

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

QUÉBEC CITY
CONVENTION CENTRE

15th 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	ROOM	REGISTRATION	DESCRIPTION
08:00 – 11:00	Match-Connect Implementation Workshop	205B	Open to all	This interactive workshop promises to bring the abstract concepts of API communication to life through clear visualisation of the registry-to-registry communication solution.
	Donor Selection Workshop	205A	Pre-registration required*	Enhance your expertise in selecting the best donors for transplantation.
08:00 – 12:00	Medical Committee Meeting: Advancing Donor Well-Being	202	Open to all	At this meeting we will review donor mental health survey outcomes, explore a new project on the use of plerixafor in healthy donors and begin work on developing an updated statement on subsequent donations. These discussions contribute to ongoing efforts to provide international guidance on the medical and ethical aspects of HPC, marrow, and blood cell donation.
	FACT – WMDA Quality Standards & Regulatory Workshop (All day)	203	Pre-registration Required*	This workshop focuses on driving excellence in Cellular Therapy Programs and will include information on accreditation, certification, audits, deviation management, transport incidents and traceability, deficiency correction, and maintaining compliance.
09:00 – 12:00	Donor Recruitment & Retention Committee Workshop	205C	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-registration for these sessions is made via the main Registration process - pick one of the concurrent sessions to attend

PRE-CONFERENCE DAY 1 – MONDAY, 19 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	ROOM	REGISTRATION	DESCRIPTION
9:30 – 14:30	PFC session – Stem Cell Donation, Transplantation and CAR-T	204	Open to all Pre-registration requested*	An educational session for patients, caregivers and healthcare providers
11:00 – 12:00	Match-Connect Steering Committee Meeting	205B	Closed session	Closed committee meeting to review member feedback and align on next steps.
	Donor Work-up Coordination Workshop	205A	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	LUNCH BREAK			
13:00 – 14:00	Match-Connect Security Compliance Panel Discussion	205C	Open to all	Join this session to learn how WMDA and its members intend to secure your data in transit based on international standards such as ISO and GDPR.
13:00 – 14:30	Data Dictionary and Data Quality Committee Meeting	205B	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 – Continued	205A	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 Committee Therapy Round Table	202	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!
	FACT-WMDA Quality Standards & Regulatory Workshop – Continued	203	Pre-registration required*	Workshop on driving excellence in Cellular Therapy Programs.
14:00 – 15:00	Security & Privacy Committee Meeting	205C	Closed session	Closed committee meeting to plan the implementation and long-term sustainability of the compliance programme.
14:30 – 15:00	HEALTH BREAK			
15:00 – 17:00	Nursing Professional Development	204	Open to all	– Supporting Practice: Preventing Burn-Out – Hand in hand: The Donor Coordination Journey
	Registry Operations & Regulation Committee Meeting	205A	Open to all	This committee focuses on optimizing operational processes, ensuring regulatory compliance, and enhancing global collaboration.
	Audit of Courier Companies Auditor Trainin	205B	Closed session	Do you want to become an auditor of WMDA's courier company certification programme? Make sure to register for this session in advance.

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PRE-CONFERENCE DAY 2 – TUESDAY, 20 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	ROOM	REGISTRATION	DESCRIPTION
08:00 – 15:30	Laboratory Workshop	Offsite	Pre-registration required*	(Limited space) Offsite at Héma-Quebec. Bus departs at 7:30 a.m.
08:00 – 10:00	WMDA Standards Committee	203	Closed session	Committee meeting to work towards the development of the new WMDA Standards.
08:00 – 10:30	WMDA SPEAR Committee Meeting	205B	Closed session	Closed committee meeting to discuss adverse events and reactions reported to WMDA.
08:00 – 12:00	Gene Therapy for Hemoglobinopathies Collaboration Meeting	201C	Closed session	Closed committee meeting to plan the implementation and long-term sustainability of the compliance programme.
	Bio-Informatics & Innovation Committee Meeting	205B	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.
	Workshop for CEOs of WMDA Member Registries	202	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	203	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	HEALTH BREAK			
10:15 – 12:00	Ask Your Questions to the WMDA Certification Body	203	Closed session	Interactive session where you can directly connect with representatives from the WMDA Certification Body. Get answers to all your questions regarding certification processes, requirements, and best practices. Whether your organisation is new to certification, already certified, or a WMDA reviewer or aspiring to become one, this session will offer valuable insight and clarity on the certification journey.
11:00 – 12:00	Open Discussion: Serious Events in Stem Cell Donation – Insights, Best Practices & Lessons from WMDA's Biovigilance Service: SPEAR	205C	Open to all	Join our open session to explore serious incidents in stem cell donation. Gain insight into 2024 reported cases, discuss notable case studies, and continue conversations on tools to improve reporting quality and ease.
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH BREAK			

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PRE-CONFERENCE DAY 2 – TUESDAY, 20 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	ROOM	REGISTRATION	DESCRIPTION
13:00 – 14:45	WMDA Reviewers Training	203	Open to all	Ready to play a key role in WMDA Certification Programme? The WMDA Reviewers Training will enhance your skills and knowledge. Engage with experts, learn from each other, and work together to make an impact on patients and donors.
13:00 – 16:00	Educational Session for Healthcare Professionals	204	Open to all Pre-registration required*	This educational session will cover: Donor-focused case studies – Dr. Tommy Alfaro-Moya, Dr. Nida Usmani CAR-T for Multiple Myeloma – Dr. Sita Bhella Introduction to Search Algorithms – Speaker TBC Mobilization Agents – Dr. Matthew Seftel
13:00 – 16:00	Cord Blood Operations Committee Meeting	205A	Open to all	Efficient cord blood banking saves lives! Join our Cord Blood Operations discussions to streamline logistics and explore innovative concepts.
13:00 – 16:30	Workshop for CEOs of WMDA Member Registries - Continued	205B	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?
13:00 – 16:30	Donor Medical Suitability Committee Meeting	205C	Open to all	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 – 16:30	Bio-Informatics & Innovation Committee Meeting – Continued	205B	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.
14:30 – 15:00	HEALTH BREAK			
14:45 – 16:15	CTTC Board of Directors Meeting	201C	Closed meeting	
14:45 – 16:30	Match-Connect User Group Meeting	203	Open to all	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: The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Strategy, Efficiency, Communication	200A		AI in Donor Delection/Optimal Patient Treatment Selection/Data Analysis – Dr. Yung-Tsi Bolon Donor Selection/Operations Algorithm – Dr. Assya Trofimov Moderator: Dr. Maude Dumont-Lagacé
18:00 – 23:00	OFF-SITE SOCIAL EVENT – SUGAR SHACK (WMDA DELEGATES ONLY) Pre-Registration required*			

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CONFERENCE DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	ROOM	DESCRIPTION
7:00 – 8:30	BREAKFAST SYMPOSIUM		ROOM 200B
8:30 – 9:30	Symposium 2: Hans Messner Lectureship	200A	Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation for Children with ALL: The FORUM concept – Dr. Christina Peters Moderator: Dr. Wilson Lam
9:30 – 10:30	Symposium 3A (concurrent): Prevention and Treatment of Acute GvHD	200A	Treg Engineered Donor Products in Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation to Prevent GvHD and Improve Immune Tolerance – Dr. Everett Meyer Acute Graft versus Host Disease: Hope, Achievement, and Challenges – Dr. Silvy Lachance Moderator: Dr. Imran Ahmad
	Symposium 3B (concurrent): Donor Registry Developments	200B	Co-moderators: Dr. Oliver Kürsteiner, Dr. Sigal Manor Speaker: Nicola Alderson Financial Stability of Registries and Strategies for the Future – Dr. Sergi Querol
10:30 – 11:00	HEALTH BREAK		ROOM 200C
11:00 – 12:15	Symposium 4: Till & McCulloch Lectureship & CTTC Research Award Reports	200A	Till & McCulloch Lectureship – Dr. Denis-Claude Roy Utility of Circulating Tumour DNA in Lymphoma Patients Treated with CD19 CAR-T Cells – Dr. Kevin Hay Quality of Life and Comorbidities of Adult Survivors of Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplant versus their Siblings – Dr. Kareem Jamani
12:15 – 13:45	LUNCH SYMPOSIUM		ROOM 200B
13:45 – 15:15	Symposium 5: Health Equity, Ethical Considerations, and Patient Access in Cell Therapy	200A	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
15:15 – 15:45	HEALTH BREAK		ROOM 200C
15:45 – 17:15	Symposium 6A : Novel Immune Effector Cell Therapies	200A	CAR T-Cells for the Treatment of T-Cell Leukemias – Dr. Waseem Qasim CD3 ⁺ CD4 ⁻ CD8 ⁻ Double-Negative T Cells: A Novel Adjuvant Therapy for the Holy Grail of Allo-HSCT – Dr. Jongbok Lee Moderator: Dr. Mona Shafey
	Symposium 6B: Innovation in Cell Therapy Products and Services	200B	Cord Blood Expansion and Rejuvenation Platform – Dr. Elisa Tomellini Role of Blood, Tissue and Cell Establishments in New Cell Therapies – Dr. Allison Waters Moderators: Dr. David Allan & Dr. Sergi Querol
17:15 – 18:45	NETWORKING RECEPTION & POSTER PRESENTATIONS		

CONFERENCE DAY 2 – THURSDAY, 22 MAY 2025

TIME	SESSION	ROOM	DESCRIPTION
7:00 – 8:30	BREAKFAST SYMPOSIUM		ROOM 200B
8:30 – 9:30	Symposium 7: Shirley Nolan Lecture	200A	Dr. Carlheinz Müller / Moderator: Henny Braund
9:30 – 10:45	WMDA General Membership Meeting	200A	Restricted to WMDA Members
	CTTC Annual General Meeting	200B	Restricted to CTTC members
10:45 – 11:15	HEALTH BREAK		ROOM 200C
11:15 – 12:15	Oral Abstract Presentations	200A	
	Development and implementation of an awareness campaign to attract young donors for the Swiss registry – Franziska Kellenberger Spanish bone marrow donor registry: How big is enough? – Dr. Sergi Querol Acceleration of VTs by automating the processes of donor verification typing at DKMS laboratory – Carolin Schwarz Inclusive Practices for Safe and Equitable Donor Assessment – Dr. Warren Fingrut		
	Oral Abstract Presentations	200A	
	Collaborative development of structured support pathways for patient partners in cellular therapy – Dr. Karine Bilodeau Re-envisioning the autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplant as an immunotherapeutic tool – Cora Geiger Matched Unrelated Donor Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Increased Usage and Improvements in Clinical Outcomes in Canada – Dr. Matthew Seftel Results of a Phase I/II Study of EBV-Specific T Cells for the Treatment of EBV Reactivation and EBV-Related Lymphoproliferative Disorders – Dr. Lorne Schweitzer		
12:30 – 14:00	LUNCH SYMPOSIUM		ROOM 200B
14:00 – 15:00	Symposium 8A: Gene Therapy for Hemoglobinopathies – Understanding and Addressing Barriers	200A	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. Gregory Guilcher Moderator: Dr. Nancy Robitaille
	Symposium 8B: Innovative Donor Outreach and Engagement Strategies	200B	Using New Technologies and Digital Media to Attract New Donors – Patrice Lavoie Applying Sales and Marketing Principles Ethically and Effectively – Mai Duong Moderators: Catherine Viau, Dr. Marti Freund
15:00 – 15:30	HEALTH BREAK		ROOM 200C
15:30 – 16:30	Symposium 9: Debate: Choosing the Optimal Donor	200A	For Cord Blood – Dr. Sandra Cohen For Haplo and Easily Accessible Related Donors – Dr. Joerg Krueger Moderator: Dr. Christopher Lemieux
17:30 – 18:00	SHUTTLE SERVICE		
18:00 – 23:00	OFF-SITE SOCIAL EVENT – GALA DINNER, MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION Pre-Registration required*		

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