The University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine greatly appreciates Shire’s generous educational grant to enable the Centre for Blood Research (CBR) to host the inaugural Centre for Advanced Training in Inhibitor Management (CATIM) Canadian Workshop. Thanks to your investment, Canadian health care providers gathered with international hemophilia leaders—all to learn the best strategies for treating inhibitor development, one of the most challenging and life-threatening complications of hemophilia.

In the pages that follow, we are pleased to present highlights from the first-ever CATIM Canadian Workshop.

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The inaugural Centre for Advanced Training in Inhibitor Management (CATIM) Canadian Workshop was held March 3 to 5, 2017 in Vancouver's Pinnacle Hotel Waterfront. The comprehensive educational content was developed by the planning committee chaired by Dr. John Wu (Vancouver) with the help of Drs. Manuel Carcao (Toronto), Georges-Etienne Rivard (Montreal) and Vicky Price (Halifax). The workshop aimed to not only provide participants with state-of-the-art knowledge on hemophilia inhibitor diagnosis and management, but to enhance their skills in managing such patients when they return to their home provinces across Canada. This undertaking was successfully achieved through the collaboration with Dr. Ed Conway, Director of the UBC Centre for Blood Research and his capable office manager, Ms. Hana Kim and their staff.

Hailing from Frankfurt, Dr. Carmen Ettinghausen-Escuriola is well-known for her pioneering work on immune tolerance induction (ITI) therapy for the suppression of hemophilia inhibitors. In her speech, she summarized different immune tolerating protocols as well as their efficacy. She also tackled the difficult problem on how best to manage patients who had failed ITI therapy.

Dr. David Lillicrap (Kingston), who leads the National Inherited Bleeding Disorder Genotyping Laboratory at Queens University, discussed the immunology and genetics of inhibitor development and current cutting-edge treatment modalities.

Dr. Georges-Etienne Rivard (Montreal), who is considered one of the true pioneers in hemophilia care, talked about the nuances of laboratory investigations of inhibitors.

The Director of the Paediatric Comprehensive Care Haemophilia Program at SickKids, Dr. Manuel Carcao (Toronto), summarized the current standards of inhibitor management, and particularly those for hemophilia B. He also presented provocative views of how to risk-stratify to manage patients and challenged the audience to answer the important questions in future innovative clinical studies.

Dr. Jerome Teitel (Toronto), Medical Director of St. Michael’s Hospital Hemophilia Treatment Centre, the largest of its kind in the country, discussed the best ways to manage bleeding in these patients.

Dr. Jean St. Louis (Montreal) talked about acquired hemophilia, as he is the world leader and pioneer in this area with his unique acquired hemophilia registry and pivotal clinical studies. He led a stimulating workshop on management of surgical bleeding in adult hemophilia patients.

Dr. Vicky Price (Halifax) coordinated intriguing patient case presentations by Drs. Natasha Pardy (St. John’s) and Mark Belletrutti (Edmonton). These real-life situations were well received with considerable audience participation.

Finally, orthopedic surgeon Dr. Elaine Joughin (Calgary) shared her experiences in the successful use of radiation synovectomy for patients with inhibitors and frequent joint bleeds.

Altogether, more than 30 hemophilia health care providers and trainees from 13 cities and seven provinces participated in 13 talks, two case presentations, and two workshops presented over two days. Participants provided positive, enthusiastic reviews of the event, praising its educational, interactive and fun-filled aspects, along with its ample opportunities for networking. In their reviews, participants showed a strong desire to hold future workshops of a similar nature and to encourage more young hematologists to attend.
By the numbers:

- **2** days
- **30+** participants
- **13** talks
- **2** case presentations
- **2** workshops

from 13 cities and 7 provinces

CATIM workshop participants
Thank you

On behalf of the UBC Faculty of Medicine, thank you for making the inaugural Centre for Advanced Training in Inhibitor Management (CATIM) Canadian Workshop possible.

Events like these are essential for sharing knowledge amongst Canada’s health care providers, and ultimately, providing the best possible outcomes for those living with the immense challenges associated with hemophilia. The CATIM Canadian Workshop proved to be a resounding success, with participants already anticipating the value of similar events in the future.