OVERVIEW:

Patients with hereditary aneurysm syndromes and connective tissue disorders have been ‘hiding in plain sight’ for many years. Only recently has this group of genetic disorders begun receiving the attention that it deserves. This CME event will bring you up to speed in an area that is rapidly becoming important for clinicians across many disciplines. Our program will introduce you to the key clinical issues you are likely to come across in the care of these patients. It promises to be an exciting and dynamic learning opportunity. The setting will be the iconic Pier 21 Canadian Museum of Immigration, with its magical history and beautiful views over the water. There will be a reception at the end of the day highlighting Nova Scotia wines and beers. Please join us for this unique event.

STUDY CREDITS:

As an accredited provider, Dalhousie University, CME designates this continuing medical education activity for up to 7.25 credit hours for MAINPRO M-1 of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and as an accredited group learning Section 1 activity as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

PROGRAM:

8:00 am Opening remarks and welcome
8:05 – 9:00 Keynote speaker: The genetic architecture of thoracic aortic disease
Dr Dianna Milewicz. Medical Genetics, University of Texas
Objectives: To understand the genetic basis of thoracic aortic aneurysms and dissections, both inherited and sporadic forms, and the role of genetic testing in clinical care of these patients
9:00 – 9:30 The Maritime CTC: A snapshot of the patients seen in a multidisciplinary clinic.
Dr Gabrielle Horne, Cardiology, Dalhousie University
Objectives: To appreciate the spectrum of clinical presentations of hereditary aneurysm syndromes and connective tissue disorders
9:30 – 10:00 Imaging of the aorta and skeleton in HAS/CTDs: the spectrum of abnormalities we see
Dr Robert Miller, Cardiovascular Radiology, Dalhousie University
Objectives: To understand the role of diagnostic imaging in the diagnosis and management of hereditary aneurysm syndromes and connective tissue disorders.

10:00 – 10:30 The timing of aortic surgery: how much does size matter?
Dr Jeremy Wood, Cardiac and Vascular surgery, Dalhousie University
Objectives: To appreciate the role of aortic size in determining timing of surgical repair in aortic aneurysms, and to understand the other factors that should also be taken into account.

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 11:30 Sorting out a family history of sudden death: differential diagnosis and practical tips
Dr Tim Bradley, Paediatric Cardiology, SickKids Hospital, Toronto
Objectives: How to take a detailed family history of sudden death and obtain relevant documentation. The differential diagnosis of sudden death at different ages. How to determine whether a family history of sudden death is worrisome.

11:30 – 12:00 Screening for cerebral aneurysms – the concept of poly site aneurysm syndromes and when to screen the brain
Dr Stephen Phillips, Neurology, Dalhousie University
Objectives: Understand the epidemiology and pathogenesis of cerebral aneurysms. Develop a clinical approach to risk assessment for cerebral aneurysms in hereditary aneurysm syndromes. Understand the pros and cons of screening.

12:00 – 12:30 Pregnancy and high risk connective tissue disorders – the Halifax protocol for risk assessment and multidisciplinary care
Dr Jo-Ann Brock, Maternal Fetal Medicine, Dalhousie University
Objectives: Understand the role of a multidisciplinary team in risk assessment and management of pregnancy in hereditary aneurysm syndromes and connective tissue disorders.

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch (recommend visiting the Seaport Farmer's Market next door)
1:30 – 2:00  **Examining a patient for connective tissue disorders – what to look for.**
Dr Sarah Dyack, Medical Genetics, Dalhousie University.
**Objectives:** Develop an approach to the clinical examination of patients with possible hereditary aneurysm syndromes and connective tissue disorders. Understand the sensitivity and specificity of various physical findings in the diagnosis of these hereditary conditions.

2:00 – 2:30  **New imaging technology: 3D volume imaging and minimizing radiation exposure for patients with hereditary aneurysm syndromes.**
Dr Alan Brydie, Cardiovascular Radiology, Dalhousie University.
**Objectives:** Understand the long term risks of radiation exposure as a function of age and radiation dose. Know the radiation doses associated with commonly ordered imaging studies. Appreciate the potential of new CT technology in minimising radiation exposure while acquiring outstanding images. Learn the pros and cons of other imaging strategies to minimize cumulative radiation exposure in hereditary aneurysm syndromes.

2:30 – 3:30  **Concurrent small group sessions (see below)**

3:30 – 4:00  **Break**

4:00 – 4:15  **What next? Panel and audience discussion – what can the Maritime CTC do better?**

4:15 – 5:15  **Panel debate: difficult ethical issues in genetic testing**
Hosted by Dr John Sullivan, Cardiac Surgery, Dalhousie University. Panel will include a range of interested parties
**Objectives:** To understand the ethical, technical and clinical complexities of genetic testing. Appreciate the importance of patient perspectives and autonomy in making decisions about genetic testing.

5:15  **Reception: wines and beers of Nova Scotia**
CONCURRENT SMALL GROUP SESSIONS
(2:30 – 3:30pm)

Stream 1

Chest pain – when to worry about aortic dissection. Dr Christine Herman, Cardiac Surgery, Dalhousie University. **Objectives:** How to incorporate risk assessment for aortic dissection into the routine assessment of acute chest pain. Understand the factors that contribute to this diagnosis being delayed or missed.

Coronary aneurysms and spontaneous dissections. Dr Osama El-Khateeb, Cardiology, Dalhousie University. **Objectives:** Appreciate the clinical presentation and angiographic appearance of coronary aneurysms and spontaneous dissections. Understand the treatment options for these patients, and the importance of evaluation for predisposing causes.

Stream 2

Psychological stressors in hereditary aneurysm syndromes and connective tissue disorders. Dr Gordon Butler, Psychology, Dalhousie University. **Objectives:** Appreciate the common sources of stress and distress in patients with these disorders. Understand how the clinician can help to identify patients in need of assistance. Learn what therapies and other supports have been shown to be of benefit.

Bones, joints and pain in connective tissue disorders – an orthopedic perspective. Dr Michael Gross, Orthopedics, Dalhousie University. **Objectives:** Understand the structural and functional abnormalities of bones and joints seen in CTDs that can give rise to pain. Adopt a pathophysiological approach to the assessment and treatment of chronic MSK pain in these patients.

Stream 3

Bicuspid aortic valve spectrum vasculopathy. Dr Jeremy Wood, Cardiac and Vascular Surgery, Dalhousie University. **Objectives:** Appreciate the spectrum of aortopathy and vasculopathy seen in bicuspid aortic valve disease. Appreciate the hereditable nature of BAV spectrum vasculopathy. Learn the new recommendations for vascular screening of patients with BAV and their family members.
Myxomatous heart valves – new surgical/interventional options. Dr Jean Francois Legare, Cardiac Surgery, Dalhousie University.

**Objectives:** Review the anatomy of the mitral, aortic and tricuspid valves and understand how myxomatous change interferes in function. Review new and emerging repair options for myxomatous mitral, aortic and tricuspid valves.

### Stream 4

The eyes in connective tissue disorders: from cornea to retina. Dr Ann Hoskin-Mott, Ophthalmology, Dalhousie University.

**Objectives:** Review the anatomy and function of the eye, and the spectrum of abnormalities seen in hereditary aneurysm syndromes and connective tissue disorders.

Anesthesia in high risk connective tissue disorders – what are the issues and when to get a consult? Dr Blaine Kent, Cardiac Anesthesia, Dalhousie University.

**Objectives:** Understand the role of preoperative anesthesia assessment in patients with high risk HAS/CTDs undergoing surgery. Appreciate the particular problems these patients may encounter in the course of general anesthesia, epidurals, intubation, insertion of lines and surgery.
FACULTY

Dr Tim Bradley
Paediatric Cardiology,
University of Toronto/SickKids Hospital
Toronto

Dr Jo-Ann Brock
Maternal Fetal Medicine
Dalhousie University/IWK Health Centre
Halifax

Dr Alan Brydie
Cardiac Radiology
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Halifax

Dr Gordon Butler
Psychology
Capital Health
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Dr Sarah Dyack
Medical Genetics
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Dr Osama El-Khateeb
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Dr Jean Francois Legare
Cardiac Surgery
Dalhousie/Capital Health
Halifax

Dr Dianna Milewicz
Medical Genetics
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Houston

Dr Robert Miller
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Dr Stephen Phillips
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Dr Jeremy Wood
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CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr Gordon Butler  
Psychology  
Capital Health,  
Halifax  

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Maternal Fetal Medicine  
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Halifax  

Prof. Carol Gillis  
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Faculty of Health Professions  
Dalhousie/CDHA  

Dr Michael Gross  
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Ms Colleen Keoughan  
Cardiac sonographer  
Echocardiography  
Capital Health  
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Dr Constance LeBlanc  
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Dr Margaret Leighton  
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Dr John Sullivan  
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Dr Jeremy Wood  
Cardiac and Vascular surgery  
Dalhousie/Capital Health  
Halifax  

Ms Gillian Yates  
Cardiology Nurse Practitioner  
Capital Health  
Halifax
**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Registration fees are:

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>On or before Sept 9</th>
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<td>Physicians</td>
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Registration includes nutritional breaks and the reception at the end of the day but does not include lunch.

**There will be no refunds on cancellation of registrations.**

**ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL**

The nearest airport is Halifax Stanfield Airport, Nova Scotia. Discount airline rates are available through Air Canada, please quote code: FNKQB4M1

Hotel rooms have been blocked off until **August 20, 2011** for conference attendees at two convenient hotels. Book early as we cannot guarantee that rooms will not run out. Attendees should make reservations directly with the hotel. Quote ‘Maritime Connective Tissue Clinic Conference’ as the group. Rooms are available at:

**Four Points Sheraton, Halifax**
http://www.starwoodhotels.com/fourpoints
Room rate $165 plus tax

**Park Place Hotel & Conference Centre, Ramada Plaza, Dartmouth**
http://www.ramadans.com/
Room rate $119 plus tax

If you require assistance from a travel consultant please contact Julianne McDonald, Flight Centre Halifax, (902) 455-0756.
EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

We are grateful to the following sponsors for providing educational grants:

The Maritime Heart Center
Division of Cardiac Surgery, Dalhousie University
Division of Cardiology, Dalhousie University
Price-MacDonald + Associates – Health Workforce Development Solutions
St. Jude Medical
Bracco Imaging Canada

This program was supported in part by educational grants provided by the above companies. In keeping with CMA Guidelines, program content and selection of speakers is the responsibility of the planning committee. Support is directed toward the costs of the course and not to individual speakers.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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http://cme.medicine.dal.ca
The New and Expanding World of Hereditary Aneurysm Syndromes and Connective Tissue Disorders

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on or before Sept 9  after Sept 9
$100  $120
$100  $120
$80  $100
$60  $80
$60  $80
$60  $80

Fees apply to individuals and may not be shared.
Please indicate:
☐ Family Physician  ☐ Specialist: ____________________________
☐ Other Health Professional: ____________________________
☐ Healthcare Administrator  ☐ Resident  ☐ MD Student  ☐ Other Student

I plan to attend the Reception

Payment (cash, cheque or credit card information must accompany registration form.
We regret that we are unable to invoice individuals or institutions for fees. Cheques payable
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Return to:
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Continuing Medical Education
1459 Oxford Street, Halifax, NS B3H 4R2
Tel  902.494.1588
Fax  902.494.1479 (only if paying by VISA or MasterCard)

Please do not mail duplicates of faxed credit card registrations.

Concurrent Sessions – 2:30PM – 3:30PM
Please indicate top Stream choice
Please rank the Streams in your order of preference. Where streams are full or choice is not indicated, you will be assigned where space is available.

Stream 1
☐ Chest Pain – When to Worry About Aortic Dissection
☐ Coronary Aneurysms and Spontaneous Dissections

Stream 2
☐ Psychological Syndromes in Hereditary Syndromes…
☐ Bones, joints and pain…

Stream 3
☐ Bicuspid Aortic Valve Spectrum Vasculopathy
☐ Myxomatous Heart Valves…

Stream 4
☐ The Eyes in Connective Tissue Disorders…
☐ Anesthesia In High Risk Connective Tissue Orders…