



2014 Fall Symposium - Saturday, October 25, 2014
Living with Vasculitis
Toronto Western Hospital, Toronto, Ontario

Proposed Agenda

Morning Session:

(all vasculitis patients except those noted in the afternoon sessions)

1. Ramzi Fattouh, PhD, Clinical Microbiology Trainee, Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto.

Dr Fattouh is Dr. Mazzulli's research assistant and will give us an update on last fall's research funded by VF Canada, on Vasculitis and the infection connection. Two studies are underway, one to confirm a report linking Giant Cell Arteritis with the bacteria Burkholderia, and a second study using PCR-DNA lab techniques on a group of GPA (Wegener's) patients.

2. Katherine Siminovitch, M.D., FRCP(C), Professor of Medicine, Rheumatologist, Geneticist, Senior Investigator at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute of Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto.

Dr. Siminovitch, will update us on the results of her GPA (Wegener's), DNA study, originally organized and funded by VF Canada in the spring of 2001. She'll review why the underlying disease genetics are so important in GPA, and will speak about the direction of her research, and what happened in the last year of her ongoing research and how it is expanding and progressing.

3. Carol A. Langford, M.D., MHS, Harold C. Schott Endowed Chair in Rheumatologic and Immunologic Disease, Director, Center for Vasculitis Care and Research, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH.

Dr. Langford's work focuses on patient care and research in vasculitic diseases. From 1994-2004 she was a senior investigator within the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland. Since 2004, she has been the Director of the Center for Vasculitis Care and Research at Cleveland Clinic.

She will review the features of small and medium vessel vasculitis (primarily GPA, MPA,

EGPA, PAN & KD), and the treatment options, including the use of biologic agents. She will also offer her opinion on how to achieve the best disease outcomes, how to stay in remission and the role that monitoring plays in achieving these outcomes.

4. Susan E. Abbey, M.D., FRCP(C), Psychiatrist-in-Chief University Health Network, and Professor in Psychiatry at U of T.

Dr. Susan Abbey is a psychiatrist with particular interests in the emotional aspects of physical illness, and the physical and emotional impact of stress. And, vasculitis patients can relate to this! Getting a vasculitis diagnosis has very real physical impacts and presents challenges in coping with a chronic and potentially life threatening disease. She'll discuss her research related to the development of coping tools, and mindfulness training, on self-care in lupus and hypertension.

Afternoon Session - Large and Variable Vessel Vasculitis

(Behcet's (BD), Cogan's syndrome (CS), Takayasu arteritis (TAK), and Giant cell arteritis (GCA), patients only!)

5. Katherine Siminovitch, M.D., FRCP(C), Professor of Medicine, Rheumatologist, Geneticist, Senior Investigator at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute of Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto.

Dr. Siminovitch has been studying the underlying DNA/genetics of one form of vasculitis, GPA (Wegener's), since 2001. She is now expanding her research to conduct a small comparison study, similar to her GPA work, on Behcet's (BD), and Giant cell arteritis (GCA), pending a minimum 100 patient enrolment. She'll explain the process and why these additional studies are necessary to enhance our understanding of vasculitic diseases in general, and what we can expect to learn.

6. Carol A. Langford, M.D., MHS, Harold C. Schott Endowed Chair in Rheumatologic and Immunologic Disease, Director, Center for Vasculitis Care and Research, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH.

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She will review the clinical features and treatment of Behcet's disease, Cogan's syndrome, Giant cell arteritis, and Takayasu arteritis. She will also offer her opinion on how to achieve the best disease outcomes, how to stay in remission and the role that monitoring plays in achieving these outcomes.

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Toronto Western Hospital is located in downtown Toronto at the northeast corner of Bathurst and Dundas Streets, and is well serviced by local TTC transit, particularly the Bathurst streetcar from the Bloor/Danforth Subway.

Toronto is a relatively short travel distance for many Canadian and American Vasculitis patients and has convenient rail and airport connections. **Note: passports are required for all visitors to Canada!**

The Symposium registration is FREE for VF Canada members, non-members can easily become members for just \$20.00 Canadian at: http://www.vasculitis.ca/?page_id=159

Space may be limited, so register early!

For more details, and to register visit www.vasculitis.ca or contact Jon Stewart at jonstewart@rogers.com