PRESENTER BIOS

Rare Cardiac Conditions Conference: Sub-conference Sessions

Friday, February 24, 2023

Cardiac Amyloidosis	
Alissa Visram MD MPH FRCPC	Dr. Alissa Visram is a hematologist at the Ottawa Hospital and an assistant professor within the Department of Medicine. She completed her hematology training at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, and her subspecialty clinical and research fellowship in plasma cell disorders at Mayo Clinic. Dr. Visram holds a Masters in Public Health and Epidemiology from Harvard University. She joined faculty in Ottawa in September of 2021 as a clinician investigator. Her clinical research is centered on understanding and improving health outcomes of patients with plasma cell disorders such as multiple myeloma and systemic light chain amyloidosis. Dr. Visram is also developing a translational research program in Ottawa to develop cost-effective and efficacious immunotherapies for patients with multiple myeloma.
Bethlehem Mengesha MD	Bethlehem Mengesha, MD, is a cardiologist and an internist from Israel who is currently undertaking cardiac imaging and research fellowship at the UOHI. Her main area of interest includes the role of multimodality imaging in cardiomyopathies and structural heart disease.
François Tournoux MD	Dr. François Tournoux is an Associate Professor at the University of Montreal Faculty of Medicine and a cardiologist at the Hospital of the University of Montreal (CHUM), where he is Director of the Amyloidosis clinic. He is also a FRQS clinical researcher working on developing new technologies and strategies to transform heart failure management and patient experience, with a focus on cardiac imaging, artificial intelligence, telemedicine, exercise and amyloidosis. He is the current president of the Quebec Heart Failure Society. Dr. Tournoux completed his cardiology training at the University of Paris in France, followed by a fellowship in echocardiography at Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston, USA).

Ian Paterson MD, FRCPC	Ian Paterson, MD, is a cardiologist at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and a professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Paterson received his medical degree from McGill University in 1995. He completed post-graduate medical training in internal medicine, cardiology, and echocardiography in 2002. He subsequently completed a fellowship in cardiac magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) at the National Institutes of Health. The University of Alberta recruited him to its division of cardiology in 2004. Dr. Paterson served as director of residency training in adult cardiology from 2009-2017. He continued as an associate program director thereafter. Dr. Paterson was co-founder and clinical director of the Edmonton Cardio-Oncology Program and academic/research director for cardiac MRI at the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute. Dr. Paterson is a board member of the Canadian Cardiac Oncology Network and the Canadian Society of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance. He has chaired and/or co-authored position statements and guidelines, and has led CIHR-funded, multi-centre clinical trials in cardio-oncology and cardiac MRI. Dr. Paterson joined the UOHI in 2022 as co-lead of the Cardiac MRI Program and director of the Canadian Centre for Rare Cardiac Conditions. Dr. Paterson's research interests include cardiovascular imaging in heart failure, cardiomyopathy, cardio-oncology, and post-COVID syndrome. He has published hundreds of scientific articles, abstracts, and book chapters, and frequently presents his research regionally, nationally, and internationally.
Kai Wu MD	Dr. Kai Yi Wu is a PGY4 Adult Cardiology resident physician at the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute. He completed his MD at the University of Ottawa and Core Internal Medicine at the University of Alberta. He is currently the Co-Chair of the CCS Trainee Program Planning Committee. He is interested in multi-modality cardiac imaging, perioperative medicine, and cardio-oncology.
Nowell Fine MD, SM, FRCPC, FACC, FCCS, FASE, FHFSA	Dr. Fine is a heart failure cardiologist and echocardiologist in Calgary (Alberta Canada). He is an Associate Clinical Professor of Cardiac Sciences, Medicine and Community Health Sciences at the Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. He is the Clinical Director of the Libin Cardiovascular Institute. He is director of Clinical and Research/Core Echocardiography Laboratories, and co-lead of Heart Failure research program. Dr. Fine has a clinical and research interest in heart failure and infiltrative cardiomyopathies, particularly cardiac amyloidosis and Anderson-Fabry disease, and is Co-Director of the Amyloidosis Program of Calgary and Cardiac Amyloidosis Clinic. He is the co-principal investigator for the Canadian Registry for Amyloidosis Research.
Waseem Hijazi MD	Dr. Hijazi is an Adult Cardiology Fellow at the University of Calgary. He obtained his MD from his hometown of McMaster University followed by Internal Medicine training at that institution. His research interests include machine learning in nuclear cardiology and multi-modality cardiovascular imaging. Following Cardiology Fellowship, Dr. Hijazi will be specializing further in cardiovascular imaging with a focus on nuclear imaging and cardiac CT.

Cardiac Sarcoidosis	
Alessandro De Bortoli MD, PhD	Alessandro De Bortoli, MD, PhD, is a consultant cardiologist from Vestfold Hospital Trust, Tønsberg, Norway. He is currently enrolled as a Cardiac Sarcoidosis Fellow at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute.
David Birnie BSc (Hons), MB, ChB, MRCP, MD	David Birnie, MD, is a staff cardiac electrophysiologist, Vered Chair, and the division head of Cardiology at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. He is a full professor in the Division of Cardiology, Department of Medicine, at the University of Ottawa, where he is cross-appointed to the School of Epidemiology and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine. Dr. Birnie co-leads the Ottawa Region strategic research Innovation Cluster on Arrhythmias. Dr. David Birnie received his medical degree (MB ChB) from Glasgow University in 1990. After completion of Internal Medical training at Aberdeen University he gained his MRCP (UK) in 1993. He spent three years as a cardiology research fellow at Glasgow University from 1993 studying the immunology of atherosclerosis and was awarded his PhD equivalent (MD) in 1996. Between 1996 and 2001 he undertook cardiology training at Glasgow University and received his Certificate of Completion of Specialist Cardiology Training in 2001. In addition he spent a year in 1999-2000 as a Cardiac Electrophysiology Fellow at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. Dr. Birnie was recruited to the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 2002 as staff cardiac electrophysiologist and clinician investigator. Dr. Birnie is a founding member and current chair of the Canadian Heart Rhythm Society Research Committee. He is chair of the first international guidelines for the diagnosis and management of cardiac sarcoidosis. He currently sits on both Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and Heart and Stroke Foundation peer review panels. Dr. Birnie, as principal investigator, has been funded by the British Heart Foundation, HSFC, CIHR and the JP Bickell Foundation. Dr. Birnie has current grant funding from HSFC and CIHR. He played a leading role as Co-Principal Investigator on the CIHR Canadian Atrial Fibrillation Stroke Prevention Network (2013-2019). To date, he has been involved in over 500 peer-reviewed presentations, publications, and book chapters. In 2014, Dr. Birnie was awarded the University of Ottawa Heart Institute's Clinical Science Investigator of the Year award and the Global Achievement Award in 2016. In 2018 he was awarded the prestigious University of Ottawa Department of Medicine Mentorship Award. Dr. Birnie has been an invited speaker at major international conferences including the American Heart Association, Heart Rhythm Society and the Canadian Cardiovascular Society meeting. He has managed to combine work with his major hobby, serving as cardiologist for the Medical Advisory Committee of the Canadian Soccer Association. Dr. Birnie heads the Division of Cardiology at the UOHI. His clinical focus is on all aspects of cardiac electrophysiology including arrhythmia pharmacotherapy and radiofrequency ablation of simple and complex arrhythmias including atrial fibrillation. He also co-leads the cardiac sarcoidosis clinic and program. He also has a major clinical interest in all aspects of implantation and follow-up of device therapy for arrhythmias. This includes pacemakers, implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICD) and cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT).

	Dr. Birnie's major ongoing research interests are cardiac sarcoidosis, selection and optimization of CRT for heart failure patients, investigating optimal strategies for stroke reduction after AF ablation.
Genevieve Giraldeau MD	Dr. Genevieve Giraldeau works at Montreal Heart Institute, University of Montreal. She did her cardiology training at University of Montreal, her echocardiography fellowship at Hospital Clinic, Barcelona (2012-2013)and her Advanced Heart Failure and Heart Transplant LVAD fellowship at Stanford University (2014-2015). She now works at Montreal Heart Institute with the advanced heart failure/heart transplant/LVAD team, the cardiovascular genetic clinic and is an echocardiographist. She started and is in charge of the infiltrative and inflammatory cardiomyopathies clinic and focus on amyloidosis and sarcoidosis patients.
Jordana Kron MD	Dr. Kron graduated magna cum laude from Princeton University with a major in Chemistry and went to medical school at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, where she also completed Internal Medicine Residency. She completed fellowships in Cardiology and Cardiac Electrophysiology at the University of Florida. She joined faculty as a clinical cardiac electrophysiologist at Virginia Commonwealth University in 2008, where she was Program Director for the electrophysiology fellowship program from 2013-2017 and an Associate Professor since 2015, and Professor since 2021. Her primary research interest is cardiac sarcoidosis. She served on the writing committee for the HRS Expert Consensus Statement on the Management of Arrhythmias Associated with Cardiac Sarcoidosis and was section leader for Management of Atrial Arrhythmias and Conduction System Disease in Patients with Cardiac Sarcoidosis. She is a founding member of the Cardiac Sarcoidosis Consortium, an international collaborative research group committed to furthering the understanding of cardiac sarcoidosis. In 2018, she was selected as VCU Center for Clinical and Translational Research Translational Scholar to support her research on prevention of arrhythmias and heart failure therapy in cardiac sarcoidosis. She has received funding from the VCU Johnson Center, the VCU CCTR, and the Pauley Heart Center to support her translational research. She received an AHA Collaborative Sciences Award to investigate novel therapy with Interleukin-1 blockade and new imaging techniques for cardiac sarcoidosis and in 2020, an NIH NCATS R21 grant to support a multisite randomized controlled trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of Interleukin-1 to treat cardiac sarcoidosis.
Mario Sénéchal MD, FRCPC	Dr. Mario Sénéchal is a cardiologist at the University Institute of Cardiology and Pulmonology of Quebec. He graduated from the University of Montreal in 1989, completed his residency in internal medicine at Sherbrooke University in 1993 and his residency in cardiology in 1996 at Laval University. He holds an IUD in immunology from the University François Rabelais in Tours, France. He completed his fellowship in transplantation and echocardiography at the University of Paris La Pitié Salpetriere, France and the Sarver Heart Center in Tucson, Arizona in 2003. He is Director of the Heart Failure and Transplantation Program at the University Institute of Cardiology and Respirology of Quebec. He is also responsible for the research internship at IUCPQ. Dr. Sénéchal is Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Quebec Society of Heart Failure since 2012. Dr. Sénéchal has published more than 150 articles and abstracts and is collaborating on the review of articles in several scientific journals. His research interests are mainly in the areas of mitral and aortic valve diseases and cardiac resynchronization.

Mustafa Toma MD, FRCPC	Mustafa Toma is a Clinical Associate Professor at UBC and is a Heart Failure/Heart Transplant cardiologist at St. Paul's Hospital. He completed his Internal Medicine and Cardiology training at the University of Alberta and his Heart Transplant fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic, OH. He subsequently completed a Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health. He is the current Medical Director of the Heart Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support Program as well as the Cardiac Sarcoidosis Clinic at St. Paul's Hospital and the Program Director for the Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation Training Program at the University of British Columbia as the Education Director for the UBC Division of Cardiology.
Rob Beanlands MD, FRCPC	Dr. Beanlands is Deputy Director General at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute; former Vered Chair and Chief of the Division of Cardiology (2012-2022) and founding Director of the National Cardiac PET Centre, (the only PET facility in Canada dedicated to cardiovascular disease); Professor in the Division of Cardiology in the Department of Medicine, Department of Radiology (Cross-Appointment), Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine (Cross-Appointment) in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa. He has been a Career Investigator supported by the Heart and Stroke Foundation (HSF) and is a uOttawa Distinguished Chair in Cardiovascular Imaging. His research on cardiac flow, metabolism, inflammation, and cellular function has led to pioneering translational work that has impacted understanding of disease, application in patient care, health policy and guidelines. He has led or co-led multicentre imaging research initiatives [PARR2, IMAGE-Heart Failure, Canadian Atherosclerotic Imaging Network (CAIN (Co-PI), CADENCE, CHASM, MARINER]. He has >400 peer reviewed publications. He has served on several committees/advisory boards for government, industry and professional organizations impacting healthcare policies and practice guidelines. He is an Associate Editor for the Canadian Journal of Cardiology and has served in this capacity for the Journal of Nuclear Cardiology. Dr. Beanlands is a previous President of the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC) and of the Canadian Nuclear Cardiology Society. His recent awards include the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for contributions to Canada (2012), Blumgart Research Achievement Award from the Society of Nuclear Medicine (2013), the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Research Achievement Award (2015), CCS/CIHR Distinguished Lecturer Award (2019), uOttawa Alumnus of year (2020), CNCCT Michael Freeman Achievement Award (2021), TOH Medical Staff Association Physician Leadership Award (2022), and CCS Career Lifetime Achievement Award (2022) and the Mario Verani Lectureship for ASNC (2023).
Vasilis Kouranos MD	Consultant respiratory physician and honorary senior lecturer at Imperial College London.

Genetic Aortopathy	
Julie Richer MD, FRCPC, FCCMG	Dr. Richer is a medical geneticist at CHEO and an associate professor at the University of Ottawa. Her clinical practice primarily consists of the care of patients with underlying connective tissue disorders such as familial thoracic aneurysms, and cardiogenetic disorders. In 2012, she founded a heritable connective tissue/arteriopathy clinic. Since then, the clinic has grown tremendously and bridges the adult and pediatric worlds. Dr. Richer's recent projects include spearheading the establishment of a monthly Virtual Trans-Canada Aortopathy Rounds – a virtual educational session for geneticists, genetic counsellors, cardiologists, vascular surgeons, with participants from coast to coast, and chaired a cardiac genetic testing improvement project to update the genetic tests for cardiomyopathies and for heritable aneurysms available to Ontario patients. In May 2023, Dr. Richer became the lead for the Cardiogenetics Expert Group for Ontario Health. She is a member of the international ClinGen FBN1 variant curation expert panel, and has previously served on a number of committees, including on the CMA Ethics Committee, as the vice-chair of the specialty committee for Medical Genetics for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and as chair for the Ethics, Education and Public Policy committee of the CCMG. Dr. Richer completed medical school at L'Université de Montreal, FRCPC in medical genetics at the University of Manitoba and a fellowship in medical ethics at Harvard University.
Kenza Rahmouni MD	Kenza Rahmouni completed her undergraduate medical training at McGill University, and is now a third-year cardiac surgery resident at the University of Ottawa.
Munir Boodhwani BSc, MD	Dr. Munir Boodhwani is an Associate Professor in the Division of Cardiac Surgery at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. He previously served as the Program Director of the Residency Training Program. Dr. Boodhwani's clinical interests include Aortic Valve Repair, Open and Endovascular repair of complex thoracic aorta pathology, Transcatheter Valve Therapies, Mechanical Circulatory support and Heart Transplantation. Dr. Boodhwani is the founder and Co-director of the Ottawa Heart Institute Thoracic Aortic Program. Dr. Boodhwani earned a BSc with High Distinction from the University of Toronto in 1997 and a medical degree from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, in 2001. These were followed by a residency in cardiac surgery at the Ottawa Heart Institute in 2004. In 2006, he served as a research fellow in cardiothoracic surgery at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston and earned a Masters in Medical Sciences from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Boodhwani has won numerous distinctions and awards. He has served his profession in Trinidad and Pakistan and has been extensively involved with Aga Khan Council for Canada in a number of capacities. Dr. Boodhwani's research interests include mechanisms of thoracic aortic disease, pre-clinical models of aortic valve insufficiency and repair, and clinical trials in aortic surgery. He has also previously published extensively in the areas of aortic valve repair, angiogenesis and myocardial regenerative therapy, neurocognitive outcomes following cardiac surgery, and complex coronary revascularization, among others. He has co-authored the two recent Canadian Guidelines statements on medical and surgical management of Thoracic Aortic Disease. He also serves as the co-Director of the Aortic Valve Repair Summit, the largest international conference on Aortic Valve Repair.

Inherited Arrhythmia	
Habib Khan MBBS, MRCPI, MRCPUK, PhD	Dr. Habib Khan is an Assistant Professor and member of the Arrhythmia Service at the London Health Sciences Centre in London, Ontario. He completed his postgraduate internal medicine in Ireland and UK and subspecialized in adult cardiac electrophysiology with a 4-year fellowship in UK and Canada. In addition, he obtained a PhD from Imperial College London investigating multimodality imaging in patients with atrial fibrillation and the role of autonomic dysfunction in AF. His current research interests include the effects of His Bundle pacing and left bundle branch area pacing on the left ventricle in patients with heart failure or risk of heart failure. He is the lead of the Inherited Arrhythmia / Cardiac Conditions service in London and takes part in extensive research collaboration with the Hearts in Rhythm Organization (HIRO) network across Canada. Over his career, he has published over 100 abstracts and manuscripts; and presented at international conferences, including ESC, AHA, BCS, HRS, and CHRS.
Julie Rutberg	Julie Rutberg is a Certified Genetic Counsellor at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) with over 20 years of clinical experience in cardiac genetics. Julie has a Masters degree in Genetic Counselling at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver. She is a certified by the American Board of Genetic Counselors and has extensive experience in the field of Cardiac Genetics, particularly inherited arrhythmias and cardiomyopathies. She is a past president of the Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors. Julie first worked in the Pediatric and Adult Genetics Clinics at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore and then became, in 2000, the first Genetic Counsellor and Coordinator for the Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Dysplasia Project also at Johns Hopkins. Julie joined the Ottawa Heart Institute in 2005, and helped set up an Inherited Arrhythmia Clinic with genetic counselling services embedded in clinic with Cardiologists. In 2008, Julie was integral in developing a collaboration between cardiologists in Ontario with the Ontario Coroner's office, which led to a standardized provincial-wide guideline for the investigation of sudden cardiac death. Importantly, this guideline included retaining DNA to allow for molecular testing as part of autopsies. In 2015, she joined CHEO in a re-structuring of the cardiac genetics program in Ottawa. Julie's current role also includes participating in a wide range of clinical activities in Cardiac genetics and more recently also in Cancer genetics. She is a member of the Ontario Provincial Health Cardiogenetics Expert group. Julie was honoured to receive the 2022 Allied Health Professional Achievement Award from the Canadian Heart Rhythm Society.
Martin Green MD, FRCPC	Dr. Martin Green is a Cardiologist at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Ottawa. His main interest is heart rhythm.

	Dr. Green graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto in 1975, at which time he was awarded the KJR Wightman Award in Internal Medicine and the Cody Silver Medal. He trained in Internal Medicine at the University of Ottawa, receiving his Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (FRCPC) in Medicine and in Cardiology in 1981. He then travelled to Maastricht, the Netherlands, to further his training in Cardiac Electrophysiology under the direction of Professor Hein J. J. Wellens as a Fellow of the Medical Research Council of Canada. There, he obtained a Fellowship in Electrophysiology from the University of Limburg in Maastricht. Dr. Green returned to Ottawa to start the Arrhythmia Service in 1983. Since that time, the Arrhythmia Service has grown substantially and produced world class clinical arrhythmia care and research. Dr. Green's clinical interests include cardiac arrhythmias, cardiac ablation and mapping, implantable devices and electrocardiography. His research interests focus on mechanisms and therapies for cardiac arrhythmias, in particular, anti-arrhythmic drugs and catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation.
Simon Hansom B.Sc (hons), MBBS, MRCP (UK)	Simon Hansom, MD, is a cardiologist at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and an assistant professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa. Following a Bachelor of Sciences degree in physiology in 2001, Dr. Hansom entered medical undergraduate training in the United Kingdom. He completed his postgraduate internal medicine training in the Cambridge University teaching hospitals where he obtained membership to the Royal College of Physicians (UK). He subsequently entered the Cambridge-based cardiology specialty program in cardiology in 2011, and successfully completed his sub-specialty training in cardiac electrophysiology and devices in 2018. Dr. Hansom moved to Canada in 2018 to commence a fellowship in adult cardiac electrophysiology and devices at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. He completed the two-year fellowship in September of 2020. During this time, he developed a passion for inherited arrhythmia and acquired additional advanced skills in the complex ablation of both atrial and ventricular arrhythmias, including fluoroscopy-free procedures and the use of intracardiac ultrasound. In addition, he has extensive experience in the implantation, interrogation, and programming of all implantable electronic devices. Dr. Hansom was appointed as an assistant professor at Queen's University in 2020 before ultimately returning to the Heart Institute in 2021 to further pursue his interest in inherited arrhythmia and complex ablation. Dr. Hansom's research interests span both inherited arrhythmia and complex ablation. He has written and contributed to several book chapters in addition to his published research.
Wael Alqarawi MD	Electrophysiologist and Assistant Professor, King Saud University Director, The National Center for Sudden Death, Saudi Arabia

Neuromuscular Disease	
Andres Klein MD	Dr. Andres Klein is a Cardiologist and a Cardiac Electrophysiologist in the Division of Cardiology (Arrhythmia Service) at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. He also is as an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Klein completed his studies in undergraduate medical education (Hons) at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. He began his internal medicine and cardiology training in 2008 at Buenos Aires Cardiovascular Institute (ICBA), Argentina, completing a six-year training, including a two-year program in arrhythmias and electrophysiology. In 2014, he moved to Canada to complete a 2.5-year training as electrophysiology fellow at Sherbrooke University, Quebec. Before he joined the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in July 2018, he worked as an electrophysiology staff at Buenos Aires British Hospital in Argentina. He is experienced in diagnosis and treatment of patient with a wide spectrum of rhythm disorders including advanced catheter ablation and cardiovascular electronic devices implantation. Dr. Klein is interested in medical education and enjoys teaching electrophysiology concepts to medical students, residents and fellows. His research interests lie in complex arrhythmia ablation and cardiovascular electronic devices.
Gavin Oudit MD PhD FRCPC	Dr. Gavin Oudit is a Professor, Staff Cardiologist and Clinician-Scientist at the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute, University of Alberta. His clinical activity places a primary emphasis on heart failure and cardiomyopathies. He currently holds a Canada Research Chair in Heart Failure, Director of the Heart Function Clinic and a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.
Jane Lougheed BA, MD, FRCPC	Dr. Lougheed is the Chief of Pediatric Cardiology and Fetal Cardiology at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, in Ottawa, Canada. She is an associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Ottawa. She has a large clinical practice including general pediatric cardiology, with specialty clinics in Fetal cardiology, neuromuscular disorders and heart failure. Research interests include fetal cardiac outcomes, physical activity in congenital heart disease and the genetic basis of congenital heart disease.

Mariana Lamacie MD, MSc, FRCPC	Mariana Lamacié obtained her medical degree (2006) and completed Internal Medicine and Cardiology residency in Brazil (2013). After a cardiac imaging fellowship focused on CT and MRI in São Paulo she went to Toronto in 2015 for further cardiac MRI research fellowship. Following that she completed an Advanced Heart Failure fellowship at the Toronto General Hospital and in June 2018 she moved to Ottawa to work at the University of Heart Institute as an Assistant Professor of Cardiology, Advanced HF cardiologist and MRI cardiologist. She developed and co-directed the Cardiac Neuromuscular Program in collaboration with the Neuromuscular Center at the Ottawa Hospital. At the end of 2022 she moved to Auckland, New Zealand to work as an Imaging cardiologist and co-lead the cardiac MRI service at the Middlemore Hospital.
Mouhannad Sadek MD, FRCPC	Dr. Mouhannad Sadek is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Southlake Regional Health Centre. He completed his Cardiology and Electrophysiology training at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, with additional training at the University of Pennsylvania. His major interests include device management and treatment complex arrhythmias.
Nina Ghosh MD, FRCPC	Dr. Nina Ghosh obtained her medical degree from the University of Western Ontario and completed Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Toronto and Cardiology Residency at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. She subsequently completed a 3 year combined fellowship in Heart Failure / Cardiac Transplantation and Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging at Harvard Medical School in 2014. She is Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons certified in Internal Medicine and Cardiology. She is also American Board certified in Internal Medicine, American Board certified in Cardiology, certified in Cardiovascular Computed Tomography and Nuclear Cardiology from the Certifying Board of Nuclear Cardiology, certified in Adult Echocardiography by the National Board of Echocardiography and has obtained Level II training in Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Dr. Ghosh currently provides community based cardiovascular care at the Queensway Carleton Hospital and Merivale Cardiovascular Consultants. She also interprets cardiac mri at the University of Ottawa heart institute where she also provides care to patients living with heart failure, and specialized care to patients with neuromuscular disease and associated cardiac complications.

Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection	
Amélie Paquin MD, MSc	Fellow, University of Ottawa Heart Institute. She completed her cardiology training at Laval University. She is now a fellow in Women's Cardiovascular Health and Echocardiography at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. She is also a PhD candidate in Clinical Sciences with a focus on sex differences in cardiometabolic disorders.
Dawn Bailey	Mother, small business owner, high tech employee. SCAD five years ago in March and recovering well. Heart rehab 'graduate' and grateful patient of Dr Countinho and her staff.

Derek So MD, FRCPC, FACC, MSc	Derek So, MD, is a Staff Cardiologist and Clinician Investigator at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Ottawa. He is the Program Director for the Adult Interventional Cardiology Program at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. Dr. So leads the Ottawa region strategic research Innovation Cluster[v1] on Percutaneous Intervention (CAPITAL). Dr. Derek So earned his medical degree, cum laude, at the University of Toronto in 1997. He completed residencies in Internal Medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, and Cardiology at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. He then went on to Fellowship training in Interventional Cardiology at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. He furthered his training with a Master's in Clinical Epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dr. So received his certification as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (FRCPC) in Internal Medicine (2001) and in Cardiology (2003). He is also certified with the American Boards of Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Diseases. Dr. So is actively involved in teaching at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Dr. So has previously been on grant review panels for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFC) (Committee 1a, 1b) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) (Committee CID). In 2012, Dr. So was awarded the University of Ottawa Heart Institute Clinical Science Investigator of the Year. Dr. So's research program has been funded by HSFC and CIHR.
Helena Van Ryn	Helena has 32 years of experience working as a physiotherapist at the Heart Institute, mainly in cardiovascular rehabilitation. She is a Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist through the American College of Sports Medicine. She is a part-time professor at Algonquin College in their cardiovascular technology program. Leny volunteers in the training and education working group of the Canadian Women's Heart Health Alliance and is a proud advocate for women's health.

Heather Tulloch PhD	Heather Tulloch is a Clinical, Health, and Rehabilitation Psychologist, Scientist, and Director of the Cardiovascular Health Psychology and Behavioural Medicine Laboratory at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. She is an Associate Professor with the Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Cross-appointed to the School of Psychology at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Tulloch received her bachelor's degree in Psychology in 1995 from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, which she followed with an MSc in Clinical Psychology from North Dakota State University in Fargo in 2000. Dr. Tulloch joined the Heart Institute as a Research Fellow in 2006. In 2007, she received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Ottawa and was awarded the Doctoral Research Award from the Canadian Association of Cardiac Rehabilitation. In 2008, she was a finalist for the Young Investigator's Award from the European Association of Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation and became a member of the College of Psychologists of Ontario. Dr. Tulloch is a member of the UOHI Heart Transplant Team, the Women's Heart Team, and an advisor to the Canadian Women's Heart Health Centre. She is also a member of the Cardiac Arrhythmia Network of Canada, Canadian Assocation of Preventive Medicine, and the Canadian Psychological Association. She has served as a Scientific Peer-reviewer for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. In her current role as psychologist, Dr. Tulloch provides psychological assessment and intervention services to patients with cardiovascular diseases. She conducts research on the role of behavioural, cognitive, psychological and social mechanisms and interventions for patients with cardiovascular disease and their partners, with the goal of improving cardiovascular, mental health, and quality of life outcomes.
Helen Robert	
Marysia Tweet MD, MS	Dr. Marysia Tweet is cardiologist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. She completed her Bachelors of Biomedical Engineering, graduating summa cum laude, from the University of Minnesota and her Doctorate of Medicine from University of Minnesota Medical School. She then completed her residency in internal medicine, fellowship in cardiology and two year advanced fellowship in cardiovascular imaging at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. The clinical and research interests of Dr. Tweet include the study of cardiovascular disease in women; pregnancy and heart disease; and early-onset acute coronary syndromes, particularly those caused by spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD). Dr. Tweet helped to develop and is currently active in the multidisciplinary Mayo Clinic SCAD Clinic and Research program. She completed her Master's in Clinical and Translational Science during the NIH-funded BIRCWH Scholar Award, and she is currently conducting research as part of her NHLBI K23 Award entitled, 'The Vascular, Autonomic, and Myocardial Phenotypes in Women with Myocardial Infarction due to Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection.' Professional highlights include the receipt of several awards including the Mayo Brothers Distinguished Fellowship Award and Women in Cardiology Trainee Award for Excellence from the American Heart Association.

Thais Coutinho MD	Cardiologist Thais Coutinho, MD, is Division Head of Prevention and Rehabilitation at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Ottawa. In addition, she is Chair of the Heart Institute's Canadian Women's Heart Health Centre. Dr. Thais Coutinho received her medical degree from the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, in Brazil, in 2004, and completed residency and fellowship training in Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Vascular Medicine, advanced Echocardiography and Research at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, in 2013. Upon graduating, Dr. Coutinho joined the University of Ottawa Heart Institute as a Clinician-Scientist. In 2017, she was appointed Chief of the Division of Prevention and Rehabilitation and Chair of the Canadian Women's Heart Health Centre. She is also an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Coutinho has addressed audiences at many national and international meetings, and has published several high impact manuscripts in the field of Cardiovascular Diseases. She served as Co-Chair of the first (2016) and second (2018) Canadian Women's Heart Health Summit, the largest conference in the world dedicated exclusively to the cardiovascular health of women. Dr. Coutinho has received numerous awards, including the American Heart Association's Women in Cardiology Trainee (2010) and Young Investigator (2011) Awards, the American College of Cardiology's Young Investigator Award (2nd place, 2012), the Mayo Clinic's Summerskill Research Award and Cardiovascular Division Outstanding Achievement Award (2013), and the Canadian Cardiovascular Society's Young Investigator Award (2015). Dr. Coutinho's research program focuses on arterial health, with a special emphasis on arterial stiffness and its role on the pathogenesis of cardiovascular diseases. She focuses on sex differences in arterial aging, and how it may help explain sex differences in cardiovascular diseases. To pursue these investigations, she holds several research grants, including an Early Research Leaders Grant and a Grant-in-Aid from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, as well as a Clinician Scientist Award from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario.