

CRUS Update

By the CRUS Executive Delegation to Norway

Greetings, CRA members! We have had a busy start to 2016 with the launch of our new e-learning website, re-vamping of our Canadian Rheumatology Ultrasound Society (CRUS) executive, advances in our application towards an *Area of Focused Competency (AFC) Diploma* in point of care ultrasound (POCUS) for rheumatology, and our first-ever Canadian delegation to the International Vasculitis Ultrasound meeting in Kristiansand, Norway.

New ECRUS Website

We are happy to announce more value for your CRUS membership. The members-only website can be accessed through www.cruslearn.crus-surc.ca. There you will find instructive cases of various pathologies, along with interesting articles and videos from our past courses. Questions regarding your login details, the website content, and cases can be directed to info@ecrus.ca.

New CRUS Executive

We are very excited to announce our newest CRUS president, Dr. Michael Stein, from Montreal, who brings with him a uniquely Quebec experience! Dr. Stein has been involved in ultrasound research as part of the Prospective Observational Study to Evaluate the Use of MSK US to Improve Rheumatoid Arthritis Management: Canadian Experience (ECHO) study. Dr. Johannes Roth has stepped down from his role of president and we thank him for his contributions to CRUS. We have also added two new education positions; Dr. Susan Barr from Calgary will oversee training, and Dr. Maria Bagovich from Toronto will handle online education. Dr. Chris Penney, Dr. Abe Chaiton, Dr. Diane Wilson, and Dr. Lihi Eder remain in their roles of Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Research Director, respectively.

POCUS Update

We would like to commend Dr. Chaiton for his (among others) relentless pursuit of recognition by the Royal College for an *AFC Diploma* in POCUS for rheumatology. We are pleased to announce that, as of March 16, 2016, the Royal College Speciality Committee in Diagnostic

Radiology “supports in principle the application for AFC POCUS rheumatology” with specific recommendations to re-convene in fall 2016. Stay tuned.

Canadian Delegation International Vasculitis Ultrasound Meeting: Kristiansand, Norway

This year marks the first year that Canada had a significant presence at the 4th International Workshop on Ultrasound in Large Vessel Vasculitis and Polymyalgia Rheumatica, which took place April 8-10, 2016, in Kristiansand, Norway. Canada sent six of the 19 participants; the ratio of tutor to student was 1:5. The course focused mainly on vascular ultrasound skills to image temporal arteries in addition to large vessels (axillary, carotid) looking for signs specific to large-vessel vasculitis. Though not the focus, the course touched briefly on imaging in polymyalgia



Canadian CRUS Delegation to Norway from left to right: Dr. Barr, Dr. Wilson, Dr. Bagovich, Dr. Chaiton, Dr. Maggie Larché, and Dr. Aurore Fifi-Mah.

rheumatica (PMR). New information brought to light was the utility of scanning large vessels, such as the axillary artery, to help with both diagnosis and relapse of large-vessel vasculitis. It was our impression that there has been—and will be—a move towards greyscale diagnosis of vasculitis using intimal wall thickening as well as the halo sign, with the advent of more powerful machines with higher-frequency probes (e.g., 22MHz rather than 18MHz). We were able to see recent and chronic patients with giant cell arthritis (GCA) and saw the halo sign firsthand—it was very exciting. Lastly, the Scandic Hotel Bystranda was outstanding; the blue water provided a beautiful backdrop to an already phenomenal course. Dr. Andreas Diamantopoulos visited Canada for a refresher course the weekend of May 13, 2016. A very special thanks to Dr. Penney for his efforts in bringing this dream to fruition.

CRUS Executive Delegation to Norway:
 Maria Bagovich, MD, FRCPC, RhMSUS;
 Susan G. Barr, MD, MSc, FRCPC;
 Abraham Chaiton, MD, MSc, FRCPC,
 RhMSUS;
 Aurore Fifi-Mah, MD, FRCPC;
 Maggie Larché, MBChB, MRCP(UK), PhD; and
 Diane Wilson, MD, FRCPC



ULTRASOUND GUIDED INTERVENTIONS FOR RHEUMATOLOGISTS WITH CADAVER HANDS-ON TRAINING

DATES: Post CRA Course
 Feb. 11th & 12th, 2017.

LOCATION: University of Ottawa
 Skills and Simulation Centre

www.uossc.ca



DESCRIPTION:

Designed to improve competence in MSK ultrasound guided interventions and diagnostic and treatment accuracy. With a focus on relevant sonoanatomy, participants will experience extensive hands-on supervised scanning of upper and lower limb structures using unembalmed human cadaver specimens. Low student to tutor ratio ensures individual attention for advanced skills acquisition

Prerequisites: Basic MSK ultrasound training is recommended.

FACULTY:

Outstanding, experienced MSK ultrasound practitioners and educators.



Johan Michael

MD FRCPC
 – Montreal
 Assistant Professor of Physiatry and Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Consultant at Hospital Notre-Dame, CHUM, Univ. of Montreal and Institut de Physiatry du Quebec, Montreal, QC.



Alessandra Bruns

MD MSc FRCPC RhMSUS
 – Sherbrooke
 Associate Professor of Rheumatology and Director of the Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Clinic at Hospital Hôtel Dieu, CHUS, Univ. of Sherbrooke, QC. Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Consultant at the Children's Hospital, Univ. of McGill, Montreal, QC.



Gurjit S Kealey

MBBS, MRCP RhMSUS
 – Jacksonville
 Professor of Medicine, Chief, Division of Rheumatology, Director of Musculoskeletal Ultrasound, Univ. of Florida College of Medicine, Jacksonville, FL.

COURSE DIRECTORS:

Abraham Chaiton

MD MSc FRCPC RhMSUS
 – Toronto
 Assistant Professor of Medicine Univ. of Toronto
 Rheumatologist - Sunnybrook & Humber River Hospitals

Johannes Roth

MD PhD FRCPC RhMSUS
 – Ottawa
 Professor of Paediatrics Univ. of Ottawa
 Chief, Division of Paediatric Rheumatology
 Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario

REGISTRATION FEE: \$1,400 CDN - Early Registration Fee
 \$1,200 - CRUS Member \$1,000 - Student

Early registration recommended: www.crus-surc.ca/en/courses/

EDUCATION CREDITS:

Eligible for Royal College MOC section 1 credits of 3 hrs and section 3 credits of 11 hrs.
 All credits are eligible for conversion to AMA PRA category 1 credits.