



Tymianski to deliver Hnatyshyn Lecture at Canadian Stroke Congress *“He has an excellent story to tell”*



**Dr. Michael Tymianski,
2012 Hnatyshyn Lecturer**

Michael Tymianski, Canada Research Chair in Translational Stroke Research, will deliver the 2012 Hnatyshyn Lecture at the Canadian Stroke Congress in Calgary. The lecture is the featured plenary presentation at the Congress.

Dr. Tymianski, a respected Toronto neurosurgeon and researcher, was selected by the Congress Program Committee.

“Mike has made a tremendous contribution towards advancing new therapies for stroke patients in Canada,” said CSN Executive Director Katie Lafferty. “His work in taking discoveries from the bench to clinical trials is really quite remarkable. He bridges the gap between research and clinical care.

“Mike has an excellent story to tell – and one that should be shared with the entire stroke community.”

The lecture is named in honour of Ray Hnatyshyn, who served as Governor General of Canada from 1990 to 1995 and was a founding member of the CSN’s Board of Directors.

The lecture is scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 30 at the Telus Convention Centre in Calgary.

Request for proposals: CSN and ESN collaborative research initiative

The Canadian Stroke Network and European Stroke Network are excited to announce a new collaborative research initiative.

The Canadian Stroke Network is now accepting proposals to financially support research projects that involve both a Canadian and European arm. Proposals should be catalytic in nature, encouraging new areas of exploration or knowledge sharing between countries. The deadline for proposals is February 3, 2012.

In addition, trainees (Masters, PhD, Post-Docs) of either network (i.e. currently funded by the ESN or CSN) may apply for a trainee exchange. Such an exchange would involve attending courses offered by the other network or working in a laboratory for a defined period.

Funding will be provided for a 12-month period starting March 1, 2012.

Timeline:

- Proposal Submission Deadline: February 3, 2012
- Decisions Complete and Results Posted: February 24, 2012
- Notifications of Award Issued and Project Begin: March 1, 2012

Download the form at
www.canadianstrokenetwork.ca



Get CSN updates at
www.twitter.com/StrokeNetwork



Stay up to date on CSN news at
www.facebook.com/CanadianStrokeNetwork

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Toronto Rehabilitation Institute’s 10th Stroke Rehab Symposium, *Getting the Message: Improving Communication in Stroke Care*
Hyatt Regency Toronto, January 27, 2012
www.torontorehab.com/events

International Stroke Conference and State-of-the-Art Stroke Nursing Symposium 2012, New Orleans, LA
January 31-February 3, 2012
<http://my.americanheart.org>

Congress abstract submission opens February 1

Abstract submission opens February 1 for the 2012 Canadian Stroke Congress, which is to be held in Calgary from Sept. 30 to Oct. 2. Researchers may submit abstracts by visiting www.strokecongress.ca under the "program" tab.

Abstracts are welcome from national and international applicants from all disciplines and may be submitted in English or French and presented at the Congress in either language.

Each abstract should be a maximum of 300 words and consist of four paragraphs:

- Background: briefly describing the problem or issue being addressed

- Methods: describing how the study was performed
- Results: describing the salient results or findings
- Conclusions: describing what the authors conclude from these results.

Authors may submit multiple abstracts. Platform and poster presenters must register for the Congress and are required to pay the registration fee.

The Congress program committee, chaired by Dr. Michael Hill and Dr. Mark Bayley, will review the abstracts. Abstracts will be judged on scientific merit, originality, and interest for Congress members and clarity.

Best Practices updates in progress

The Canadian Best Practice Recommendations for Stroke Care continue to be recognized as one of the leading sets of stroke guidelines internationally. The stroke best practices website (www.strokebestpractices.ca) has received about 300,000 hits since its launch a little more than a year ago.

In order to maintain the integrity and currency of the guidelines, they undergo rigorous review and update every two years. The update process for 2011 - 2013 has now begun. With the technology available through the website, this year we will update individual sections as new research and information becomes available. This will enable us to get practice changes communicated to all those who provide stroke care delivery in an efficient and timely manner. All updates and changes will be posted on the website and will be accompanied by announcements of the site, in *Brainwaves* and through emails to all stakeholders.

CSN would gratefully like to acknowledge the healthcare experts who have kindly volunteered to chair the task groups who will be reviewing the literature and updating the recommendations and educational materials.

Acute care task group: Dr. Leanne Causabon and Mr. Michael Suddes

Stroke rehabilitation: Dr. Andrew Dawson and Mr. Jason Knox

Stroke Prevention: Dr. Shelagh Coutts and Ms. Linda Kelloway

Vascular Cognitive Impairment and Depression: Dr. Gail Eskes

Paediatric Stroke: Dr. Adam Kirton

We are currently exploring several new topic areas that have been proposed for new recommendation development. Decisions regarding inclusion are primarily based on the strength of the available research evidence to guide practice. These areas include sleep apnea, hemispherectomy, driving after stroke, vocational rehabilitation, and an expanded section on smoking cessation.

We encourage you to contact the stroke best practices office with any suggestions or input you may have as we proceed with the update process. We can be reached through the 'contact us' section or at bestpractices@canadianstrokenetwork.ca.

With thanks

The Canadian Stroke Network expresses its thanks to both Bayer Health Care and Boehringer Ingelheim for their continued support as Grand Patron sponsors of the 2012 Canadian Stroke Congress.



Health groups urge PMO to take action on sodium

The Canadian Stroke Network and two dozen other health groups have written to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, urging the development of a national plan to reduce excessive sodium consumption in Canada. The letter was featured in the *Globe and Mail* on Jan. 10.

"High sodium levels in food (largely added during food processing) cause almost one third of high blood pressure, a leading risk for premature death and disability," the letter said. "It is expected that 7.5 million Canadians will be diagnosed with hypertension in 2012, with an estimated 1,100 new diagnoses per day."

Health groups, including the Canadian Medical Association, Heart and Stroke Foundation and College of Family Physicians, asked the



PM to consider regulatory measures to reduce dietary sodium if voluntary targets are not met; to institute transparent monitoring and public reporting of industry progress toward defined targets; to impose restrictions on commercial marketing of high sodium foods to children; and to strengthen Canada's nutrition labeling system.

Read more at www.canadianstrokenetwork.ca and www.sodium101.ca

Canadian Stroke Network

Canadian Stroke Network Summer Studentship Program

Purpose

The Canadian Stroke Network Summer Studentship program's goal is to allow students to obtain research experience related to stroke and to provide support to undergraduate and medical students engaged in summer research projects in the area of stroke at a Canadian university or affiliated institution.

Term

Summer Studentships are intended to provide financial support for the four-month period June 1, 2012 to August 31, 2012.

Eligibility

Full-time undergraduate and medical students are eligible to receive this award. Under certain circumstances, other special academic situations may be considered. The proposed supervisor need not be CSN member but must be involved in stroke research.

Awards

Up to 15 studentships will be awarded for the summer of 2012 at a value of \$7,000 per award.

Criteria

Studentship applications will be reviewed by a committee comprised of CSN researchers and Network associates. Applications will be ranked by Committee members and the top 15 averaged scores will be awarded studentships. Reviewers will judge the applications applying equal weight to the following criteria:

- Excellence of the candidate;
- Feasibility and quality of the proposed project;
- Suitability and excellence of the training environment;

Supervisors may submit more than one application but will not receive more than one

studentship award.

The supervisor should not rank the applications submitted.

Application requirements

Applications must be made by the proposed supervisor, not by the student.

The application must be sent electronically, in PDF format, to robin@canadianstroke-network.ca by February 13, 2012.

All components of the application must be included in ONE document.

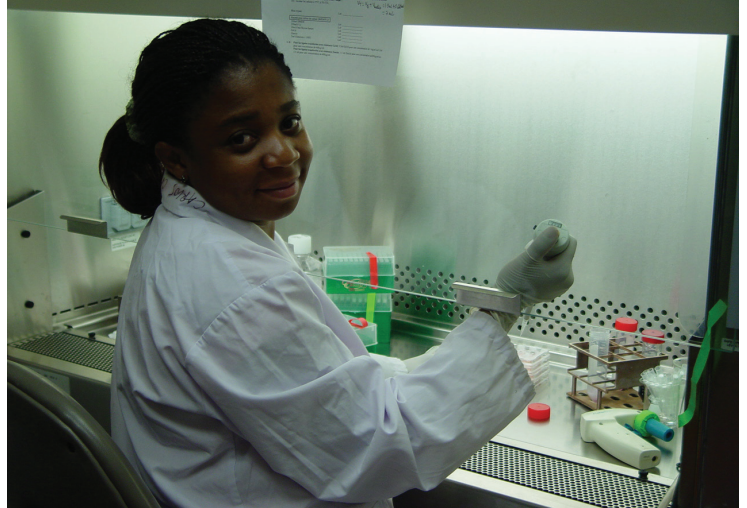
The application must include:

- A one- page outline of the proposed research (the research project should be attainable within the four-month term of the award);
- The student's CV;
- The student's transcripts (a scanned copy signed by the supervisor)
- A letter of support from the supervisor addressing the student's qualifications/ suitability and a description of the learning environment.

The application from the proposed supervisor must be received by the Canadian Stroke Network on or before Monday, February 13, 2012. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be accepted.

Use of funds

1. Payment of grants



A lump sum payment for each Summer Studentship award will be paid to the eligible institution by June 1st.

2. Earnings from other sources
Summer Studentship awardees may not hold any other award during the term of this award.
3. Reports
All students participating in this program must submit a report describing the results of their summer project, no later than September 30. It is the responsibility of the supervisor to ensure that the student submits the written report. If a report is not submitted, the supervisor will not be eligible to submit a summer studentship application the following year.
4. Transfer of awards
Summer studentship awards may not be transferred to another student in the event the student withdraws from the program.

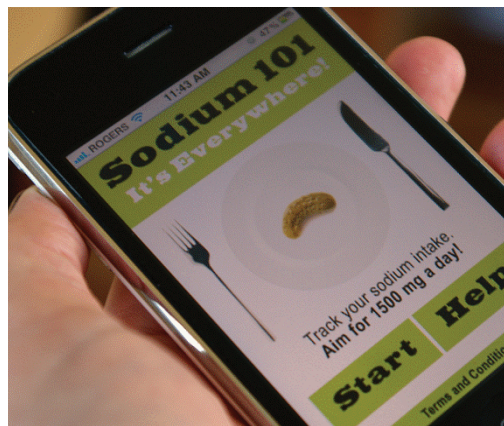
Sodium 101 application listed as one of top 10 health apps by CBC

The sodium 101 application, created by the CSN, is one of the top 10 health apps according to CBC. The app helps people track their daily sodium intake and indicates how much sodium is in food.

In the article, CBC medical columnist Dr. Peter Lin said the app is a valuable tool for people with high blood pressure.

CBC spoke with doctors, dietitians and other experts to create the list.

Check out www.sodium101.ca to read the full article.



CANADIAN STROKE CONGRESS



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**2012 CONGRESS
ABSTRACT
SUBMISSION OPENS
FEBRUARY 1**

www.strokecongress.ca