The Canadian Digestive Health Foundation research program

En français voir page 647

Stephen Vanner MD FRCPC MSc

Canadian Digestive Health Foundation Research Committee

Since its inception in the early 1990s, the Canadian Digestive Health Foundation (CDHF) (then the Canadian Digestive Disease Foundation) has been dedicated to promoting high quality research into gastrointestinal (GI) health and disorders. To meet this goal, the Foundation designed a program to attract bright and enthusiastic investigators with innovative ideas who needed funding to initiate their research.

Between 1995 and 1999, the CDHF funded seven young investigators who have become key members of the

Canadian GI research community. In 2001, as a result of sponsorship from pharmaceutical industry partners, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology (CAG), three awards were issued: the CDHF-CAG-CIHR/Abbott *Helicobacter* Operating Grant, the CDHF-CAG-CIHR/Byk New Investigator Establishment Grant and the CDHF/AstraZeneca Fellowship (Table 1).

This year, the Foundation is very pleased to have considerably expanded its program in digestive disease research

TABLE 1
Past recipients of Canadian Digestive Health Foundation (CDHF) research awards

Year	Research award	Recipient	Institution
1995	CDHF Grant	Dr Carlo Fallone	McGill University, Montreal, Quebec
1996	CDHF Grant	Dr Johane Allard	University of Toronto, Ontario
1997	CDHF Grant	Dr Claude Asselin	Université de Sherbrooke, Quebec
1997	CDHF Grant	Dr DSR Sarma	University of Toronto, Ontario
1998	CDHF Grant	Dr Brenda L Coomber	Guelph University, Ontario
1998	CDHF Grant	Dr Winnie WS Wong	University of Alberta, Edmonton
1999	CDHF Grant	Dr Nicola Jones	University of Toronto, Ontario
2001	CDHF/AstraZeneca Fellowship	Dr Jia-Qing Huang	McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario
2001	CDHF-CAG-CIHR/Abbott <i>Helicobacter</i> Operating Grant	Dr Anne Marie Salapatek	University of Toronto, Ontario
2001	CDHF-CAG-CIHR/Byk New Investigator Establishment Grant	Dr Nathalie Vergnolle	University of Calgary, Alberta

The CAG is proud to acknowledge its Benefactor Corporate Sponsors:

Abbott Laboratories Ltd.

AstraZeneca Canada Inc.

Axcan Pharma Inc.

Janssen-Ortho Inc.

TABLE 2
Recipients of the 2002 Canadian Digestive Health Foundation (CDHF) research awards

Award	Recipient	Institution
CDHF-CIHR/Abbott <i>Helicobacter</i> Operating Grant (one year)	Dr Carole Creuzenet	University of Western Ontario, London
CDHF-CIHR/Byk New Investigator Establishment Grant (one to two years)	Dr Joseph Romagnuolo	University of Calgary, Alberta
CDHF/CIHR Studentship	Mr David Reed Supervisor: S Vanner	Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario
CDHF/CIHR Studentship	Ms Monica Verma Supervisor: S Collins	McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario
CDHF/CIHR Studentship	Mr Peter Ceponis Supervisor: P Sherman	The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario
CDHF/CIHR Studentship	Ms Samara Freeman Supervisor: W MacNaughton	University of Calgary, Alberta
CDHF/CIHR Studentship	Ms Laurie Drozdowski Supervisor: ABR Thomson	University of Alberta, Edmonton
CDHF/CIHR Studentship	Mr Rustum Karanjia Supervisor: C Barajas-López	Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario
CDHF/CIHR Studentship	Mr Ron Wells Supervisor: M Blennerhassett	Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario

CIHR Canadian Institutes of Health Research

(Table 2). For the second consecutive year, the CDHF-CIHR/Abbott *Helicobacter* Operating Grant and the CDHF-CIHR/Byk New Investigator Establishment Grant were awarded. Congratulations to Dr Carole Creuzenet, of the University of Western Ontario, London, and to Dr Joseph Romagnuolo, of the University of Calgary, Alberta, respectively. Offered for the first time were CDHF/CIHR studentships for Masters and Doctoral students. A total of seven studentships were awarded – three funded fully by CIHR, and four jointly funded by the CIHR and the CDHF. The CDHF applauds the successful young scientists listed in Table 2. A complete detailed listing of all awards can be found on the CDHF Web site (www.cdhf.ca).

In July 2002, the Foundation circulated a call for proposals for two CDHF/AstraZeneca fellowships. Please contact the CDHF National Office (e-mail: cdhfoffice@cdhf.ca) for additional information.

These grants, fellowships and studentships represent a significant investment both in research and in Canada's most promising GI scientists. The CDHF gratefully acknowledges the generous financial support of Abbott Laboratories Ltd, AstraZeneca Canada Inc, Byk Canada Inc and the CIHR that made this possible. In 2003, the Foundation looks forward to obtaining similar or increased research funding, with the commitment of existing and new co-sponsors.