

2017 CIORA Awards

By Janet Pope, MD, MPH, FRCPC

The Canadian Initiative for Outcomes in Rheumatology Care (CIORA) held its 10th grant competition in March and received 34 grant applications this year, which is a record number.

CIORA's mission, as a unique granting organization, is to improve the care of Canadians living with rheumatic diseases. To that end, CIORA awards grants to scientists whose



2017 CIORA Grant Awards

Aspirin Patterns of Use and Adherence for Prevention of Pre-eclampsia in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) Pregnancies¹

Principal Investigator: Dr. Evelyne Vinet

Award: \$83,000

Raising Awareness of the Under-recognized Burden of Psoriatic Disease¹

Principal Investigators: Drs. Lihi Eder and Karen Tu

Award: \$119,024

The Scleroderma Support group Leader Education (SSLED) Program Feasibility Trial: A Scleroderma Patient-centered Intervention Network (SPIN) Project¹

Principal Investigators: Drs. Brett D. Thombs and Marie Hudson

Award: \$75,000

Bringing Patients and Therapies Together Sooner: Building Clinical Trial Capacity in Myositis to Facilitate Early Access to Treatments and Improved Outcomes²

Principal Investigator: Dr. Marie Hudson

Award: \$119,300

Referral to Rheumatologists by Physiotherapists to Enhance Access to Care: Ability and Acceptability²

Principal Investigators: Drs. Debbie Feldman, Sasha Bernatsky, and Linda Woodhouse

Award: \$117,160

Self-assessment Triage in Inflammatory Arthritis: A Pilot Study²

Principal Investigators: Drs. Mary Bell and Barry Koehler

Award: \$70,000

A Multi-disciplinary, Community-based Group Intervention for Fibromyalgia: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial³

Principal Investigators: Drs. Michelle Teo and Nelly Oelke

Award: \$91,231

Pilot Study of Mindfulness-based Stress Reduction (MBSR) in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) That Still Screen Depressed using the Centre for Epidemiologic Studies-Depression (CES-D) Questionnaire, Despite Adequate Control of Systemic and Joint Inflammation³

Principal Investigators: Drs. Gilles Boire, Patricia Dobkin, and Isabelle Gaboury

Award: \$75,000

Pillars: 1. Awareness/Advocacy/Education; 2. Early Access for Rheumatic Disease Patients; 3. Multi-disciplinary Care Teams

research helps advance our knowledge and understanding of rheumatic diseases and might not otherwise be eligible for other peer-reviewed funding.

More specifically, CIORA's grant program supports projects that are sustainable and help promote one of its three core pillars: Awareness/Advocacy/Education, Early Access for Rheumatic Disease Patients, and Multidisciplinary Care Teams.

Congratulations to all of the 2017 grant recipients! CIORA funded three one-year grants and five two-year grants for a total of just over \$749,000. This was a very competitive cycle. The topics for CIORA grants are very broad with many unique ideas. Special thanks to our sponsors.

A special thank you to Dr. Paul Fortin for his contribution to CIORA as the Review Panel Chair. Dr. Fortin has served as Chair since 2015 and has provided valuable guidance and direction to the review process. We would like to welcome Dr. Marie Hudson as the new Review Panel Chair.

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