



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Canadian and European Experts Join Forces to Discuss Infectious Diseases in Upcoming National Conference**

#### ***Vancouver Set to Host AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference 2008***

**Ottawa, February 12, 2008** – Organizers of AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference, Canada's largest Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology gathering, announced today that the conference will be held in Vancouver from February 27-March 1, 2008, at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel.

This year, participants of the conference will look at innovative trends in prevention and control of infections and ways to bridge the gap that divides academic learning and real-world practice. They will also explore strategies for continued mobilization and collaboration for actions to reduce the harms associated with global Tuberculosis; recent trends and controversies in tick and mosquito-borne infections; and the increased resistance of microbes to diverse therapeutics and antibiotic misuse.

The conference will offer over 35 sessions, meetings and workshops featuring important scientific advances and discussion of current issues among medical experts. An estimated 500 delegates including health care providers, educators, policy makers, and health care leaders from Canada, United States and Europe are expected to attend the conference to share current knowledge on a full spectrum of issues about Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology.

"Infection prevention and control is a national issue, requiring national solutions. This conference will be an opportunity for those of us fighting Infectious Diseases in their communities to share knowledge and develop new strategies to prevent and treat infection at a nation's level," said Dr. Michel Laverdière, President, Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI) Canada.

"The program is designed to harness the knowledge, skills and commitment of the dedicated medical microbiologists and infectious diseases experts from across Canada, and internationally. We are eager to join forces with other communities to build support for infectious disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care," said

Dr. Graham Tipples, President, Canadian Association for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (CACMID).

## **Conference at a Glance-The Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel, Vancouver**

### **Thursday, February 28**

- Lyme Disease: Recent Trends and Controversies. A session dedicated to describing the epidemiology of Lyme disease in the US, the controversies associated with the condition and the prospects for control and prevention.
- A Canadian perspective of the Mosquito-Borne Viral Pathogens will describe the public health impact of Canadians encountering travel associated arboviruses, and detail the latest developments in the diagnosis and treatment of arbovirus-associated illnesses.
- Nosocomial UTI and Urosepsis – A review of the burden, morbidity and risk factors of nosocomial urinary tract infection. But what can we improve?
- An approach to wound assessment. What to do with what lurks beneath the bandage: Is it science or witchcraft?

### **Friday, February 29**

- Global epidemiology of Tuberculosis (TB), the epidemiology of active and latent TB infections and the potential impact of extremely drug resistant TB.
- New diagnostics in TB and Interferon Gamma Release Assays.
- Novel strategies for resistance testing in TB.

### **Saturday, March 1**

- Are we misusing antibiotic? What are the tools available in Canada that would help us optimize antimicrobial use?
- Students, Saliva and Swelling: A perfect storm for the sharing of Mumps in Canada. A session focusing on the epidemiology of Mumps in Nova Scotia, how it has spread throughout Canada, and what are the possible reasons of current Mumps outbreaks.
- How close are we to a drug treatment for Hepatitis B, and would the new therapeutics calm the storm?
- Where do we stand on the development of new classes of antiretrovirals? Is there light at the end of the dark HIV tunnel?
- Understanding the non-traditional pulmonary infections in Cystic Fibrosis: It's not just the usual suspects.

### **About AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference**

The Annual Conference 'Where Canada's experts in Clinical Microbiology and infectious diseases meet', is a conjoint meeting between the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI) Canada ([www.ammi.ca](http://www.ammi.ca)) and the Canadian Association for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (CACMID) ([www.cacmid.ca](http://www.cacmid.ca)). The meeting is also an approved Accredited Group Learning

Activity as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

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For more information about the AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference 2008 go to **[www.ammica.ca/annual\\_conference](http://www.ammica.ca/annual_conference)**. The sessions are open to the media.

To pre-register for the conference or to request an interview with participating infectious diseases and medical microbiology experts, please contact:

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