## CANADIAN SPINAL CORD INJURY RESEARCH

BIANNUAL MEETING VANCOUVER APRIL 8-9 2019

# Monday April 8

SCIENTIFIC

PROGRAM

## 08:20-10:00 BASIC SCIENCE OF THE NORMAL AND INJURED SPINAL CORD

Lecture Hall

- Wolfram Tetzlaff and Karim Fouad: Welcome and opening remarks
- Victor Rafuse: Muscle fibre-type susceptibility in ALS is associated with macrophage-mediated terminal schwann cell pathology
- Patrick Whelan: Descending neuromodulation of locomotor circuits.
- Katinka Stecina: Fictive locomotion evoked by DREADDs?
- Jeremy Chopek: Reticular formation microcircuits in movement selection
- James Fawcett: Understanding the contribution of cerebellar interneurons in controlling gait
- Ying Zhang: The locomotor task-dependent spinal modular circuits

## 10:00-10:30 MORNING BREAK | Atrium

#### 10:30-12:00 INFLAMMATION | Lecture Hall

- Jason Plemel: The microglia response to demyelination
- **Steve Lacroix:** The microglial scar: microglia are an important component of the protective scar that forms after SCI
- Eftekhar Eftekhapour: Targeting excessive lysosomal activity for treatment of oxidative stress

#### PLENARY LECTURE

**Phil Horner:** Spinal neuromodulation to enhance transplant integration and forelimb recovery

## 12:00-13:15 LUNCH | Atrium

## 13:15-15:00 REGENERATION AND REPAIR

Lecture Hall

Valerie Verge: Comparing electrical stimulation to acute intermittent hypoxia in promotion of nerve repair

- Andrea Tedeschi: Cellular and molecular mechanisms of axon growth and regeneration failure
- **Arthur Brown:** R & D for small molecule inhibitors of SOX9 for nervous system repair
- **Soheila Karimi:** Neuregulin-1, an emerging regulator of spinal cord injury and repair
- **Michael Fehlings:** Translational regenerative strategies for cervical spinal cord injury

Karim Fouad: Open data commons—SCI

## 15:00-15:30 AFTERNOON BREAK | Atrium

#### 15:30 – 16:40 SELECTED TRAINEE TALKS Lecture Hall

- **Mohammed Khazaei:** Rescuing the fate of neural progenitor transplants in the injured spinal cord niche via attenuation of Notch signaling with GDNF.
- Narjes Shahsavani: Neuregulin-1 fosters immunomodulation & neuroprotection in traumatic SCI
- Rahul Sachdeva: A non-invasive neuroprosthesis for cardiovascular recovery after SCI
- **Sohrab Manesh:** Locomotor recovery following contusive SCI does not require oligodendrocyte remyelination
- **Priscilla Chan:** Self-tracing human neural stem cells to map transplant integration
- **Emma Schmidt:** Fecal microbiota transplant attenuates dysbiosis and anxiety in a rat model of SCI
- Navid Khosravi-Hashemi: SCI recovery pattern dependency of functional independence

#### 16:45-21:00 POSTERS, DINNER, TOURS Atrium

16:45 to 18:00 formal poster session (with judging)

18:00 to 19:00 dinner

**19:00 to 21:00** informal poster presentations, small group tours of the BSCC, networking/socializing (sign up for tours at the registration desk befor 18:45)















# **Tuesday April 9**

#### 08:30-10:00 PLASTICITY

Lecture Hall

- Frederic Bretzner: Control and plasticity of the midbrain after SCI
- Marina Martinez: Fostering recovery of locomotion with neuroprosthetics after SCI
- **David Magnuson:** Inactivity is toxic: setting the trajectory for recovery.
- **David Bennett:** Chronic spinal cord hypoxia induced by pericytes after spinal cord injury.
- Karim Fouad: Preventing microbiome changes prevents anxiety like behavior in rats with SCI
- Matt Ramer: An AFT3-CreERT2 knock-in mouse for axotomy-induced genetic editing: proof of principle

#### 10:00-10:30 MORNING BREAK | Atrium

#### 10:30-12:00 REHABILITATION

Lecture Hall

- **Kristine Cowley:** Using propriospinal circuitry to increase function and decrease musculoskeletal deterioration after SCI.
- Vivian Mushahwar: The role of the cervico-lumbar spinal network in improving walking after SCI in humans
- Kristin Musselman: Perturbation-based balance training after SCI: findings from a randomized clinical trial

- **Laurent Bouyer:** Using a complex locomotor task to stimulate the corticospinal pathway after SCI
- **Catherine Mercier:** Use of robotics and virtual reality to assess and improve upper limbs sensorimotor performance
- Cathy Craven: Bone health conundrums after SCI

#### 12:00-13:15 LUNCH | Atrium

## 13:15-14:00 REHABILITATION, CONTINUED

Lecture Hall

- Jaynie Yang: Retraining walking in the ReWalk exoskeleton after SCI: functional gains and neuroplasticity
- **Krista Best:** Influence of a peer-led smartphone-delivered physical activity program for individuals with SCI.
- **Vanessa Noonan:** Understanding the needs and priorities following SCI to inform care and improve quality of life

## 14:00-14:45 CLINICAL SCI

Lecture Hall

**Eve Tsai:** Improving the translation of spinal cord therapies from animals to humans **Brian Kwon:** Acute SCI: translational considerations

# 14:45-15:15 POSTER PRIZES, CLOSING REMARKS

