

# PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

QUÉBEC CITY  
CONVENTION CENTRE

15<sup>th</sup> International Donor  
Registry Conference

JOINT  
WITH

Cell Therapy Transplant Canada  
(CTTC) Annual Conference

Québec City • May 19–22, 2025



# PARTNERS IN INNOVATION

In collaboration with Héma-Québec





# PRE-CONFERENCE DAY 1 – MONDAY, 19 MAY 2025



TIME	SESSION	REGISTRATION	DESCRIPTION
08:00 - 10:00	Match-Connect Steering Committee	Open to all	The committee will be reviewing technical semantics, optimising workflows and coordinating future Request for Changes
08:00 - 11:00	Donor Selection Workshop	Registration required	Enhance your expertise in selecting the best donors for transplantation.
08:00 - 12:00	Medical Committee	Closed session	Providing international guidance on the medical and ethical aspects of HPC, marrow, and blood cell donation—ensuring donor safety and better patient outcomes.
	WMDA/FACT/CTTC Quality Workshop (All day)	Registration required	Workshop on driving excellence in Cellular Therapy Programs.
09:00 - 11:00	Donor Recruitment & Retention	Open to all	Passionate about expanding the donor pool and keeping donors engaged? Our committee focuses on innovative strategies to recruit new donors and ensure long-term commitment. Collaborate with experts and share best practices.
10:00 - 10:30	HEALTH BREAK		

# PRE-CONFERENCE DAY 1 – MONDAY, 19 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	REGISTRATION	DESCRIPTION
10:00 - 12:00	Match-Connect Early Adopter Workshop	Open to all	Ready for or implementing Match-Connect? Join us and learn from each other.
10:15 - 14:45	Patient, Family, & Caregiver Session	Open to all	A session on donor considerations, CAR-T therapy, non-cancer indications, and GvHD.
11:00 - 12:00	Donor Work-up Coordination Workshop	Open to all	Join this session and collaborate with other members towards a standardised donor work-up process for future automation opportunities through Match-Connect.
12:00 - 13:00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>		
13:00 - 14:30	Security & Privacy Committee	Open to all	Protecting donor and patient data is more critical than ever. This committee focuses on safeguarding sensitive information and ensuring compliance with global privacy regulations.
	Data Dictionary & Data Quality Committee	Open to all	Accurate and standardised data is key to successful donor searches and transplants. Join our Data Dictionary & Data Quality initiatives to improve consistency.
13:00 - 15:00	Donor Work-up Coordination Workshop	Open to all	Join this session and collaborate with other members towards a standardised donor work-up process for future automation opportunities through Match-Connect.
13:00 - 17:00	Cell & Gene Therapy Committee	Open to all	The WMDA Cell & Gene Therapy Committee is shaping the next era of innovative treatments, and we want YOU to be part of the conversation!
	WMDA/FACT/CTTC Quality Workshop (Continued)	Registration required	Workshop on driving excellence in Cellular Therapy Programs.
14:30 - 15:00	<b>HEALTH BREAK</b>		
15:00 - 17:00	Nursing Session	Open to all	A nursing focused session on preventing burnout, and the donor coordination journey.
	Registry Operations & Regulation	Open to all	This committee focuses on optimizing operational processes, ensuring regulatory compliance, and enhancing global collaboration.
	Audit of Couriers Reviewer Training	Open to all	Do you want to become an auditor of WMDA's courier audit programme? Register for this session and become a reviewer.

# PRE-CONFERENCE DAY 2 – TUESDAY, 20 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	REGISTRATION	DESCRIPTION
08:00 - 10:00	WMDA Standards Development	Closed session	Committee meeting to work towards the development of the new WMDA Standards.
08:00 - 12:00	Gene Therapy for Hemoglobinopathies collaboration meeting	Closed session	(by invitation only)
	Bio-Informatics & Innovation Committee	Open to all	Data drives better matches! Join our Bio-Informatics & Innovation Committee to enhance data analysis, improve donor matching algorithms, and develop the most relevant haplotype frequencies.
	SPEAR	Closed session	A meeting of the SPEAR Committee to delve into the critical review of adverse events.
08:00 - 15:30	Laboratory Workshop	Registration required	(Limited space) Offsite at Héma-Quebec. <b>Bus departs at 7:30am.</b>
08:00 - 16:30	Workshop for CEOs of WMDA member registries	By invitation only	What should we be preparing for now, to ensure the success and resilience of the global transplant registry community over the next 30 years?
09:00 - 12:00	Pharmacy & Advanced Practitioners Session	Open to all	A session including: a pharmacy-focused talk, joint talks on outpatient care and off-label medication use, and an AP-focused GvHD talk.
10:30 - 11:00	<b>HEALTH BREAK</b>		
10:15 - 12:00	WMDA Reviewers Training	Open to all	Ready to play a key role in WMDA Certification Programme? The WMDA Reviewers Training equips you with the skills. Learn from experts, enhance your expertise, and contribute to improving patient access to high-quality donors.
12:00 - 13:00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>		
13:00 - 14:45	WMDA Certification Body	Closed session	Discussion of future directions of certification body.
13:00 - 16:00	101 Session for Healthcare Professionals	Open to all	Donor-focused case studies - Rare and adverse reactions - Dr. Tommy Alfaro - Optimizing Donor Selection: A Case-Based Approach to Navigating Donor-Specific Challenges in Transplantation -Dr. Nida Usmani CAR-T overview and spotlight on multiple myeloma - Speakers TBC

# PRE-CONFERENCE DAY 2 – TUESDAY, 20 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	REGISTRATION	DESCRIPTION
13:00 - 16:30	<b>Cord Blood Operations</b>	<b>Open to all</b>	Efficient cord blood banking saves lives! Join our Cord Blood Operations discussions to streamline logistics and explore innovative concepts.
	<b>Donor Suitability</b>	<b>Open to all</b>	Join us for an important discussion aimed at refining the criteria for donor suitability. As physicians, your insights are crucial in establishing guidelines.
13:00 - 17:00	<b>Bio-Informatics &amp; Innovation Committee</b>	<b>Open to all</b>	Data drives better matches! Join our Bio-Informatics & Innovation Committee to enhance data analysis, improve donor matching algorithms, and develop the most relevant haplotype frequencies.
14:30 - 15:00	<b>HEALTH BREAK</b>		
15:00 - 16:30	<b>CTTC Board of Directors Meeting</b>	Closed meeting	
	<b>Match-Connect User Group Meeting</b>	<b>Open to all</b>	Join this session to learn about the most recent developments in Match-Connect and get the opportunity to voice your opinion on future changes.
16:30 - 17:30	Welcome Symposium 1: <b>The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Strategy, Efficiency, Communication</b>		AI in Donor selection/optimal patient treatment selection/ data analysis - Yung-Tsi Bolon Donor selection/operations algorithm - Sébastien Lemieux Moderator: Dr. Maude Dumont-Lagacé
18:00 - 23:00	<b>OFF-SITE SOCIAL EVENT – SUGAR SHACK (WMDA DELEGATES ONLY)</b> *Preregistration required		

# CONFERENCE DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	DESCRIPTION
<b>7:00 - 8:30</b>	<b>BREAKFAST SYMPOSIUM</b>	
<b>8:30 - 9:30</b>	Symposium 2: <b>Hans Messner Lectureship</b>	Speaker: Dr. Christina Peters. Moderator: Dr. Wilson Lam
<b>9:30 - 10:30</b>	Symposium 3A (concurrent): <b>Prevention and Treatment of Acute GvHD</b>	Treg engineered donor products in hematopoietic stem cell transplantation to prevent GvHD and improve immune tolerance - Dr. Everett Meyer  Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation for Children with ALL: The FORUM concept - Dr. Silvy Lachance Moderator: Dr. Imran Ahmad
	Symposium 3B (concurrent): <b>Donor Registry Developments</b>	Co-moderators: Dr. Oliver Kürsteiner, Dr. Sigal Manor
<b>10:30 - 11:00</b>	<b>HEALTH BREAK</b>	
<b>11:00 - 12:15</b>	Symposium 4: <b>Till &amp; McCulloch Lectureship</b>	Honoree: Dr. Denis-Claude Roy
	Symposium 4: CTTC Research Award Reports	Speakers: Dr. Kevin Hay, Dr. Kareem Jamani
<b>12:15 - 13:45</b>	<b>LUNCH SYMPOSIUM</b>	
<b>13:45-15:15</b>	Symposium 5: <b>Health Equity, Ethical Considerations, and Patient Access in Cell Therapy</b>	Considering patient and donor intersectionality in allogeneic transplantation - Dr. Warren Fingrut Sustaining Access to Promising Academic Cell and Gene Therapy Products - Dr. Rebecca Gardner Removing Barriers to Transplantation Using Mismatched Unrelated Donors - Dr. Steve Devine Moderator: Dr. Mélanie Dieudé
<b>15:15 - 15:45</b>	<b>HEALTH BREAK</b>	
<b>15:45 - 17:15</b>	Symposium 6A : <b>Novel CAR-T Indications</b>	CAR T-cells for the treatment of T-cell Leukemias - Dr. Waseem Qasim Second speaker - TBC Moderator: Dr. Mona Shafey
	Symposium 6B: <b>Innovation in Cell Therapy Products and Services</b>	Cord Blood Expansion and Rejuvenation Platform - Dr. Guy Sauvageau Role of blood, tissue and cell establishments in new cell therapies - Dr. Allison Waters Moderators: Dr. David Allan & Dr. Sergio Querol
<b>17:15 - 18:45</b>	<b>NETWORKING RECEPTION &amp; POSTER PRESENTATIONS</b>	



# CONFERENCE DAY 2 – THURSDAY, 22 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	DESCRIPTION
<b>7:00 - 8:30</b>	<b>BREAKFAST SYMPOSIUM</b>	
<b>8:30-9:30</b>	Symposium 7: <b>Shirley Nolan Lecture</b>	Dr. Carlheinz Mueller / Moderator: Henny Braund
<b>9:30-10:45</b>	<b>WMDA Annual General Meeting</b>	<b>Restricted to WMDA Members</b>
	<b>CTTC Annual General Meeting</b>	<b>Restricted to CTTC members</b>
<b>10:45 - 11:15</b>	<b>HEALTH BREAK</b>	
<b>11:15 - 12:15</b>	<b>Oral Abstract Presentations</b>	
<b>12:30-14:00</b>	<b>LUNCH SYMPOSIUM</b>	
<b>14:00 - 15:00</b>	Symposium 8A: <b>Gene Therapy for Hemoglobinopathies - Understanding and Addressing Barriers</b>	Implementation of First CRISPR Gene Therapy for Hemoglobinopathies in Canada - Dr. Rajat Kumar CBS 2024 meeting summary - Dr. Tanya Petraszko CTTC Hemoglobinopathies Working Committee Update - Dr. Greg Guilcher Moderator: Dr. Nancy Robitaille
	Symposium 8B: <b>Innovative Donor Outreach and Engagement Strategies</b>	How to Connect with Younger Generation - Speaker TBC Use of Virtual Reality to Reduce Anxiety in Blood Donation - Patrice Lavoie Third speaker - TBC Co-Chairs: Catherine Viau, Dr. Marti Freund
<b>15:00 - 15:30</b>	<b>HEALTH BREAK</b>	
<b>15:30 - 16:30</b>	Symposium 9: <b>Debate: Choosing the Optimal Donor</b>	For Cord Blood - Dr. Sandra Cohen For Haplo and Easily Accessible Related Donors - Dr. Joerg Krueger Moderator: Dr. Christopher Lemieux
<b>17:30 - 18:00</b>	<b>SHUTTLE SERVICE</b>	
<b>18:00 - 23:00</b>	<b>OFF-SITE SOCIAL EVENT – GALA DINNER AT THE MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION</b>	