Program

(subject to change)

Thursday, September 11, 2025, 12:00 – 5:00 PM
Friday, September 12, 2025, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

In person: Sheraton Toronto Airport Hotel & Conference Centre, 801 Dixon Road, Toronto, ON
Zoom option also available

Two days of CPD for everyone who manages or supports patients living with or at risk of all types of pulmonary hypertension, including those with left-sided heart disease, chronic lung disease, and connective tissue disease. Primary care and specialty physicians, nurses, allied health practitioners, students and trainees, and researchers welcome!

Registration and more information

This event is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program (MOC) of The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and approved by the Canadian Thoracic Society. You may claim a maximum of 10.00 hours.

This program is co-developed by the Pulmonary Hypertension Association of Canada and the Canadian Thoracic Society and is planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity, and balance.

Day 1: Thursday, September 11 Medical Think Tank (times are shown in Eastern time)

	12:00 – 1:00 PM	**Lunch, registration & networking**
	1:00 – 1:15 PM	***Welcome, land acknowledgement & opening remarks*** Jamie Myrah
30	1:15 – 1:45 PM	***Female sex and pulmonary hypertension*** Dr. Steven Kawut, University of Pennsylvania At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Assess the role of sex hormones in pulmonary hypertension. 2. Analyze clinical trials of targeting sex hormones in pulmonary hypertension. 3. Interpret the data supporting the benefits and possible harms of sex hormone therapies in pulmonary hypertension.
30	1:45 – 2:15 PM	***Why is my patient short of breath? Mechanisms of residual dyspnea post pulmonary embolism*** Dr. Devin Phillips, York University At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Summarize the basic neurophysiological constructs of dyspnea. 2. Summarize the mechanisms of activity-related dyspnea in patients' post-pulmonary embolism (PE). 3. Discuss emerging evidence of treatments to reduce dyspnea in patients post-PE.
30	2:15 – 2:45 PM	***Updates from the Canadian Pulmonary Hypertension Registry*** Dr. Nathan Brunner, University of British Columbia; Freda Tom At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Describe the principles and structure of the CPHR 2. Discuss studies affiliated with the CPHR.
	2:45 – 3:00 PM	**Refreshment break**
30	3:00 – 3:30 PM	***Biomarkers in pulmonary hypertension*** Dr. Athénaïs Boucly, Université Paris-Saclay At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Distinguish the three types of biomarkers. 2. Review current evidence on established and emerging biomarkers in pulmonary hypertension. 3. Discuss the limitations and future perspectives in the integration of biomarkers into the management of pulmonary hypertension.

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30	3:30 – 4:00 PM	***Pulmonary veno-occlusive disease*** Dr. Duncan J. Stewart, University of Ottawa Heart Institute At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Recognize the distinct pathological and clinical features of PVOD vs of forms of Group 1 PH (PAH). 2. Describe the distinct cell and molecular mechanisms underlying PVOD and the similarities and differences with other forms of PAH. 3. Recognize possible novel therapeutic strategies for PVOD based on these unique underlying molecular mechanisms.
30	4:00 – 4:30 PM	***Inflammatory mechanisms in pulmonary arterial hypertension – basic and translational approaches*** Dr. Neil Goldenberg, University of Toronto At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Discuss basic and translational models of PAH and CTEPH. 2. Describe the role of inflammatory signaling in PAH. 3. Describe the role of the endothelial cytoskeleton in PAH pathogenesis.
30	4:30 – 5:00 PM	***The importance of blood vessels in the progression of pulmonary fibrosis*** Dr. Martin Kolb, McMaster University At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Summarize the basic mechanisms of fibrogenesis in the lungs. 2. Describe the intricate interaction between vascular structure and the interstitial space in pulmonary fibrosis. 3. Appraise current management of pulmonary fibrosis, with a focus on antifibrotic and pulmonary-hypertension-specific therapies.
	6:30 – 8:30 PM	**Dinner (optional)**

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Day 2: Friday, September 12 Scientific Sessions (times are shown in Eastern time)

	7:00 – 8:00 AM	**Breakfast, registration & networking**
	8:00 – 8:15 AM	***Welcome, land acknowledgement & introduction*** Jamie Myrah
45	8:15 – 9:00 AM	***Keynote - Big data in pulmonary hypertension: Looking backward and forward*** Dr. Steven Kawut, University of Pennsylvania At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Interpret individual patient data meta-analyses in pulmonary hypertension. 2. Examine the strengths and weaknesses of prospective and retrospective studies in pulmonary hypertension. 3. Integrate the role of complex data sets in pulmonary hypertension.
30	9:00 – 9:30 AM	***Anti-remodeling agents in PAH: A double-edged sword*** Dr. Sébastien Bonnet, Université Laval At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Describe the mechanisms by which anti-vascular remodeling agents target pathophysiological changes in PAH. 2. Evaluate the clinical efficacy and safety profiles of current and emerging anti-remodeling therapies in PAH. 3. Analyze the limitations and potential adverse effects of anti-remodeling strategies to inform treatment decisions in complex PAH cases.
30	9:30 – 10:00 AM	***Pulmonary hypertension: What's in a name?*** Dr. George Chandy, University of Ottawa Heart Institute At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Define pulmonary hypertension. 2. Summarize the categorization of pulmonary hypertension. 3. Apply these categorizations to cases that appear to straddle the boundary of different categories.
	10:00 – 10:30 AM	**Refreshment break**
30	10:30 – 11:00 AM	***Hemodynamic phenotyping of pulmonary hypertension*** Dr. Susanna Mak, University of Toronto At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Review approaches to hemodynamic assessment. 2. Describe strengths and weaknesses of current hemodynamic classifications for pulmonary hypertension.

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30	11:00 – 11:30 AM	***Pulmonary capillary recruitment: a way of life*** Dr. David Langleben, McGill University At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Identify pulmonary capillary recruitment as a physiologic process essential to normal lung circulatory physiology. 2. Identify the loss of capillary recruitment in various disease processes. 3. Distinguish between patterns of reduction in pulmonary vascular resistance in PAH.
30	11:30 – 12:00 PM	***Assessment of right ventricular function in pediatric pulmonary hypertension*** Dr. Mark Friedberg, Hospital for Sick Children At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Identify echocardiographic parameters to assess right ventricular function in pediatric pulmonary hypertension. 2. Recognize the gaps and strength of evidence for use of echocardiographic parameters in pediatric pulmonary hypertension. 3. Recognize the importance of echocardiography for prognostication in pediatric pulmonary hypertension.
	12:00 – 1:00 PM	**Lunch break**
30	1:00 – 1:30 PM	***Setting treatment goals: an evidence-based and personalized approach*** Dr. Jason Weatherald, University of Alberta At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Describe and apply different approaches to defining risk in pulmonary arterial hypertension. 2. Integrate patient preferences into goal setting across the stages of disease.
30	1:30 – 2:00 PM	***Treatment strategies for Group 1 pulmonary hypertension*** Dr. Sanjay Mehta, Professor of Medicine and Medical Director, Southwest Ontario Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic, London Health Sciences Centre, Western University At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Summarize the history of development of PAH treatment 2. Describe the evolution of PAH treatment to the current approach 3. Prepare for future approaches to PAH treatment.
45	2:00 – 2:45 PM	***Keynote: Understanding heterogeneity of treatment effects*** Dr. Athénaïs Boucly, Université Paris-Saclay At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Compare the clinical indications, benefits, and limitations of monotherapy, dual therapy, and triple therapy in pulmonary arterial hypertension.

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		2. Assess the impact of patient phenotype and risk profile on therapeutic strategy selection in pulmonary hypertension. 3. Analyze the role of sotatercept in the treatment landscape and its integration into treatment algorithm.
	2:45 – 3:15 PM	**Refreshment break**
30	3:15 – 3:45 PM	***Topics in Group 3 pulmonary hypertension*** Dr. Sarah MacIsaac, Dalhousie University At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Review barriers to management of PH-ILD. 2. Identify current management options for PH-ILD. 3. Describe new treatments on the horizon and review pathophysiologic data to support exploration of sotatercept in patients with PH-ILD.
30	3:45 – 4:15 PM	***Interactive case study in acute RV failure*** Dr. John Granton, University Health Network At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Identify a patient who requires aggressive management in an ICU environment. 2. Know how to stabilize a patient with severe PH. 3. Know the principles of management and roles for advanced therapies in management.
30	4:15 – 4:45 PM	***What lies ahead?*** Dr. Steeve Provencher, Université Laval At the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1. Recognize the ongoing need for innovative drug development in PAH. 2. Explain the key current and emerging challenges in the development of new therapies for PH. 3. Identify critical gaps in knowledge and treatment within the broader field of PH.
	4:45 – 5:00 PM	***Closing remarks*** Jamie Myrah

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Keynote Speaker: Athénaïs Boucly, MD PhD

Athénaïs Boucly, MD PhD, is an associate Professor of Respiratory Medicine at Université Paris-Saclay, France and a consultant at the French Referral Center for Pulmonary Hypertension, Department of Respiratory and Intensive Care Medicine.

She is specially interested in pulmonary hypertension. Her investigational activities include clinical studies on identification of prognostic factors of PAH, risk stratification and treatment goals in PAH, and biomarkers. She also has an expertise on big data analysis and proteomics.

She was a task force member at the 7th World Symposium on Pulmonary Hypertension in Barcelona (2024).

She is the early career member representative of the ERS Assembly 13 on pulmonary vascular diseases.

Keynote Speaker: Steven Kawut, MD, MS

Steven M. Kawut, MD MS, is the Director of the Pulmonary Hypertension/Pulmonary Vascular Disease Program, a Senior Scholar in the Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and a tenured Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He graduated from Harvard College and received his medical degree from the Yale School of Medicine and a master's degree in clinical epidemiology from the Perelman School of Medicine. He completed his internal medicine training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, where he also completed pulmonary fellowship.

His clinical and research interests focus on pulmonary vascular disease and lung transplantation. He has published >350 peer-reviewed papers on topics such as pulmonary arterial hypertension and right ventricular dysfunction. He has been funded by the National Institutes of Health for 25 years and is a member of the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine. He has served on several study sections for grants awarded by the National Institutes of Health, American Thoracic Society, foundations, and industry. He has served on the Data Safety and Monitoring Boards of federally-funded and industry-funded single and multicenter randomized clinical trials. He has mentored more than 60 individuals in clinical research.

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