



CANADIAN SOCIETY OF
COLON AND RECTAL SURGEONS

CSCRS NEWS

DECEMBER 2008

President's Message

Great things have been happening with the Canadian Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons as we embark on a second quarter century. The Canadian Surgery Forum in Halifax was an overwhelming success. The Postgraduate Course on *Colorectal Emergencies and Complications* and the *CSCRS Symposium* were excellent. Dr. Philip Gordon's lecture entitled: "A Glance to the Rear – Looking Back on Twenty-five Years of Canadian Colorectal Surgery", was a superb review of our Society's interesting history.

Our partnership with Theramed was sealed with the announcement of the first recipient of the CSCRS Research Program, Dr. G. Martel, whose research project is entitled: "Evaluating Surgical Outcomes: A Systematic Comparison of Evidence from Randomized Trials and Observational Studies in Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery" (see below for his research update). Congratulations to Dr. Martel and his colleagues. Also, many thanks to Mr. Steve McElroy and Theramed.

Plans are underway for the 2009 Canadian Surgery Forum in Victoria. The breathtaking venue of Vancouver Island will provide a lovely backdrop to a spectacular program. Plan to attend!



Cliff Yaffe
President, CSCRS

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CSCRS Research Update

EVALUATING SURGICAL OUTCOMES: A SYSTEMATIC COMPARISON OF EVIDENCE FROM RANDOMIZED TRIALS AND OBSERVATIONAL STUDIES IN LAPAROSCOPIC COLORECTAL SURGERY
Guillaume Martel, MD, CM, Robin P. Boushey, MD, PhD, FRCSC, Dean A. Fergusson, MHA, PhD, Craig R. Ramsay, PhD, Jeffrey S. Barkun, MD, CM, MSc, FRCSC

The incorporation of surgical procedures or technologies into clinical practice is a complex process. Much work remains to be done in appraising the relative value of randomized and observational evidence in surgery, as well as whether technology adoption in the surgical literature occurs early or late, in comparison to available evidence. The objective of our work is to compare the evidence obtained from RCTs and observational studies in the field of

laparoscopic surgery for colorectal cancer, and to determine whether the acceptance of this new technology in the surgical literature has relied upon adequate evidence. This field is well suited to answer the research questions because it has undergone significant critical evaluation. The principal methodology for this work will consist of a systematic review and meta-analysis of the literature. (Continued on Page 4)



From Left to right: President, Dr. Cliff Yaffe, Winner of the 2008 CSCRS Research Award, Dr. Guillaume Martel, and Mr. Steve McElroy from Theramed

2008 Canadian Surgery Forum Sept. 11th - 14th in Halifax, NS



Dr. Robert Thorlakson and his wife Deborah

2008 CSCRS Honorary Fellows



Dr. Phil Gordon and Dr. Yaffe

Special thanks for their presentations



Dr. Cagla Eskioglu gave a talk on her research in *Mechanical Bowel Preparation*



Dr. Jaap Bonjer informed on the *COLOR II Trial*



Dr. Carl Brown gave a session on the *Standardization of Rectal Surgery*



CSCRS Residents

Time to Party!



Dr. Guillaume Martel and Dr. Paul Belliveau



Dr. Phil Gordon and Ms. Renée Morissette

RCPSC Certification in Colorectal Surgery Update

For the first time in 2009, specialty training in colorectal surgery in Canada will require a final examination administered by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Anyone who is presently enrolled in a colorectal surgery fellowship in Canada may take the examination following evaluation of training. Surgeons who have finished specialty training prior to 2009 are also eligible to sit the RCPSC Certification Exam, and their training must also be evaluated by the RCPSC.

There will be no grandfathering of surgeons presently practicing colorectal surgery within Canada. Anyone who wants colorectal certification regardless of prior training, practice or age will have to sit the exam. All Exam Committee Members will have to wait two years following retirement from the Committee before being eligible to write the exam. The exam will be a written, short answer format and offered for the first time in 2009 and yearly afterwards.

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Cardiothoracic	- Orthopaedic	- Plastic

References:
 1. Ruzszzak et al, *Advanced Drug Delivery* 2003;55:1679-1698. 2. Data on File.
 3. Coello et al, *J Hosp Infect* 2005; 60:93-103. 4. Rutten et al *Eur J Surg* 1997; Suppl 578:31-35. 5. Stemberger et al *Eur J Surg* 1997 Suppl 578:17-26.
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2009 CSCRS Call for Proposals

CSCRS / SCCCR in partnership with Theramed®- Research Program

**CANADIAN SOCIETY OF COLON AND RECTAL SURGEONS
OPERATING GRANT COMPETITION 2009**

Applications are invited for research funding from the Canadian Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons.

There is one operating grant of \$10,000.

All applicants must be CSCRS Members.

Residents are encouraged to apply with a CSCRS member as supervisor and principal applicant.

The application should include (Microsoft Word 12 point font):

A title page with information regarding all co-applicants and contact information for correspondent

A summary of the application (max. 1 page)

A detailed description of the proposed research including references and a detailed budget (max. 6 pages)

A curriculum vitae of the principal applicant (max. 3 pages)

A letter of support from the Head of the Department of Surgery

The deadline for receipt is June 1, 2009.

Submit applications by E-mail to: tphang@providencehealth.bc.ca Cc: CSCRS@rcpsc.edu

CSCRS Research Update

Dr. Guillaume Martel (Continued from Cover)

Cumulative meta-analytic techniques will be used to evaluate the accumulation of evidence in time. At this point, the review protocol has been drafted, including the conception of a thorough search strategy. The search strategy has been implemented, yielding a total of 5,754 citations for review.

These citations are currently being screened for inclusion into the final review. In the coming weeks, the final list of included papers will be retrieved in full and compiled in accordance with the pre-determined analytic plan.

Want us to spread the word? We would be happy to circulate your news articles, reminders and/or updates in the monthly CSCRS e-news. Please e-mail your items to CSCRS@rcpsc.edu and communicate your message to your colleagues in the colorectal surgery community.

THANK YOU!!

***The CSCRS gratefully acknowledges the support of
Theramed® in the publication of this newsletter.***

THERAMED 



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