Canadian Heart Failure Society
Société canadienne d'insuffisance cardiaque

CCTN/CHFS RESEARCH AWARD COMPETITION
FINALIST HISTORY

2026 **Karem Abdul-Samad (Toronto, ON) – 1st Place**
Updating the Emergency Heart Failure Mortality Risk Grade For Mortality Prediction in Acute Heart Failure

Geethan Baskaran (Toronto, ON) – 2nd Place
Soluble Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme 2 Activity and Concentration Show Divergent Biology and Outcomes in Cardiogenic Shock and Heart Failure

David Derish (Montreal, QC) – Finalist
Myocardial Transcriptomic Response to Warm Ischemic Time in Donation After Circulatory Death and Normothermic Regional Perfusion

Nassib Jr Hassouna (Montreal, QC) – Finalist
Pre-Operative and Serial Neutrophil-To-Lymphocyte Ratio as a Prognostic Biomarker for Dialysis Requirement After Heart Transplantation

2025 **Mitchell Wagner (Fort Saskatchewan, AB) – 1st Place**
Preservation of Pediatric Donor Hearts Via Subnormothermic Machine Perfusion: Comparison to Cold Storage

Massine Fellouah (Montréal, QC) – 2nd Place
Is Sarcopenia A Pronostic Tool in Patients with Durable Left Ventricular Assist Device as a Bridge to Transplant?

Petko Makedonski (Vancouver, BC) – Finalist
Association Between Discharge Timing and Discharge Quality and Disposition in Acute Heart Failure

Mohammed Albaghdadi (London, ON) - FInalist
Improving Outcomes in Heart Failure: How a Comprehensive Transitional Care Program Decreases Hospital Readmissions and Emergency Department Utilization

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2024 **Aanchel Gupta (Edmonton, AB) - 1st Place**
Hyperkalemia-related Heart Failure Therapy Discontinuation and Its Association with Adverse Outcomes in Patients with Heart Failure: A Population-based Study

Mitchell Wagner (Fort Saskatchewan, AB) - 2nd Place
Hemolytic Byproducts During Ex-situ Heart Perfusion Associate with Functional Decline During Extended Preservation

Aditi Venkatraman (Toronto, ON) - Finalist
Moving Beyond the Perfect Donor: Quality Improvement (Qi) Initiative to Optimize Donor Utilization

Jordan Gibson (Calgary, AB) - Finalist
Novel Algorithm Applied in Pilot Heart Failure Continuity Clinic May Confer Mortality Benefit When Compared to Usual Care Pathway

2023 **Tina Marvasti (Toronto, ON) - 1st Place**

Heart Failure Impairs Bone Marrow Hematopoietic Stem Cell Function and Responses to Injury

Ismail Raslan (Toronto, ON) - 2nd Place
External validation of AI Primary Graft Dysfunction Prediction Calculator

Yasuyuki Kobayashi (London, ON) - Finalist
Impact of Hemoglobin Level in Ex Vivo Heart Perfusion on Donation After Circulatory Death Hearts: A Juvenile Porcine Experimental Model

Urna Kansakar (New York, NY) - Finalist
Functional Role of Inositol 1,4,5-Triphosphate Receptors (IP3RS) in the Regulation of Cardiac Myofibroblasts

2022 **Francois Brouillette (Montréal, QC)**
Severity of left ventricular dysfunction in patients with tachyardia-induced cardiomyopathy: Impacts on remodeling after atrial flutter ablation.

Shubham Soni (Edmonton, AB)
Ketone ester therapy reduces cardiac inflammation and cardiac dysfunction in sepsis.

Istok Menkovic (Montréal, QC)
Pharmacist-led titration clinic for HFREF medication: results from its' first 2 years of existence.

Rodrigo Carrasco (Toronto, ON)
Effect of Tafamidis on global longitudinal strain using a correction method in transthyretin cardiac amyloidosis.

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2021 **Yuchen Dai (Ottawa, ON)**
Accelerated Tracer Washout in Regions of Sympathetic Denervation in Heart Failure Patients with Ischemic Cardiomyopathy Using Flubrobenguane Positron Emission Tomography Imaging

Ryan Sless (Toronto, ON)
Pulmonary to Systemic Pulsatile and Resistive Vascular Responses to Exercise in Patients With Pulmonary Hypertension Secondary to Left Heart Disease (HFPEF)

Kaitlin McGrath (Calgary, AB)
Ambulatory Pulmonary Artery Pressure Monitoring Reduces Costs and Improves Outcomes in Symptomatic Heart Failure: A Single-Center Canadian Experience

Vikram Gurtu (Toronto, ON)
Mild Pulmonary Hypertension in Advanced Heart Failure Patients is Associated with Both Abnormal Resistive and Pulsatile Load and Lower 3-Year Survival

2020 **Ida Derish (Montreal, QC)**

Angiogenic Effect of Amniotic Mesenchymal Stem Cell Spheroid-Derived Secretome as a Cell-Free Therapy in Cardiac Repair

Hassan Mir (Toronto, ON)
Impact of Appropriate Echocardiography Use on Utilization of Cardiac Services and Outcomes in Patients with Heart Failure or Coronary Artery Disease: A Retrospective Cohort Study of the Echo Wisely Randomized Controlled Trial

Sanaz Hatami (Edmonton, AB)
Inflammation, Oxidative Stress and Functional Decline of the Heart During Ex Situ Heart Perfusion: Are Leukocytes the Ultimate Villains?

Natasha Aleksova (Toronto, ON)
The Effect of Antiplatelet Therapy on Cardiac Allograft Vasculopathy and Survival Following Heart Transplantation: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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2019 **Cvetan Trpkov (Calgary, AB)**
Doppler Ultrasound Assessment of Intra-Renal Venous Flow in Patients with Acute Decompensate Heart Failure: A Potential Acute Cardiorenal Syndrome Biomarker

Roberto Ribeiro (Toronto, ON)
Ex SITU Heart Perfusion Improves Preservation of Endothelial Function in Both DBD and DCD Hearts

Mitchell Adamson (Toronto, ON)
HLA-G 14BP Polymorphism Donor/Recipient Matching Protects Against Development of Post-Transplant Malignancy Following Heart Transplantation

Zahra Azizi (Toronto, ON)
Impact of Evidence-Based EMR Point-Of-Care Alerts in Guiding Medical Therapy in Patients with Congestive Heart Failure

2018 **Keith Dadson (Toronto, ON)**
Statins Mediate Recovery from Chemotherapy-Induced Cardiotoxicity

Natasha Aleksova (Toronto, ON)
Antiplatelet Therapy and Platelet Reactivity After Heart Transplantation

Roberto Vanin Pinto Ribeiro (Toronto, ON)
Is Cold Storage Possible in Hearts Donated After Circulatory Death? A Pre-Clinical Study

Nariman Sepehrvand (Edmonton, AB)
High Versus Low Spo2 Oxygen Therapy in Patients with Acute Heart Failure: Hilo-HF Pilot Trial

2017 **Lior Bibas (Montreal, QC)**
Sarcopenia and Mortality After Heart Transplantation

Sean Kang (Calgary, AB)
Direct Effects of Empagliflozin on Extracellular Matrix Remodeling in Human Cardiac Fibroblasts: Novel Translational Clues to Empa-Reg Outcome

Georges Makhoul (Montreal, QC)
Human Amniotic Stromal Cells Encapsulated in a Chitosan/Hyaluronic Acid Based Platform Proliferate and Increase Cardiac Function in a Rat Myocardial Infarction Model

Steve Wright (Ajax, ON)
Invasive Exercise Hemodynamics of Patients Supported by a Long-Term Continuous-Flow Left Ventricular Assist Device