PhD is a professor at the UQTR teaching clinical biomechanics and research methodology. In collaboration with the department of psychology, he is currently studying the relationship between neuropsychological status and functional capacity in whiplash subjects. In addition, he is also studying the effects of augmented feedback on the learning of spinal manipulation. Thoracic and lumbar manikins were

developed to test different hypotheses. Finally, he is pursuing his research on sensorimotor deficits in low back pain patients.

Erwin

Mark Erwin DC, PhD is Canada's 2nd university-based Chiropractic Research Chair. He is an Assistant professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Toronto, and Toronto Western Hospital. He recently presented his research at the 51st Orthopaedic Research Society Annual Meeting in Washington DC. Dr. Erwin's work concerns the biology of the intervertebral disc. Specifically he is interested in the unique observation that mongrel dogs (non-chondrodystrophic animals) are relatively resistant to the development of degenerative disc disease and have an abundance of notochord cells within their intervertebral discs, whereas chondrodystrophic canine intervertebral discs are notochord cell-poor and develop disc disease early and significantly. Dr. Erwin has determined that soluble factors produced by notochord cells stimulate chondrocytes (obtained from bovine caudal discs) to produce important extra-cellular matrix molecules and proteoglycans integral to the health of the disc nucleus; specifically the important proteoglycan aggrecan. Dr. Erwin has determined that amongst other molecules, notochord cells produce connective tissue growth factor (CTGF). He has now tested recombinant human CTGF (rCTGF) in parallel with notochord cell-conditioned medium (NCCM) and has found comparable results for aggrecan gene expression as seen with NCCM. Dr. Erwin is the first to ever report the nature of the soluble factors produced by notochord cells, specifically including CTGF.

Dr. Erwin just had a paper accepted for publication in Spine – “Notochord-derived trophic factors promote proteoglycan synthesis by intervertebral disc chondrocytes”.

Forbes

Diane Forbes DC is a masters student in Health Economics in the Department of Economics at the University of British Columbia. Her studies are focused on the economic evaluation of health services and technologies (i.e. cost benefit, cost effectiveness, cost utility analysis) and government expenditure theory - theories underlying the provision of public goods such as health care. She is at Providence Health Care, one of the largest health care organizations in Canada at the Centre for Aging and Health, a research institute designed to meet the challenges of our aging population and works under Dr. Jean-Francois Kozak, PhD (Phych) the Director of Research at the Centre.

Hayden

Jill Hayden DC is a PhD candidate at the Institute for Work and Health and the University of Toronto. Her thesis is “Development and testing of a comprehensive conceptual model to understand the prognosis and course of low back pain”. She recently published 2 papers in the Annals of Internal Medicine. “Meta-analysis: exercise therapy for nonspecific low back pain” found that exercise therapy has a small beneficial effect on pain and function in adults with chronic low back pain. In subacute low back pain, some evidence suggests that a graded-activity program reduces absenteeism. In acute low back pain, the effect of exercise therapy is equivalent to that of no treatment or other conservative treatments. “Systematic review: strategies for using exercise therapy to

improve outcomes in chronic low back pain” found that 2 features of exercise therapy for chronic nonspecific low back pain seem to be responsible for success: close supervision and an individually designed program. As well, she had 4 abstracts accepted to the Cochrane Colloquium in Melbourne. 1. Follow-up or change scores: does it matter which outcome is used in meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials? 2. Involving clinical stakeholders in the systematic review process: Exercises for low back pain. 3. Quality appraisal in systematic reviews of prognosis studies: descriptive analysis and recommendations. 4. Systematic reviews of prognosis: Clinimetric testing of a quality appraisal tool for prognosis studies.

Kawchuk

Greg Kawchuk DC, PhD (bioengineering) is a Canada Research Chair in Spinal Function at the University of Alberta. He is a part of the Common Spinal Disorders Laboratory that recently opened and everything about the CSDL is based on innovation. Each of the investigators in the group are clinician-scientists representing the major professions that see back pain patients. The lab has been granted over \$1 million dollars through agencies such as the Canadian Foundation for Innovation and the Canadian Chiropractic Association. The lab members hold two Canada Research Chairs and numerous Volvo Awards for back pain research. The University of Alberta is consistently ranked within the top three universities in Canada and ranked second in the world by The Scientist. Dr. Kawchuk's work has already created the only model in the world able to study the mechanisms of how the vertebral artery may or may not be injured by manipulation. He has developed several new devices to measure spinal stiffness which are now undergoing clinical trials. His future work will look at the link between mechanical back pain and the role of environment and genetics.

And he has just been awarded a 5 year NSERC Discovery Grant of \$160,000 to look at what makes the back stiff. Discovery Grants assist in promoting and maintaining a diversified base of high-quality research capability in the natural sciences and engineering in Canadian universities and provide a stimulating environment for university-based research training.

Lawson

Doug Lawson DC is a PhD candidate in Medical Education at the University of Calgary, funded by the Medical Science Graduate Education Scholarship. His dissertation topic is “The robustness of the many-facet Rasch model to violations of the assumption of local independence of items”. Over the last year he has presented locally to the Medical Education Seminar Series at the University of Calgary, and internationally at the Ottawa Conference in Medical Education in Barcelona, the Generalists in Medical Education Conference in Boston, and the Chief Academic Officers Conference in Las Vegas. He continues to do joint research in the medical education field with the Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board, chiropractic specialties, and educational institutions.

Marcotte

Justin Marcotte DC, MSc is a professor at Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (UQTR) and is in the process of enrolling in a PhD program in biological sciences and

population health at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) under the supervision of Dr. Jean P. Boucher, PhD. His thesis would involve spinal biomechanics and the application of magnetic stimulation as a diagnostic tool. Dr. Marcotte is currently funded by the Fondation Chiropratique du Québec (FCQ). He recently published 'Measurement of the pressure applied during motion palpation end reliability for cervical spine in JMPT 2005.

Normand

Martin Normand DC, PhD is a full time professor at Trois-Rivières University since 1985. He received his PhD in neurobiology from the faculty of medicine of Laval University in Québec. He is the director of the chiropractic department at UQTR. He is also responsible of the research group called "Laboratoire de recherche sur les affections vertébrales". He is currently studying evaluation and treatment of whiplash patients.

Piché

Mathieu Piché DC is a PhD candidate in neurological science in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Montreal. He is studying functional imaging of the spinal mechanisms involved in pain and pain modulation and developing spinal fMRI of the lumbo-sacral spinal cord in combination with electrophysiological methods to investigate pain processes in normal human subjects. In July 2005, Dr. Piché was awarded a prestigious CIHR Fellowship from the Clinical Research Initiative/Institute of Gender and Health. One of only six recipients, this 4 year award will allow Dr. Piché to continue his research on the neurophysiological mechanisms of chronic pain with Dr. Pierre Rainville PhD and Dr. Mickael Bouin MD, PhD at the University of Montreal.

Quon

Jeff Quon DC is a PhD candidate in the Department of Health Care and Epidemiology at the University of British Columbia. He is studying a prospective cohort of surgically treated lumbar disc patients at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH), and documenting both the effect on waiting time on outcomes and the burden of illness associated with lumbar disc herniation in a surgical population. As well, he is documenting temporal trends and variations in waiting times, as well as patterns of health services utilization for surgical discectomy patients throughout the province. This research will help to identify areas of potential under- (or over-) servicing, which may in turn influence the future reallocation of health care resources by policymakers to different communities in BC. His supervisor, Dr. Martin Schechter is Head of the Department of Health Care & Epidemiology in the Faculty of Medicine and is a Canada Research Chair in Urban Population Health

Rezai

Mana Rezai DC has been accepted into the MHSC program in epidemiology in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Toronto. Dr. Pierre Côté will supervise her work at IWH. Admission into the program was extremely competitive this year...25 positions for about 170 applicants.

Srbely

John Srbely DC is the recipient of the 2005 CCA Young Investigator Award. The award

was given for the abstract entitled "Stimulation of myofascial trigger points causes systematic physiological effects " which was presented by Dr. Srbely at the Chiropractic Research Symposium held recently in Montreal. Dr. Srbely is a PhD student at the University of Guelph and being supervised by Dr. John Dickey PhD a world class biomechanist and Consortial member. Preliminary results suggest that systematic physiological effects on a trigger point complex may be induced by stimulation of other trigger point sites specifically innervated by the same neurological level(s). This data may suggest two distinct processes at play in the neuromodulation effect: an early segmental effect which gives way to subsequent supraspinal/non-segmental effects. This project was funded by NSERC.

Van der Velde

Gabrielle van der Velde DC, is a PhD candidate in Health Policy, Management and Evaluation in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. Her PhD thesis is "Appropriate management of neck pain: contribution of decision analysis to the development of treatment recommendations".

Wynd

Shari Wynd DC, is a PhD candidate in Biomedical Engineering in the Faculty of Kinesiology at the University of Calgary. Her Masters in Engineering (MASc) focused on the development of "engineered" biomaterials. She is funded by the Alberta Provincial CIHR Training Program in Bone and Joint Health and her current research focuses on determining if forces generated by cervical manipulation affect the integrity of the vertebral artery. Her overall goal is to provide an understanding of how pre-existing pathological lesions of the vertebral artery are affected by manipulation.

Upcoming Events

Canadian Cochrane Symposium

The 4th Cochrane Symposium is December 2-3, 2005 in Montreal, Quebec at the University of Montreal. The Symposium will include plenary sessions, workshops, papers and posters related to the theme of "Using the best scientific information to guide health decisions". www.cochranesymposium2005.ca

Please note that the Canadian Cochrane Network & Centre website has moved to a new location as of Friday, September 16th. Please update your links and bookmarks to the following address: <http://www.cochrane.uottawa.ca/>

The Cochrane Collaboration is an international not-for-profit organization, providing up-to-date information about the effects of health care. The Cochrane Library contains regularly updated evidence-based healthcare databases (systematic reviews).

<http://www.cochrane.org/index0.htm>

Dr. Allan Gotlib has served on the Executive Committee for several years with Dr. Arne Ohlsson (pediatrician from the University of Toronto), Dr. Mike Moffat (pediatrician from the University of Manitoba), Dr. Peter Tugwell (epidemiologist from the University of Ottawa) and Dr. Andreas Laupacis (internist and President and CEO of ICES at Sunnybrook Hospital). There are about 50 "Groups" in Cochrane around the world, six are in Canada. We are fortunate to have the two most important groups to chiropractic in Canada. The Back Review Group is housed at the University of Toronto under Dr. Claire Bombardier an international researcher. We have chiropractic researchers involved here (Dr. Jill Hayden, Dr. Carlo Ammendolia, Dr. Gabrielle van der Velde, Dr. Pierre Cote). The Musculoskeletal Review Group is housed at the University of Ottawa under Dr. Peter Tugwell and we hope to have chiropractors involved here as well.

Dr. Arne Ohlsson completed his term as Director of Cochrane and the Executive Committee recently appointed Dr. Jeremy Grimshaw as the new Director of Cochrane after an extensive search. Here is the link to his bio.

<http://www.medicine.uottawa.ca/epid/eng/grimshawbio.html>

He is at the University of Ottawa and is a Canada Research Chair in Knowledge Translation. He has an international reputation and is an expert in guidelines.

For the last two years Dr. Gotlib has raised funds to support the Cochrane Center located at McMaster University and it is in the process of moving shortly to the University of Ottawa. In addition, Dr. Gotlib has raised funds to support the Cochrane annual symposium. Most recently, Dr. Gotlib has raised \$25,500 collectively from the following chiropractic organizations: Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association, Canadian Chiropractic Association, Ordre des chiropraticiens du Quebec, British Columbia College of Chiropractors, Ontario Chiropractic Association, Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation, College of Chiropractors of Ontario, College of Chiropractors of Alberta, Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board, Manitoba Chiropractors' Association, Fondation chiropratique du Quebec, Chiropractors' Association of Saskatchewan, and the New Brunswick Chiropractors' Association.

Special thanks to Dr. Paul Carey and the CCPA for their tremendous ongoing support of Cochrane.

Help support our goals by becoming a member of the CCRF

For information about tax-receipted donations and memberships contact

Dr. Allan Gotlib at 416-781-5656 or via email at algotlib@ccachiro.org

CANADIAN CHIROPRACTIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Dr. Rob Allaby DC
President, CCRF

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Dr. Dave Peterson DC (AB)

Dr. Allan Gotlib DC (ON)

The CCRF has many priorities and the discussions around our Board table focuses on issues such as how do we:

- increase our intellectual capacity to undertake research
- ensure our researchers are university-based
- facilitate the Chiropractic Research Chair concept in the conventional university system
- ensure our research is helping to solve Canada's important health issues as the public sees them
- ensure our research positively impacts Canada's economic burdens of health, injury, illness and disability.
- ensure the integration of new chiropractic knowledge into the health system.
- ensure Knowledge Transfer and Uptake beyond the academic audience to the decision makers and policy makers.

Lots of questions and some good answers have brought us where we are today. The CCA Task Force on Research undertaken 10 years ago identified our profession as isolated and without a research culture. We simply were not integrated into Canada's health care system. The CCRF's strategy of **"investing in people"** has paid off and brought us credibility and trust, especially with government and the public and clearly strengthens our future as a profession.

CCRF Goals:

The CCRF has been guided by the following goals in meeting its mandate.

Goal 1. Our goal is to establish and fund a university-based Chiropractic Research Chair in each province in Canada.

Rationale: The university-based Chiropractic Research Chairs initiative provides a portal of integration into the conventional university system. The Chairs will coalesce to eventually provide a network of chiropractic research activity in the universities across Canada.

Goal 2. Our goal is to increase our research capacity.

Rationale: We don't have sufficient university trained intellectual capacity to advance our profession's scientific interests. The CCRF's strategy of "investing in people" has created extraordinary momentum across Canada and as a result, many chiropractors are pursuing PhD's in many Canadian universities. Our chiropractors are being trained in the universities to undertake rigorous research that will withstand the scrutiny of the scientific community.

Goal 3: Our goal is to access the millions of federal and provincial dollars available in government programs for research purposes.

Rationale: Our university-based chiropractic researchers should network across Canada and across universities. Their training includes the strategies to be successful in competitive grant applications with CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC and many funding organizations.

Our current capacity to do research:

When you look at the number of chiropractic researchers in the profession, you get a sense of how fragile we are with respect to our current capacity to undertake credible research with university trained credible researchers. While our numbers are growing slowly, I estimate that we have less than 1.0 % of our profession engaged in fulltime active

research. Clearly this does not meet the needs of the profession. It is unrealistic for less than 1.0% to provide the evidence required to support what 99% of the profession does in clinical practice.

In order to build our case, the CCRF creates the “capacity” to undertake chiropractic research in a university setting where we can access the millions of dollars in federal funding money. Capacity means “people” – chiropractors with PhD’s who can function well in the big leagues along side Canada’s most senior medical researchers. We created Canada’s 1st Chiropractic Research Chair at the University of Calgary, Canada’s 2nd Chiropractic Research Chair at the University of Toronto and we are currently in the midst of negotiations to create the 3rd university-based Chiropractic Research Chair.

And there are 3 more Chairs in the pipeline for 2006. But we need your financial help to make these Chairs happen.

What are our current CCRF funding sources:

Fundraising is primarily from four areas:

1. Provincial Donations:
2. Foundation Membership:
3. Fundraising Events:
4. Partnering with Government Agencies:

Please support the CCRF with a donation or a Membership.

I want to sincerely thank *all of the provinces* and in particular, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario and New Brunswick, for their continued support of the CCA/CCRF research program. Their commitment to our goals has ensured our continued success and on behalf of the CCA, the CCRF, the profession *and our researchers*, I sincerely thank each of them for stepping up to meet the challenges our profession faces.

In addition, I want to also thank the many individual members of the CCRF who annually contribute significant dollars which really allows us to create greater opportunities through leveraging. We truly appreciate your participation and commitment to the CCRF.

Our goal of building research capacity through strategic relationships invests in our most valuable commodity, our researchers who will enhance our credibility and eventual full integration into our health system.

This Bulletin is distributed to the Canadian chiropractic research community. (18/11/05) You may view the preceding nine bulletins on the CCA website at www.ccachiro.org For further information contact Dr. Allan Gotlib, CCA Director, Research Programs at tel: 416-781-5656, algotlib@ccachiro.org