

Ross Petty is Awarded the Order of Canada

By Lori Tucker, MD

We are pleased to honor Dr. Ross Petty, our colleague and friend, well-known by the Canadian rheumatology community, who has been awarded the Order of Canada for his work in the field of pediatric rheumatology. This tremendous honor is well-deserved, as Dr. Petty has played a critical role in the lives of children and youth with rheumatic diseases in British Columbia, Canada, and around the world. Dr. Petty is currently Professor Emeritus in pediatrics at the University of British Columbia, and in the Division of Pediatric Rheumatology at the BC Children's Hospital. As most rheumatologists know, Dr. Petty is the co-author of the 'bible' of pediatric rheumatology: *Textbook of Pediatric Rheumatology*, now in its 5th edition. His academic contributions to the field of pediatric rheumatology are extensive, including being the chair of the International League of Associations for Rheumatology (ILAR) initiative which lead to the current world-wide classification system for chronic arthritis in childhood, now called juvenile idiopathic arthritis, with all of its subtypes. Only Dr. Petty could bring together an international group of pediatric rheumatologists, all with their own personal agendas and opinions about names and classifications, and come out with a consensus which is now the accepted standard around the world!

Dr. Petty's list of academic awards and achievements are too long to list in this publication; he is a Master of the American College of Rheumatology and has received the Distinguished Rheumatologist Award of the Canadian Rheumatology Association. For many in the field of pediatric rheumatology, Ross' passion and dedication to training the next generation of pediatric rheumatologists, and spreading knowledge about childhood rheumatic diseases around the world is his enduring legacy. Ross started the first formal pediatric rheumatology training program in Canada, and this program has resulted in a vast network of pediatric rheumatologists at every level all around the world.



Luckily for the children and teens with rheumatic diseases in British Columbia, Dr. Petty continues to work clinically, seeing patients, and teaching his colleagues, fellows, residents and students. Our pediatric rheumatology team knows that one of Ross' favorite places to be is in the clinic, sitting on a small stool next to a nervous four year old, coaxing her to allow him to examine her joints without worry. We all know that inevitably, the exam gets done and the child leaves the clinic with her parents, smiling and asking when she can come visit Dr. Petty again.

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I would like to share a personal message sent by Dr. Stephanie Ensworth to Dr. Petty, congratulating him on his award:

Dear Ross,

Congratulations on being appointed to the highest honor of the Order of Canada! This is most well-deserved and it is so wonderful that you are being recognized for your brilliance and major contributions to medicine by those outside of medicine. It is indeed a special honor that a physician is called to receive the Order of Canada and an honor that few physicians ever attain.

You are so humble about your awards, status and place of highest respect in medicine and about yourself but, I suppose, this is further evidence of the well-known saying that the most knowledgeable are the ones who, also, know how much more there is to learn!—and a most knowledgeable and outstanding physician and person, you certainly are! I have always been struck by your constant curiosity, questioning, thinking and learning!

You have been, and continue to be my mentor and great teacher to me and countless other trainees around the world. You have provided me with much inspiration. I have admired you always. You are an exceptional leader for all who practice medicine, not just pediatric rheumatology.

Best wishes,
Stephanie



Sunnybrook Announcement

By Mary J. Bell, MD, FRCPC

Dear Colleagues,

I was thrilled to present a progress report on the validation of the Early Inflammatory Arthritis (EIA) Detection Tool to our members at the CRA business meeting last month. The response to the call to work together was very encouraging, and now we would like to make this ask to the entire membership.

The CRA executive has shown strong support for this work from the beginning. This is the first rigorously developed detection tool for incident EIA. We want to work with you to achieve the goal of improving the care pathway to rheumatology. There is great potential to reduce wait times to appropriate care if detection, referral and triage tools are used in tandem.

We seek to engage each of you, and your primary care networks, in the national validation study over the next six

to twelve months. If 50 CRA members were to agree to assess, on average, one study patient per week, we could achieve our goal in only six months.

We are asking you to engage your primary care networks to identify, screen and refer patients to you who present with a new (six to 52 week duration) MSK complaint. We can offer authorship, and a stipend to support a research assistant, for your participation.

Please contact me at mary.bell@sunnybrook.ca for more information.

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