



## CCORT PULSE

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### What's new with CCORT?

CCORT has had a busy and productive fall. The first report on CCORT's progress to date was submitted to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in October. CCORT had a strong presence at the American Heart Associations' 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Forum on Quality of Care and Outcomes Research in Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke in Washington DC where several CCORT students and investigators made research presentations. A few weeks later, the Team was off to Edmonton for the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress. Prior to

the commencement of the Congress, a Team meeting was held where **Dr. Bruce McManus**, the Scientific Director of the

Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health, provided feedback on CCORT's progress report to CIHR. Also, **Dr. Elinor Wilson** (Chief Scientific Officer of the Heart and Stroke Foundation) gave a presentation on surveillance in Canada, and **Dr. Helen Johansen** (Statistics Canada) gave a talk on the Canadian Community Health Survey. At the Cardiovascular Congress, CCORT was well represented by several research poster presentations and an information booth in the exhibit hall (left). A list of recent research presentations can be found on the back of this newsletter.



CCORT display at the 2002 Canadian Cardiovascular Congress (Research Coordinator Susan Brien).

### EFFECT Update

The EFFECT study is one of the major initiatives of the Canadian Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Team (CCORT) and focuses on Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) and Congestive Heart Failure (CHF). Currently, the EFFECT project is in year two of its five year mandate, with this year's key activities involving the Phase I chart abstraction process and development of preliminary analysis. The Phase I Chart Abstraction effort is well underway! The data collection team, comprised of 20 trained nurse abstractors,

has completed approximately 25 hospitals (of the 104 participating hospitals) and another five are in progress. Our thanks go out to the hospital management and the Health Records department staff who have assisted us during this phase of the project. The first round of clinical data from the EFFECT project is scheduled for release in Spring 2003. For further information regarding the EFFECT project please visit the Project Section of the CCORT web site ([www.ccort.ca](http://www.ccort.ca)) or contact **Linda Donovan**, Research Coordinator, [linda.donovan@ices.on.ca](mailto:linda.donovan@ices.on.ca).

### Student Day in Montreal!

On November 22, 2002, a CCORT Student Research Methods Workshop was held in Montreal under the direction of **Dr. Louise Pilote**. The day opened with a session on research methods and was followed by a series of student presentations by **Woganee Filate, Diane Galbraith, Ruth Hall, Doug Lee, Colleen Norris, and Chau Tran**. A presentation was also given by **Dr. Lawrence Joseph** on Bayesian analysis and **Dr. Mark Eisenberg** gave a talk on Biomedical Writing. It is anticipated that similar workshops (perhaps by cyberspace) will be organized in the future to encourage the development of budding cardiovascular health researchers.

### CCORT Student Fellowship

The Canadian Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Team (CCORT) Student Research Fellowship is available for graduate students and clinical research fellows to pursue cardiovascular outcomes research with CCORT investigators in

Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Montreal or Halifax. For more information and applications for 2003/2004, visit the CCORT website ([www.ccort.ca](http://www.ccort.ca) under Student Training). Applications are due February 7, 2003.

**CCORT Fellowship  
Deadline:  
February 7, 2003**



## Fall CCORT Presentations & Posters

This past fall, CCORT was represented at several meetings, including the American Heart Association's 4<sup>th</sup> Scientific Forum on Quality of Care and Outcomes Research in Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke, the Canadian Cardiovascular Society 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting and the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario Clinical Update. Below are the presentations and posters presented at these meetings by CCORT members.

Health Related Quality of Life Outcomes of Patients with Coronary Artery Disease, Treated with Surgery, Percutaneous Intervention or Medical Management. **CM Norris, LD Saunders, WA Ghali, R Brant, PD Galbraith, M Graham, PD Faris, ML Knudtson.**

Utilization and Outcomes of Cardiac Rehabilitation after Cardiac Catheterization in a Large Canadian City. **CM Norris, WA Ghali, W Daub, ML Knudtson, PD Galbraith.**

An Audit of the Quality of Publications for AMI Indicators of Care. **CT Tran, FC Grant, JV Tu.**

CCORT/CCS Canadian Quality Indicators for Acute Myocardial Infarction. **CT Tran, DS Lee, VF Flintoft, FC Grant, L Higginson, JV Tu.**

Mitral Valve Repair or Replacement - An Analysis using Propensity Scores. **KH Humphries, R Moss, M Gao, CR Thompson, BI Munt.**

Increased Stent use in Diabetics associated with Significant Decrease in Major Adverse Cardiac Events. **KH Humphries, M Gao, RG Carere, DR Ricci, G Simkus, R Mildenberger, JG Webb, D Kinloch, FM Kiely, CE Buller.**

Canadian Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Team: Getting to the Heart of Cardiovascular Care. **SE Brien, JV Tu on behalf of the CCORT investigators**

Comparison of Predictive Ability of Baseline Versus Updated Risk Factor Values. **I Karp, M Abrahamowicz, L Pilote.**

CCORT/CCS Canadian Quality Indicators for Heart Failure Care. **DS Lee, CT Tran, VF Flintoft, FC Grant, PP Liu, JV Tu.**

Is there a Physician-Volume Relationship for Percutaneous Coronary Intervention in Ontario? **R Hall, WJ Cantor, JV Tu.**

A Multicentre Clinical Risk Adjustment Model and Predictive Index to Determine Mortality in Heart Failure Patients. **DS Lee.**

## Lighter Notes



### Be kind to your heart this holiday season!

The following activities will get your heart pumping and help you battle the holiday bulge!

#### Calories burned\* during 30 minutes of activity:

Snowshoeing – 298

Shoveling snow (by hand) – 223

Hockey – 298

Cooking – 93

Playing with kids (moderate effort) - 149

Downhill skiing – 223

Cross-country skiing – 390

Sledding, Luge, Toboggan – 260

Ice Skating – 260

Chopping and splitting wood – 223

Walking (13 min/mile) - 186

Running (10 min/mile) - 372

\*Based on a person weighing 155 lbs.

Sources: Fitness Partner Connection Jumpsite; The Fitness Files Website



To make a contribution or suggestion to our newsletter, please contact CCORT Pulse Editor, **Courtney Kennedy**, [courtney.kennedy@ices.on.ca](mailto:courtney.kennedy@ices.on.ca).

For general information on CCORT, please contact CCORT Research Coordinator **Susan Brien**, [susan.brien@ices.on.ca](mailto:susan.brien@ices.on.ca) or visit our website at:

[www.ccort.ca](http://www.ccort.ca) Thanks to **Chau Tran, Linda Donovan, and Susan Brien** for contributing to this month's newsletter.