



A Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada Interdisciplinary Health Research Team

CCORT PULSE

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CCORT OBJECTIVES:

- Improve quality of heart attack & heart failure care in Canada
- Improve invasive cardiac procedure outcomes in Canada
- Stimulate multidisciplinary and inter-provincial collaborative cardiovascular outcomes research
- Train the next generation of Canadian cardiovascular outcome researchers

This issue

CIHR Award	1
Authors Awarded	1
Atlas Series	2
CCORT Calendar	2
CCORT Rounds	2
Website News	2
EFFECT Study	2

Send newsletter comments or contributions to vanihinger@ices.on.ca

Funding provided



CCORT wins CIHR Knowledge Translation award

CCORT received the CIHR National Knowledge Translation Award for its exemplary work in knowledge translation with an impact at the national/international level. CIHR defines knowledge translation (KT) as the exchange, synthesis and ethically sound application of knowledge within a complex system of interactions among researchers and users, to accelerate the capture of the benefits of research for Canadians through improved health, more effective services and products, and a strengthened health care system.

When CCORT formed in 2001, it developed a knowledge translation strategy to effectively disseminate research on cardiovascular disease. Some of the activities include:

- Development of the CCORT Canadian Cardiovascular Atlas, a series of 24 peer-reviewed papers published in the *Canadian Journal of Cardiology*;
- Publication of over 60 peer-reviewed journal articles;
- Conducting two large randomized trials to assess alternative approaches to KT, and development of national cardiac performance indicators and benchmarks that are being used by hospitals throughout Canada;
- Provincial, national and international presentations of research results;
- Creation of a web site (www.ccort.ca) that has received over 20,000 hits globally;



Bruce McManus (on left), Scientific Director, CIHR -Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health, presents Jack Tu with the CIHR National KT Award at a CIHR awards ceremony in Ottawa at the National Gallery of Canada

- Publication of *The Pulse* newsletter;
- Development of web-based maps of Canada;
- Publishing a book summarizing research from the CCORT Atlas series.

Atlas authors receive CCS award

CCORT Atlas authors were recognized by the Canadian Cardiovascular Society for their outstanding research and its impact on cardiovascular medicine. Team leader, Jack Tu, was presented with the Robert E. Beamish Award by Robert Kalina of the Pulsus Group Inc., publishers of the *Canadian Journal of Cardiology*. The award, given in honour of the journal's founding editor-in-chief, included an aboriginal sculpture entitled "Loon in the Mist", and a plaque for each of the lead authors of articles in the CCORT Atlas series.

The cornerstone of CCORT's research, the Atlas series of publications provides a comprehensive analysis of a number of important topics affecting the cardiovascular health and outcomes of Canadians. Written by a multidisciplinary team of leading outcomes researchers, data is presented at the provincial and health region level. A complete list of the authors of the award-winning Atlas

series and links to the publications are available at www.ccort.ca/Atlas.asp.



A group of CCORT Atlas authors accepts the Robert E. Beamish award at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress in Montreal



Publication completes Atlas series

The CCORT Atlas paper entitled "Regional variation in self-reported heart disease prevalence in Canada" completes the scientific series. Published in the December issue of the *Canadian Journal of Cardiology (CJC)*, the paper provides an analysis of cardiac conditions in sub-groups of the Canadian population.

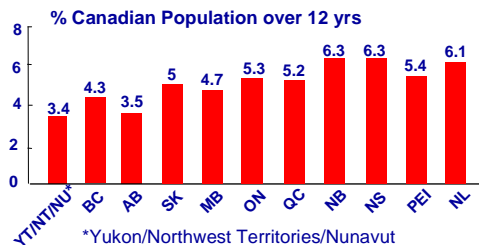
Data from Statistics Canada's 2000/2001 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) was used to estimate the self-reported prevalence of heart disease, myocardial infarction, angina and congestive heart failure.

The researchers concluded that marked variation in the prevalence of heart disease and the other specific cardiac conditions exist across age and sex

conditions exist across age and sex groups, and across geographical regions. Detailed data at the health region level is available at www.ccort.ca/Atlas.asp.

A collection of reprints of original Atlas papers published in the *CJC*, along with a book that contains highlights from the series are both currently in production for release in 2006.

Self-Reported Prevalence of Heart Disease



CCORT Calendar

Jan. 23-24, 2006

Data Symposium: Health Care 2006: New Research, New Priorities, New Directions (Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, MOH<C, CIHI), Toronto, Ontario

Contact: www.ices.on.ca

Email: symposium@ices.on.ca



March 26-30, 2006

Conference: 22nd Annual Cardiovascular Conference (Victoria Heart Institute) Lake Louise, Alberta

Contact: www.acclakelouise.com

CCORT makes the rounds

PUBLICATIONS

- Lee DS, Tu JV, Alter DA, Ko DT, Austin PC et al. A risk-treatment mismatch in the pharmacotherapy of heart failure. *JAMA* 2005;294:1240-1247.
- Beck CA, Richard H, Tu JV, Pilote L. Administrative Data Feedback for Effective Cardiac Treatment: AFFECT, a cluster randomized trial. *JAMA* 2005;294(3):309-317.
- Graham MM, Ghali WA, Tu JV, Norris CM Knudtson ML et al. Population rates of cardiac catheterization and yield of high-risk coronary artery disease. *CMAJ* 2005;173(1):35-39.
- Eisenberg MJ, Filion KB, Pilote L et al. Outcomes and cost of coronary artery bypass graft surgery in the United States and Canada. *Arch Intern Med* 2005;165:1506-1512.
- Effectiveness of statins for secondary prevention in elderly patients after acute myocardial infarction: an evaluation of class effect. *CMAJ* 2005;172(9):1187-1194.
- Hassan A, Hirsch GM et al. Women have worse long-term outcomes after coronary artery bypass grafting than men. *Can J Cardiol* 2005;21(9):757-762.

PRESENTATIONS

- Ghali WA. "What have we learned about AMI from CCORT?" Presented as part of *Beyond 2000*, a symposium on acute coronary syndromes at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress (CCC), Montreal, QC, Oct. 23, 2005.
- Hassan A, Hirsch GM, Cox J et al. "Socioeconomic and geographic determinants of readmission: a population-based multi-level analysis". Presented at the CCC, Montreal, QC, Oct. 25, 2005.
- Hassan A, Ghali W, Hirsch GM, Alter DA. "Databases, report cards, continuous quality improvement initiatives and cardiovascular care in Canada". Presented at the Trainee Luncheon at the CCC, Montreal, QC, Oct. 23, 2005.
- Bower K, Burge F, Putnam W, Cox J. "Quality indicators for the primary and secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease in primary care". Presented at the 33rd North American Primary Care Research Group Annual Conference, Quebec, QC, Oct. 15-18, 2005.

What's New? at ccort.ca

Two new menu items have been added to the CCORT website. Click on the *What's New?* link for the latest in CCORT News or visit the virtual *Newsroom* and choose *Awards*, *CCORT in the News*, or *Newsletters*.



EFFECT Study

Phase I of the EFFECT study concluded in September 2005 with the release of the study's second report describing the report cards for 50 Ontario hospitals randomized to the "Delayed Feedback" arm of the study. The report is also available at www.ccort.ca/EFFECT.asp.

Preparations are well underway for Phase II. The nurse abstractors will conduct a second round of retrospective chart reviews targeted to begin in the New Year. Our sincere thanks to all the participating hospitals for supporting this effort.

Stay tuned for further updates.