



# Canadian Scleroderma Research Group

JULY 2004

A NEWSLETTER

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The **2004** Annual Meeting of the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) was held at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, Lake Louise, Alberta Canada, from February 25 to 28.



The **2005** Annual Meeting of the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) will take place in Mont Tremblant, Quebec, Canada, from March 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>

## CONGRATULATIONS!



## LAKE LOUISE MEETING

February 2004

A meeting of the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group was held in Lake Louise on February 26, 2004.

The attendees included Murray Baron, Janet Pope, Marvin Fritzler, Evelyn Sutton, Maysan Abu-Hakima, Jane Cottrell [Mary Bell's research nurse], Janet Markland, Elzbieta Kaminska, Sharon Le Clercq, and Mr. Grant Dustin, representing the Canadian Scleroderma Society.

The discussions focused mainly on funding, ethics review process, the possibility of having yearly scleroderma clinics, the procedure that will allow the sites to send blood samples to Dr Fritzler and his team in Calgary, the need to standardize results of different tests required by the study and the importance of a newsletter like this one.

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## ETHICS APPROVAL

The following sites have received official ethics approval:

- Dr Khraishi and his team in St-John's, NL
- Dr Docherty and his team in Moncton, NB
- Dr Markland and her team in Saskatoon, SK

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Let us know when **you** receive news from your Ethics committee!



GEREQ is the data management company responsible for organizing and overlooking all of our remote data entry.

1-800-GOFEDEX or 1-800-463-3339



We will use FedEx Priority Overnight service to ship the blood samples to Dr Fritzler and his team in Calgary.

**MARK IT IN YOUR  
CALENDAR**



The 2004 Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACR/ARHP will be held in San Antonio, TX, from October 16<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center.

## LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- ✦ We have been working very hard on finalizing the different questionnaires (patient's and physician's) and setting-up the website for data entry.
- ✦ As soon as the questionnaires are final, we will be e-mailing you a PDF version of it for final input.
- ✦ After the final modifications and verifications are done on the questionnaires, the sites with ethics approval will then be free to start piloting them and will get access to their own test website to see how data entry will be done.
- ✦ We are writing the first draft of the procedure manual, a document aiming at describing in detail all the different steps of the study.
- ✦ One of the procedures in our manual describes how to get the serum samples to Calgary... Even though you will be using our master account to send the blood samples to Calgary, each site will need their own account with FedEx. If you do not have an account with FedEx, phone 1-800-GOFEDEX to open one.

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## ACR

San Antonio, TX, October 2004

- ✓ The next meeting of the **Canadian Scleroderma Research Group** will be held in San Antonio, Tx, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 17H45-19H45 (to be confirmed).
- ✓ The Scleroderma Clinical Trials Consortium (SCTC) Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 18H30-20H30 (room to be confirmed).
- ✓ An abstract entitled *Reliability and Validity of Ophthalmoscopic Capillaroscopy* has been submitted by members of the team.

## OUR TEAM

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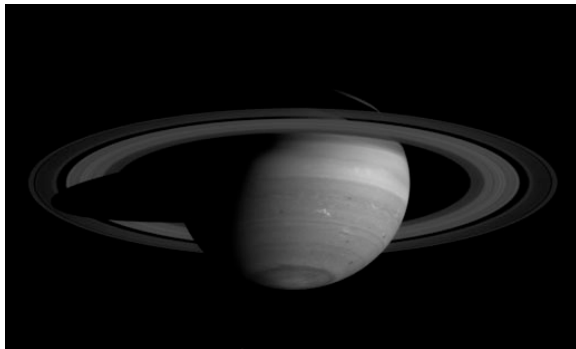
### RHEUMATOLOGISTS:

Dr. Maysan Abu-Hakima, Calgary  
Dr. James Angle, Montreal  
Dr. Murray Baron, Montreal  
Dr. Mary Bell, Toronto  
Dr. Arthur Bookman, Toronto  
Dr. Peter Docherty, Moncton  
Dr. James Dunne, Vancouver  
Dr. Marvin J Fritzler, Calgary  
Dr. Marie Hudson, Montreal  
Dr. Sindhu Johnson, Toronto  
Dr. Elzbieta Kaminska, Hamilton  
Dr. Majed Khraishi, St-John's  
Dr. Sharon Le Clercq, Edmonton  
Dr Janet Markland, Saskatoon  
Dr Jean-Pierre Mathieu, Montreal  
Dr Janet Pope, Toronto  
Dr. David Robinson, Winnipeg  
Dr. Jean-Luc Senécal, Montreal  
Dr. Douglas Smith, Ottawa  
Dr. Evelyn Sutton, Halifax

### COLLABORATORS:

Mr. Robert Buzza, President,  
Scleroderma Society of Canada  
Dr. Gad Friedman,  
Gastroenterologist  
Dr. Andrew Hirsch, Respiriologist  
Dr. Caroline Pukall, Psychologist  
Dr. Lawrence Rudski, Cardiologist  
Dr. Ian Shrier, Epidemiologist  
Dr. Russell Steele, Statistician

*If we can take photos of Saturn,  
surely we can do something for patients with scleroderma!!!*



## Cassini-Huygens Mission to Saturn

**Primary Mission:** Four-year tour to study Saturn, its rings, moons and magnetosphere

**Launch:** Oct. 15, 1997 from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida

**Arrival at Saturn:** July 1, 2004 (Eastern time)

**Distance Traveled:** 2.2 billion miles (3.5 billion km)

**Huygens probe Titan descent:** January 14, 2005



Feel free to let us know about any events or information that could be of interest for other members of our team.

Thank you!



**HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!!!**