

# Drug Safety and Effectiveness Cross-Disciplinary Training (DSECT) Program

*A CIHR Training Program in Bridging Scientific Domains for Drug Safety and Effectiveness*

## **Program Summary**

### **Purpose**

The **DSECT Program** offers opportunities for trainees across a broad spectrum of disciplines to learn together and from each other as a key impetus for filling the critical void of skilled, knowledgeable researchers in the area of therapeutics. The main objectives of the program are to:

- Bridge scientific domains related to drug discovery, effectiveness and safety research by linking complementary disciplines at both trainee and mentor levels
- Provide a rich learning environment that is content and research methods focused
- Increase the use of interdisciplinary approaches
- Provide tangible opportunities for trainees to develop collaborative research skills
- Provide direct opportunities for trainees to learn and practice research skills
- Incorporate knowledge translation learning and activities at all stages of the training program

### **Program Innovation**

The program consists of three complementary foci:

- 1) Content-focused knowledge related to drug safety and effectiveness data
- 2) Research methods knowledge specific to drug safety and effectiveness data research
- 3) Practical skill- and capacity- building

A combination of individual and group activities is facilitated by mentors and other program collaborators to foster uptake and success in both knowledge and skill development.

### **Program Curriculum**

- Attendance at Annual Program Symposium
- Foundations Course
- Quarterly Commentaries
- One-to-one mentorship
- Practicum/Exposure opportunities
- Support and encouragement for presentation and publication of own research findings
- Objective Structured Knowledge Translation Experience (OSKTE)
- Optional Mini-Course Elective Series

**A limited number of stipends are available and are set at CIHR rates.** The program has been designed to be completed in one year and stipends are only offered for one year.

### **Eligibility**

- All graduate students registered at a Canadian institution
- Trainees ready for a post doctoral training experience (including clinicians)
- International trainees who can be co-supervised by their graduate supervisor from their home country
- Academic performance
- Clearly delineated study that involves (or could involve) at least two scientific domains (biosciences; clinical; population health; health services and policy research)

# **Drug Safety and Effectiveness Cross-Disciplinary Training (DSECT) Program**

*A CIHR Training Program in Bridging Scientific Domains for Drug Safety and Effectiveness*

## **2010 DSECT Program Symposium Overview**

April 29-30, 2010

Paletta Lakefront Park and Mansion  
4250 Lakeshore Road, Burlington, ON

### **Participants**

- DSECT Program Year 1 (pilot) and Year 2 Trainees
- DSECT Program Mentors and Staff
- Ontario Research Coalition (ORC) of Research Institutes/Centres on Health and Aging Early Investigators and Mentors
- Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) Trainees and Mentors

### **Objectives**

- To welcome DSECT Program trainees and mentors to the inaugural program year
- To introduce key overarching program concepts in drug safety and effectiveness research
- To offer domain-specific up-skilling sessions
- To offer capacity-building research skill sessions
- To provide DSECT Program trainees and mentors with a networking opportunity

### **Key Session Overviews**

#### ***Bridging Scientific Domains in the Conduct of Drug Safety and Effectiveness Research***

- To introduce the general landscape of drug safety and effectiveness research in Canada and some recent real world drug safety and effectiveness problems that might require research input from multiple scientific domains with a special emphasis on drug safety and effectiveness problems in older adults
- To facilitate an understanding of why a broader understanding across scientific domains could be beneficial for improving drug safety and effectiveness
- To illustrate how a trainee or junior scientist can embark on life long learning to foster a broader perspective about drug safety and effectiveness across scientific domains

#### ***Illustrative Overarching Problems in Drug Safety and Effectiveness, Reflective Thinking and Developing Commentary***

- To describe a drug safety and effectiveness problem from the patient, practitioner (physician, pharmacist, nurse, etc...), policy, and pharmaceutical industry perspective that would require research input from across scientific domains to generate a solution to the problem
- To discuss the concept of reflective thinking including a discussion of how one can encourage reflective thinking when considering a safety and effectiveness problem and in day to day research activities
- To provide an opportunity for small groups to discuss the example problem and generate research ideas and questions

## SYMPOSIUM

### CIHR Training Program in Bridging Scientific Domains for Drug Safety and Effectiveness

*In conjunction with the Ontario Research Coalition of Research Institutes / Centres on Health & Aging*

April 29-30<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Paletta Lakefront Park and Mansion, Burlington Ontario

## AGENDA

<b>Thursday, April 29, 2010</b>			
8:00	<b>Breakfast and Registration</b>		
8:30	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Dr. Lisa Dolovich</i> on behalf of the DSECT <i>Dr. Larry Chambers</i> on behalf of the ORC <i>Dr. Parminder Raina</i> on behalf of CLSA		
8:45	<b>Ice Breaker</b>		
9:00	<b>Bridging Scientific Domains in the Conduct of Research on Drug Safety and Effectiveness</b> <i>Dr. Stuart MacLeod</i> Senior Clinician Scientist, CFRI Professor, Division of Administration, Department of Pediatrics, University of British Columbia Vice President, Academic Liaison and Research Coordination, Provincial Health Services Authority		
0945	<b>Research on Drug Safety and Effectiveness in Older Adults: Case Examples</b> <i>Dr. Sharon Kaasalainen</i> , McMaster University <i>Dr. Mitch Levine</i> , McMaster University <i>Dr. Gurmit Singh</i> , McMaster University		
10:15	<b>General Overview of DSECT Program</b> <i>Dr. Lisa Dolovich</i> , McMaster University		
10:30	<b>Break</b>		
10:45	<b>Illustrative Overarching Problems, Reflective Thinking and Developing Commentary</b> <i>Dr. Lisa Dolovich</i> , McMaster University <i>Dr. Patangi Rangachari</i> , McMaster University		
11:20	<b>Trainees working together in small groups</b> <b>DSECT Mentor Large Group Meeting</b>		
12:30	<b>Lunch</b>		
1:30	<b>Trainee presenting back to larger group</b> <i>All trainees</i> <b>Clinician / Policy Maker response</b> <i>Dr. Anne Holbrook</i> , McMaster University <b>Researcher response</b> <i>Dr. Eleanor Pullenayegum</i> , McMaster University		
2:30	<b>Introduction to Basic Concepts Sessions</b> (choose one of the two sessions listed below)		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"><b>Health Technology Assessment</b> <i>Dr. Ron Goeree</i>, McMaster University</td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"><b>Patient Safety: Optimizing therapeutics for the patient and the healthcare system</b> <i>Dr. Neil MacKinnon</i>, Dalhousie University</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Health Technology Assessment</b> <i>Dr. Ron Goeree</i> , McMaster University	<b>Patient Safety: Optimizing therapeutics for the patient and the healthcare system</b> <i>Dr. Neil MacKinnon</i> , Dalhousie University
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3:30	<b>Break</b>	
3:45	<b>Ethics in Drug Safety and Effectiveness Research</b> <i>Dr. Don Willison, University of Toronto</i>	
5:15	<b>Dinner &amp; Networking Event</b> (Location TBA - in Burlington)	
<b>APRIL 30, 2010</b>		
8:00	Breakfast	
9:00	<b>Canadian Longitudinal Study in Aging (CLSA): An overview and opportunities for cross disciplinary research</b> <i>Dr. Parminder Raina, McMaster University</i>	
10:00	<b>Session on synthesis of ideas across trainee presentations</b> <i>Dr. Lisa Dolovich, McMaster University</i>	
10:30	<b>Break</b>	
10:45	<b>Knowledge Translation</b> Implementation of new knowledge on drug safety and effectiveness into practice and policy <i>Dr. Alexandra Papiroannou, McMaster University</i>	
12:00	<b>Lunch</b>	
12:45	<b>Introduction to Basic Concepts Sessions</b> (choose one of the two sessions listed below)	
	<b>Introduction to Epidemiology (including Study Designs)</b> <i>Dr. Janusz Kaczorowski, University of British Columbia</i>	<b>Basic concepts in pharmacology</b> <i>Dr. Patangi Rangachari, McMaster University</i>
1:45	<b>DSECT Trainees present summaries of their research projects</b>	
2:45	<b>Break</b>	
3:00	<b>Introduction to DSECT Program Online Learning Technologies</b> (DSECT trainees only) <i>Kennedy Riemersma and representatives from the CLL at McMaster</i>	
4:00	<b>Evaluation and Closing</b>	

**2010 DSECT Program Symposium**  
**Registration Form**

*April 29-30, 2010*  
Paletta Lakefront Park and Mansion  
4250 Lakeshore Road, Burlington, ON

In order to better meet your needs and ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place, please answer the following questions.

- 
1. **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_
  2. **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_
  3. **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_
  4. **Position (e.g. Student, Supervisor, etc...):** \_\_\_\_\_
  5. **Organization (e.g. ORC, CLSA):** \_\_\_\_\_
  6. **Will you be attending the complete symposium (April 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010)?**  
 NO                       YES

If no, please indicate what times you will be attending (indicate **all** that apply):

- Thursday, April 29, 2010 – AM (including breakfast)  
 Thursday, April 29, 2010 – PM (including lunch)  
 Thursday, April 29, 2010 – Dinner and Networking Event  
 Friday, April 30, 2010 – AM (including breakfast)  
 Friday, April 30, 2010 – PM (including lunch)

7. **Do you have any dietary restrictions or allergies:**

NO                       YES

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Will you require hotel accommodation for the DSECT Program Symposium?

NO                       YES

(Please note: You or your sponsoring organization will be responsible for your hotel costs; however, the DSECT Program has set aside a block of rooms at a hotel close to Paletta Lakefront Park and Mansion and will be able to assist you in securing a room.)

If yes, please indicate which days (indicate **all** that apply):

- Wednesday, April 28, 2010  
 Thursday, April 29, 2010  
 Friday, April 30, 2010

**The registration fee for the 2010 DSECT Program Symposium is \$250.00.**

Please make cheques payable to "McMaster University". Cheques may be submitted at the registration desk at the symposium.

**You may email this completed form to Kennedy Riemersma at [krieme@mcmaster.ca](mailto:krieme@mcmaster.ca) or fax to 905-528-7386.**

**Please send the completed form by March 29, 2010.**