

News From the Scientific Committee

By Evelyn Sutton, MD, FRCPC

It seems only fitting, given the celebrations planned for Canada's 150th birthday, that the CRA's annual scientific meeting (ASM) will be held in our nation's capital. I am excited by our lineup of great speakers, workshops and, of course, for the time to network. The theme of this year's conference is sustainability—not just of the health-care system—but also of individual and population health. You can expect the ever-popular Great Debate (*Biologics or Biosimilars? Be it Resolved That the Least Expensive Treatment Should be Chosen. Switch, Switch, Switch!*), scintillating workshops and given last year's success, Dr. Philip Baer's *RheumJeopardy*. A new session, *The Year in Preview*, should stir discussion; we are asking prescient experts to predict what breakthroughs 2017 will bring in basic science, clinical science, pediatrics and models of care.

The organizing committee and I are delighted that the following renowned speakers will be joining us:

Dr. Allen Steere, credited with the discovery of Lyme disease, has worked during the subsequent 40 years on studies of the clinical manifestations, epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of the infection. He serves as Professor of Medicine at Harvard and as Director of Translational Research in Rheumatology at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dr. Matthew Warman is the Harriet M. Peabody Professor of Orthopedic Surgery and Genetics at Harvard Medical

School. In 1994, Dr. Warman established an independent laboratory and clinical program in the Department of Genetics and Center for Human Genetics at Case Western Reserve University and University Hospitals of Cleveland. In 2006, he returned to Boston to become director of the Orthopedic Research Laboratories at Boston Children's Hospital.

Dr. Jonathon Fowles is a professor and exercise physiologist at Acadia University whose work in the Centre of Lifestyle Studies examines the effects of exercise on health in athletes, the elderly and persons with chronic disease or disability. Dr. Fowles has done extensive work with many organizations, such as the Canadian Diabetes Association, the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, the Heart and Stroke Foundation and many regional health authorities.

Do book your flights and hotel, and register for what promises to be a great meeting. I look forward to seeing you!

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Update From the Education Committee

By Chris Penney MD, FRCPC

A chart audit workshop was held during the most recent Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) in Lake Louise last February. Dr. Henry Avern was the prime mover of this initiative, but his flight was delayed due to bad weather. Dr. Mary Bell filled in for him at the last minute and did a superb job. Lessons learned from this workshop were used to develop the Chart Audit Library on the CRA website. Please go to rheum.ca/en/members/chart_audit for information on how to do a chart audit.

Remember to check the CRA website in 2017 for more practice improvement tools, such as the standardized transfer of care letter being developed by Dr. Mary-Clair Yelovich (internal medicine resident) under the supervision of Dr. Mary Bell.

If you've conducted a successful audit on your practice, we welcome your contribution for possible inclusion in the CRA Chart Audit Library. As you know, the Royal College requires us all to complete self-assessment (Section 3) ac-



CRA Education Committee at the 2016 Lake Louise ASM

tivities, and this is an easy and inexpensive way to do this. Don't hesitate to send audit results to me for distribution to the Education Committee for feedback and suggestions. Reflection on that feedback with resulting changes to your practice is an essential part of a successful chart audit.

If you have developed a continuing medical education (CME) self-assessment or practice reflection or improvement program that can be shared with your colleagues, please review the terms of reference for the Practice Reflection Award on the CRA website (rheum.ca/en/the_cra/

[practice_reflection_award](#)). You may qualify for one of three awards given annually. The deadline for submissions is December 31, 2016. If you attended the Lake Louise ASM, you will have likely noticed the successful integration of the pre- and post-knowledge-transfer tests into the program. This is thanks to the work of CRA CEO Christine Charnock and her dedicated staff.

Finally, the Dilemma Rheum is a series of educational teleconferences designed for recently certified rheumatologists and trainees. Each session will feature an expert on a particular topic, who will discuss and answer questions on cases brought forward by participants. Special thanks are due to Dr. Janet Pope for piloting this program. Go to rheum.ca/en/education/dilemma_rheum for more information.

If you have ideas on education that you would like the CRA to develop or facilitate, please go to rheum.ca/en/education/education_suggestion_box and let us know.

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News From the Abstract Committee

By Maggie Larché, MBChB, MRCP(UK), PhD

The abstract committee is once again gearing up to review all of the submitted abstracts for the 2017 meeting.

We received 276 abstracts this year, covering a wide variety of topics.

In order to nurture trainees and young faculty, and foster enthusiasm amongst medical students and undergraduates, we have nine prizes to be awarded in 2017. These are:

- Best Abstract on Research by Young Faculty
- Best Abstract on Basic Science Research by a Trainee
- Best Abstract on Clinical or Epidemiology Research by a Trainee - *Phil Rosen Award*
- Best Abstract on Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) Research by a Trainee - *Ian Watson Award*
- Best Abstract by a Medical Student
- Best Abstract by a Postgraduate Resident

- Best Abstract by a Rheumatology Resident
- Best Abstract by an Undergraduate Student
- Best Abstract by a Postgraduate Research Trainee

Once again, there will be two interactive poster sessions for delegates to quiz the poster presenters and two podium sessions, which will include oral presentations of some of the best abstracts. Looking forward to seeing you there.

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