

## RESIDENTS REACH FOR THE TOP



Winners Karen Leis, Thea Chibuk, and Viresh Mahajan. Wendy Vaudry, far left, stood in for Catherine Burton.

At this year's edition of Reach for the Top, resident Drs. Leis, Burton, Chibuk, and Mahajan were recognized for their outstanding abstracts. Drs. Tremblay and Steer were named winners of the best papers award from the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Paediatric Resident and Fellow Research Competition.

Dr. Leis' winning abstract, *Vitamin D and acute lower respiratory infection in Saskatchewan children*, highlights the role of Vitamin D in moderating disease severity. Study results suggest that Vitamin D levels higher than current recommendations may protect against lower respiratory infection and that children's requirements might be better described according to their weight.

Dr. Vaudry, co-investigator with Dr. Burton, presented *Children hospitalized with influenza during the 2007-08 season: A report from the Canadian immunization monitoring program*. Closing the gap between vaccine recommendations and practice is important. The study found that hospitalization rates for influenza were significant for healthy children under five and for those with underlying conditions.

Dr. Chibuk discussed her second-prize winning poster Paediatric complicated pneumonia: Trends in hospitalized children pre- and post-introduction of routine vaccination with pneumococcal conjugate vaccine. Results point to the importance

of surveillance after vaccine introduction and consideration of expanding the existing vaccine to cover emerging serotypes.

Dr. Mahajan presented *Outcomes of late-preterm infants at McMaster Children's Hospital: A retrospective, single-centre comparative study*.

Results indicate that adverse outcomes in late pre-term infants are higher than previously found in North America, and suggest that practices should be re-examined to focus on intervention.

Dr. Tremblay's winning paper, *Retinal angiogenesis is modulated by  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate and its receptor GPR99*, addresses the need to develop better treatment options for retinal angiogenesis. Her study indicates that preventive and curative therapies could be developed using citric acid cycle intermediaries and modulators.

Dr. Steer's paper, *The molecular epidemiology of Group A streptococci in a tropical country: Implications for global vaccine development*, was also recognized.

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## THE 2009 RED BOOK®: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Since 1938, the *Red Book*® has been considered the most reliable and clinically useful source of information on some 200 childhood infectious diseases.

As CPS liaison to the current edition of the American publication, Dr. Robert Bortolussi took part in the review and editing process. Dr. Noni MacDonald is a past editor of the *Red Book*®.

Together, they will present some of the new information contained in this year's edition, including updated appendices and information on endocarditis, *C. difficile*, MRSA, syphilis, vaccines for use in adolescents, influenza, and RSV. They will also review the differences between Canadian and American immunization recommendations.

The *Red Book*® has long been renowned for its accessibility. One key change in the 2009 edition is that users will be able to download the electronic version to PDAs or handheld devices. As Dr. Bortolussi notes, "Even at a thousand pages, it is a concise summary of what paediatricians need to know: how to recognize a condition, and what to do about it."

Copies of the *Red Book*® 2009 can be purchased at the CPS booth in the trade show area after the presentation. CPS members will receive a discount on their order.

## CPS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: YOU'RE INVITED!

The CPS is *your* society, it advocates on key child and youth issues on *your* behalf, and this is *your* meeting. By taking part in the AGM you have an opportunity to learn about the Society's plans and how you can contribute to its future. You'll also hear the two declared candidates for the CPS vice-presidency share their visions for CPS. Be sure to attend for your chance to vote on CPS bylaws.

Highlights of the AGM will be a short address at 9h45 by the federal Minister of Health, Leona Aglukkaq, the presentation of awards, including an honorary membership in the Canadian Paediatric Society. You'll meet the 2009 winner of the Noni MacDonald Award, Dr. Robert Harrison, whose article "Noise-induced hearing loss in children: A 'less than silent' environmental danger" was published in the May-June 2008 issue of *Paediatrics & Child Health*.



Member Recognition Awards will also be presented to Dr. Danielle Grenier and Dr. Denis Leduc, in thanks for their contributions to the work of the Society. Elizabeth (Lee) Ford-Jones, Elizabeth Hillman, and Diane Sacks will each be awarded Life Membership for their significant contributions to the CPS.

The Honorary Membership is awarded in recognition of an individual who has supported the mission of the CPS. The 2009 recipient is the Honourable Michael Kirby, who retired from the Senate of Canada in 2006 after 22 years of service. During his time as a senator, Kirby chaired the Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology. The committee produced several reports, including the first national report on mental health, mental illness, and addiction, entitled *Out of the Shadows at Last*. He is the first chair of the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

CPS Executive Director Marie Adèle Davis said "In recognition of His Honour's efforts to improve the health of Canadians, and especially for championing the issue of child and youth mental health, we would like to present him with Honorary Membership to the Canadian Paediatric Society."

### Practice What You Preach

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Practice What You Preach 5K walk / 8K run tonight from 17:00 to 19:00 in support of Healthy

Generations...along Ottawa's picturesque Rideau Canal. Don't forget your sunscreen! A reception will follow.

## HELP DESK

### Registration

Located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor Escalator Foyer  
Open 0700-1700

### Conference Office (Alberta Room)

Open 0800-1700, Monday to Saturday

### Child Care

Delegates may arrange child care with Gigi's Sitting Service at 613-749-1295.

### Internet Café

An internet café is available on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor Escalator Foyer. Please limit your time to 10 minutes during busy periods.

### Seminar/workshop/luncheon reservations

Pre-registration is required and a code is listed on your badge. Non-registered delegates will be admitted 10 minutes after the session starts.

### Media Room (Manitoba Room)

Staff will be available to assist journalists from 0900-1700.

### Donor Ribbons

If you have donated to Healthy Generations in the past 12 months and have not received your donor ribbon, please stop by the Healthy Generations booth.

### 50% Off Membership!

Attention non-CPS members: Join the Canadian Paediatric Society during the annual conference and receive 50% off membership dues for 2009.

Visit the CPS booth for more information.

## 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

"Paediatricians advocate for children and youth every day," says Dr. Bob Armstrong. "The *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* gives physicians tools and strategies that they can use to address problems they encounter in their individual practices, at the community level, and when approaching higher levels of government."

Though the Convention will be 20 years old this November, the average physician isn't very aware of the document and how it provides them with a framework for advocating for children. Dr. Armstrong's presentation will focus on showing physicians how to use the Convention to increase their effectiveness as advocates.

Dr. Robin Williams will explain how she used the Convention to engage the interest of young people in her community, and how they used the Convention's framework to bring about effective change.

Mr. Nigel Fisher, president of UNICEF Canada, will explain Canada's responsibilities as a signatory to the Convention. He will also highlight the areas in which Canada is falling short in its defence of children's rights, and how doctors can help to bring about necessary changes.

## Conference Sponsors

CIHR Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health; First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, Health Canada; Ikaria Canada Inc.; Johnson & Johnson Inc./Janssen-Ortho Inc.; Procter and Gamble; Public Health Agency of Canada; and The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada



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