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# INMD Update

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From left: **Murray Huff, Naana Jumah, Eve Roberts**, IAB chair, **Phil Sherman**, Scientific Director of INMD, Iqaluit, Nunavut, May 2010

meeting held in May in Iqaluit, Nunavut, the INMD staff and board members bid a fond farewell to four departing colleagues, who have now completed their terms: Murray Huff, Director, Vascular Biology Research Group, Robarts Research Institute, University of Western Ontario; Naana Afua Jumah, Obstetrics & Gynaecology Resident at the University of Toronto; Eve Roberts, Professor of Paediatrics, Medicine, and Pharmacology, Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto; and Greg Taylor, Director General, Public Health Agency of Canada.

I wish to provide a special thanks to Eve for her extended role as Chair of the INMD advisory board. Eve kindly volunteered to prolong her term as the IAB chairperson to be able to oversee the smooth transition of the Institute in 2009. Her leadership and dedication were instrumental during this critical period. We wish Eve all the best in her current graduate studies in pursuit of a Doctorate in Philosophy at Dalhousie University.

On behalf of the INMD team, I would also like to take this opportunity to publically thank each of these individuals once again for their dedication and commitment, and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Sincerely,

Philip M. Sherman, MD, FRCPC

## Message from INMD Scientific Director

Many of you may be interested in two upcoming Requests for Applications (RFA) related to “Medical Imaging” and “Rare Diseases”. INMD is proud to be co-leading the Rare Diseases initiative with the Institute of Genetics, because research related to rare diseases is one of the four strategic priorities outlined in the INMD 2010-2014 Strategic Plan. For more information about how rare diseases link to the INMD strategic plan, please visit [our website](#).

More details about these RFAs are provided in this newsletter.

At our last Institute Advisory Board (IAB) meeting held in May in Iqaluit, Nunavut, the INMD staff and board members bid a fond farewell to four departing colleagues, who have now completed their terms: Murray Huff, Director, Vascular Biology Research Group, Robarts Research Institute, University of Western Ontario; Naana Afua Jumah, Obstetrics & Gynaecology Resident at the University of Toronto; Eve Roberts, Professor of Paediatrics, Medicine, and Pharmacology, Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto; and Greg Taylor, Director General, Public Health Agency of Canada.

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Sincerely,

Philip M. Sherman, MD, FRCPC



**Gregory Taylor**  
Director General  
Public Health Agency of  
Canada

## CIHR News

### [Researcher News](#)

### [Banting Post-Doctoral Fellowships](#)



## Important Reminder

### Spring 2010 Priority Announcements

\*Deadline for application is  
Sept 15<sup>th</sup> for:

1. [Mandate Bridge Funding](#)
2. [Obesity](#)
3. [Start up Funds](#)
4. [Fellowship in Gastroenterology](#)
5. [New Investigator in Gastroenterology](#)
6. [Sodium & Health](#)

### Institute Community Support Program(ICS)

[click here to apply](#)

### INMD Mandate

The Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes supports research to enhance health in relation to diet, digestion, excretion, and metabolism; and to address causes, prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, support systems, and palliation for a wide range of conditions and problems associated with hormone, digestive system, kidney, and liver function.



**Morag Park,**  
Scientific Director,  
CIHR Institute of  
Cancer Research

## Medical Imaging Clinical Trials Network RFA

The CIHR Strategy on Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) and the CIHR Institute of Cancer Research are announcing the launch of the Medical Imaging Clinical Trials Network RFA. The goal of the RFA is to support the creation of a national clinical trials network that will coordinate and support imaging trials and will facilitate the uptake of research outcomes - whether based on devices, new radiotracers, drugs or software developments - into clinical practice and improved patient care.

It is expected that the successful network will encompass several medical disciplines e.g. oncology, cardiology, neurology, immunology, nephrology and will be national in scope with participation from a minimum of 10 centres across Canada, spanning a minimum of four provinces. This funding opportunity will help researchers create a critical mass of scientific expertise; link relevant support and other centres of research; develop standardized protocols; coordinate overall research activities of the network; facilitate continuity in research; begin clinical trials and disseminate findings. The network will provide a clinical platform for imaging research in Canada and facilitate the evaluation of existing and new biomarkers that demonstrate clinical relevance in disease diagnosis, monitoring therapeutic response, or patient stratification leading to customized care. The network would also establish standard operating procedures and protocols based on current regulations; and professional guidelines that are applicable for all Canadian research networks and that meet all industry standards in requirements and regulations. For more information about the RFA, please [click here](#).

### Funding Pre Announcement - Rare Diseases Emerging Teams: Translating Basic Biology to Enhanced Patient Care

The CIHR Institute of Genetics (IG) and the CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD), in partnership with the CIHR Institute of Cancer Research (ICR), CIHR Institute of Gender and Health (IGH), CIHR Institute of Health Services and Policy Research (IHSPR) and the CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis (IMHA), are pleased to pre announce this joint funding opportunity in support of the creation of collaborative, novel, interdisciplinary research teams addressing important research questions focused on rare diseases.



**Paul Lasko,** Scientific  
Director, CIHR  
Institute of Genetics

For the purposes of this competition, rare diseases include the following three groups:

- Single gene or monogenic disorders that comprise the majority of rare diseases;
- Diseases that are not monogenic, but in which the genetic contribution is complex: Genetically complex diseases result from the interaction of genetic variants that predispose or reduce susceptibility to the disease, and in concert with environmental factors, cause the disease;
- Uncommon familial forms of genetically complex disorders (including rare sub-types), such as Alzheimer's disease, hypertension, diabetes, coronary artery disease, and rare cancers, to cite a few of many examples.

The Rare Disease Emerging team Grant competition will be posted on the CIHR website in October, 2010. The total amount of funding available is \$13M over 5 years; this amount may increase if other partners join the RFA. We encourage the INMD research community interested in rare diseases to consider applying to this funding opportunity. For more information on this RFA, please contact [paul.belanger@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:paul.belanger@cihr-irsc.gc.ca) or [stephanie.roberston@cihr.gc.ca](mailto:stephanie.roberston@cihr.gc.ca) at the Institute of Genetics

### Advancing Technology Innovation through Discovery

Genome Canada, the CIHR Institute of Cancer Research, and the CIHR Institute of Genetics have developed a collaborative joint program to bring together Genome Canada-funded Science and Technology Innovation Centres (S&T ICs) with Canadian researchers to focus on applying the latest genomics technologies to identify the genetic causes of childhood diseases. This funding opportunity will specifically focus on diseases where such identification can be achieved rapidly with the potential for important novel biological, clinical and commercial discoveries.

The focus of the collaborative program is childhood diseases **for which genes can be identified in a short time frame and with a small number of subjects** to ensure the greatest impact with the limited funds available; these may include both (i) rare Mendelian diseases and (ii) some rare pediatric and adolescent cancers. This collaborative program is not intended to study gene variants in complex diseases. However, should a longer term program be developed, more complex diseases may be considered for study in an expanded program. Applications are expected to be pan-Canadian and must include multiple research centres. For full details on the funding opportunity please visit the [Genome Canada](#) website.