

# **CANADIAN CLINICAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE**

## **PARTICIPANTS REQUIRED FOR CLUSTERED RANDOMIZED TRIAL PARTICIPATION**

Dr. Paul Moayyedi, a world renowned clinical epidemiologist and health economics expert, has recently taken up a Professorship at McMaster University. As Dr. Moayyedi launches his Canadian research programme, one of his primary goals is to “link” Canadian gastroenterologists by soliciting their participation in Cluster Randomized Trials. This is new and powerful approach to obtaining and analyzing clinical data. The establishment of such a mechanism to address pertinent clinical questions would, again, place Canada at the forefront of Gastroenterological research. Currently, very few investigators have the ability to conduct clinical research of this nature.

On behalf of the CAG Research Committee, I would like to congratulate Dr. Moayyedi for spear-heading this initiative (see below) and would encourage those interesting in receiving more details about the process, the initial studies and participation in these studies, to contact Dr. Moayyedi directly. This is not a CAG programme, but it is exciting venture, worthy of your consideration and support and we wish Dr. Moayyedi every success in establishing a Cluster Randomized Trial programme.

### **Establishing a GI research network to participate in cluster randomized trials**

We are setting up a network of GI clinicians who are interested in participating in cluster randomized trials. The rationale behind this is that many research questions that assess the management of complex problems are not adequately assessed by an individual patient randomized trial. Instead, randomization at the level of the clinician or hospital may be more appropriate (cluster randomization) especially when assessing management strategies as opposed to the impact of drug therapy in a particular disease.

This is a pan-Canadian venture with each research question led by a different clinician. The work required would be minimal beyond identifying patients to participate and agreeing to manage a given GI disease in a particular way. A modest amount of funding may be available for those willing to participate. We would be interested in clinicians who would like to lead research questions but also those who would be willing to recruit patients to improve our understanding of how to manage common GI diseases.

**Those interested in participating or desiring more information please contact Dr. Paul Moayyedi (e-mail: [moayyep@mcmaster.ca](mailto:moayyep@mcmaster.ca), fax 1-905-522-3454, telephone 1-905-525-9140 ext. 26688).**