

Join us for a one-day medicolegal program  
**BRAIN, BEHAVIOUR AND HEALTH: EMERGING RESEARCH**  
**Friday, February 22, 2019**  
Holiday Inn Yorkdale-3450 Dufferin Street

The Canadian Society of Medical Evaluators and the Canadian Academy of Psychologists in Disability Assessment are pleased to present a conference focused on the integration of psychological and physical factors in health and in third party assessments.

Canadian researchers of international recognition will present fascinating research regarding the complex relations amongst the brain, behavior and health.

Our esteemed legal experts will present court decisions where clinical teams provided multidisciplinary assessments related to personal injury and disability cases, and explore implications for the integration of the assessors' respective opinions.

**SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS:**

- **Dr. Amir Minerbi**, McGill University, presenting research on the bidirectional connection between the gut microbiome and the brain, and implications for chronic pain.
- **Dr. Valerie Taylor**, University of Calgary, presenting research on the microbiome and mental illness (psychobiotics).
- **Dr. Bobby Stojanoski**, London, ON, will present research from the lab of Dr. Adrian Owen regarding consciousness in the vegetative state.
- **Dr. David Corey**, Brain Scan Inc., Toronto, presenting research on fMRI and mild traumatic brain injury.
- **Dr. Bruce Ballon**, Toronto, will provide a history of psychosomatic medicine and how dualism continues to permeate our medical system.
- **Joanne Romas**, O.T., will present a court case that hinged on a holistic approach to assessment.
- **Laura Emmett**, Strigberger Brown Armstrong LLP, President of the Canadian Defense Lawyers, will present recent court decisions regarding AB multidisciplinary assessments.
- **Jeffrey Shinehoft** and **Joel Dick**, personal injury lawyers, will present cases reflecting expert bias.

**Information & Registration:** <https://www.csme.org/events>

**Location:** Holiday Inn Yorkdale—3450 Dufferin Street

**Contact:** Cristina: [info@csme.org](mailto:info@csme.org) | Tel: 416 487 4040 - Toll Free: 888 672 9999



**CAPDA**  
Canadian Academy of Psychologists  
in Disability Assessment

8:00AM

**REGISTRATION | BREAKFAST**8:50AM Opening Remarks and Welcome: *Dr. Rhonda Nemeth, Ph.D., C.Psych.*

9:00AM Are Gut Bacteria Involved in the Pathogenesis of Chronic Pain?:  
*Dr. Amir Minerbi, M.D., Ph.D, Alan Edward Pain Management Unit, McGill University*

*Fibromyalgia is a prevalent clinical syndrome, challenging to diagnosis and treatment. In recent years, advances in the study of the gut microbiome, have shed light on the role of gut bacteria in health and disease, and on its bi-directional interactions with the brain, hinting that they may play a role in the pathogenesis of pain in animal models. Using next generation sequencing technology we compared the microbiome of 77 fibromyalgia patients with that of 79 matched controls. Gut microbiome of fibromyalgia patients differed significantly from that of matched controls, and variance was explained by disease variables more than by any other innate or environmental variable. In fibromyalgia patients, a relative increase in the abundance of members of the Parabacteroides and Clostridium genera, and a relative decrease in the relative abundance of members of the Faecalibacterium and Haemophilus genera were observed. The relative abundance of some taxa quantitatively correlated with symptoms severity. This first demonstration of gut dysbiosis in chronic pain could open new horizons in our understanding of chronic pain possibly allow for new treatment modalities to be developed.*

9:30AM Mood Modifying Microbes: The Role of the Gut Microbiome on Mental Illness: *Dr. Valerie Taylor, M.D., Ph.D., FRCP*

10:00AM Discussion | Q&A: *Dr. Minerbi and Dr. Taylor*

10:30AM

**COFFEE | NETWORKING BREAK**

10:45AM Brain Death and Consciousness: *Dr. Bobby Stojanoski, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Adrian Owen Lab Brain and Mind Institute, Western University*

*Dr. Stojanoski will review the history of EEG and fMRI to probe for residual cognitive and conscious processing in patients who have suffered severe brain injury and are in a persistent vegetative state. He will highlight significant breakthroughs in the quest to find (successfully) conscious processing in a group of patients who otherwise show no behavioural evidence of being consciously aware. He will also present recent work that is currently being undertaken, and what he and his colleagues have planned for the future.*

11:15AM Using fMRI to Assess TBI: *Dr. David Corey, Ph.D., Founder, Brain Scan Inc*

*One of the greatest challenges facing patients who have a mild to moderate TBI is the lack of objective imaging data [e.g. CT, MRI] supporting the presence of a brain injury. The field of functional neuroimaging, exemplified by functional MRI, is gradually being developed to help address this challenge. I will describe fMRI technology and illustrate its usefulness with the aid of a case history.*

11:45PM Discussion | Q&A: *Dr. Stojanoski and Dr. Corey*

12:15PM

1:00PM Mind, Myth and Mammoths: The Parable of the Five IME Assessors and the Elephant in the Examination Room:

*Dr. Bruce Ballon, BSc, MD, ESPC, FRCPC, Associate Professor, Psychotherapies, Humanities and Educational Scholarship, Brain and Therapeutics*

### LUNCH | NETWORKING

*Participants in this session will be invited to participate in a facilitated and interactive discussion regarding: Canadian systemic healthcare beliefs that continue to perpetuate myths of dualism between "mind" and "body"; examples of other cultures where mental health and physical health are treated as general health; and the potentially dire consequences of non-integration of multi-disciplinary assessment reports.*

1:45PM Holistic Approach to Attendant Care and Activities of Daily Living:

*Joanne Romas, MSc(OT), OT Reg. (Ont.), Joanne Romas & Associates*

*As health care providers we are often asked to comment on our client's abilities to resume their activities of daily living. Using a recent decision (Cumberbatch v Guarantee) the importance of health care providers using a holistic approach when addressing questions and recommendations surrounding attendant care and activities of daily living will be illustrated.*

2:15PM Recent Decisions Regarding AB Multidisciplinary Assessments: *Laura Emmett, Partner Strigberger Brown Armstrong LLP; President of the Canadian Defense Lawyers*

3:00PM

### COFFEE | NETWORKING BREAK

3:15PM Expert Bias: View from the Bench and Bar: *Jeffrey Shinehoft, Jeffrey Shinehoft Personal Injury Law and Joel Dick, Partner, Howie, Sacks & Henry Personal Injury Law*

3:45PM **PANEL DISCUSSION**

Moderator: *Dr. Nemeth*

Panelists: *Dr. Ballon, J. Romas, L. Emmett, J. Shinehoft, J. Dick, Dr. Orner*

4:15PM

### SUMMARY & GENERAL DISCUSSION



## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



*Dr. Amir Minerbi, M.D., Ph.D., Alan Edward Pain Management Unit, McGill University*

is a specialized physician in pain medicine and in family medicine from Haifa, Israel. He is a Ph.D. graduate in neuroscience from the Israel Institute for Technology. Dr. Minerbi is currently enrolled in a clinical

research fellowship in chronic pain at the Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit of the McGill University Health Centre. His research focuses on the interactions between the gut microbiome and chronic pain.

Fibromyalgia is a prevalent clinical syndrome, challenging to diagnosis and treatment. In recent years, advances in the study of the gut microbiome, have shed light on the role of gut bacteria in health and disease, and on its bi-directional interactions with the brain, hinting that they may play a role in the pathogenesis of pain in animal models. Using next generation sequencing technology we compared the microbiome of 77 fibromyalgia patients with that of 79 matched controls. Gut microbiome of fibromyalgia patients differed significantly from that of matched controls, and variance was explained by disease variables more than by any other innate or environmental variable. In fibromyalgia patients, a relative increase in the abundance of members of the Parabacteroides and Clostridium genera, and a relative decrease in the relative abundance of members of the Faecalibacterium and Haemophilus genera were observed. The relative abundance of some taxa quantitatively correlated with symptoms severity. This first demonstration of gut dysbiosis in chronic pain could open new horizons in our understanding of chronic pain possibly allow for new treatment modalities to be developed.



*Dr. Valerie Taylor, MD, PhD, FRCP, Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry, University of Calgary*

Her academic focus is on obesity, metabolic syndrome and mental health. She is interested in the overlap between obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease

and mental illness, the impact of pharmacotherapy on weight and behavior, and the role of the microbiome.

She currently has 2 novel clinical trials looking at modifying the gut microbiome to treat mood disorders. She has over 120 peer reviewed publications and funding from a variety of national and international funding agencies.



*Dr. Bobby Stojanoski Research Scientist, Adrian Owen Lab Brain and Mind Institute, Western University*

Dr. Stojanoski completed his PhD at the University of Toronto, where he used electroencephalography (EEG) to examine how our brains use the myriad of information available to form conscious experiences of our

complex world. After completing his PhD, he started a post as a postdoctoral fellow in the Brain and Mind Institute at University of Western Ontario to combine his background in EEG with functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to study how specific cognitive systems, such as attention and working memory, help parse this overwhelming amount of information in order to form a coherent and continuous conscious experience of our environment.

Currently, he is a research scientist at the Brain and Mind Institute working closely with Dr. Owen to examine various factors that affect cognition and conscious processing, and the underlying changes to brain activity. One of the major lines of Dr. Stojanoski's research is to use both EEG and fMRI to create innovative paradigms to probe for residual cognitive and conscious processing in patients who have suffered severe brain injury and are in a persistent vegetative state.



*Dr. David Corey, Ph.D., Founder, Brain Scan Inc*

Dr. Corey trained in Neuroscience and Experimental Psychology, graduating with a Ph.D. in 1978 from York University. He then underwent postdoctoral training in behavioural medicine at McMaster University.

In 1980, he founded Health Recovery Group, the first private interdisciplinary pain rehabilitation facility in Ontario. He was also the Clinical Director of the Mount Sinai Hospital Function and Pain Program. The clinics provided interdisciplinary treatment for chronic pain,

PTSD and traumatic brain injury (TBI), including cognitive-behavioural therapy, biofeedback, physical therapy and medical care, for thousands of injured persons.

Dr. Corey has written a best-selling self-help book on chronic pain entitled *Pain: Learning to Live Without It* and has also published clinical research in pain management. He has participated in task forces and panels, such as the WSIB's Chronic Pain Policy Advisory Panel and the Chronic Low Back Pain Program of Care.

More recently, he has focused on finding better diagnostic tools such as functional MRI (fMRI) to assess chronic pain and TBI and has organized and sponsored research in this pursuit. He founded Brain Scan Inc. in 2016 to further these goals and to provide fMRI assessments for patients with TBI.



*Dr. Bruce Ballon, BSc, MD, ESPC, FRCPC, Associate Professor, Psychotherapies, Humanities and Educational Scholarship, Brain and Therapeutics*

An award-winning psychiatrist, Dr. Ballon brings over two decades of experience in providing innovative education, simulations, facilitation & creativity for teaching and training to individuals and groups.

Dr. Ballon is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Public Health for the University of Toronto, as well as an Adjunct Professor for the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's Faculty of Health Sciences. He has fellowships in Addiction Psychiatry and Youth & Family Psychiatry. As the Director of Education for SIM-one, he embraced a collaborative approach, developing numerous programs and helping foster the next generation of simulationists. He also was the creator & Head of both the Youth Addiction and Concurrent Disorders Program and the Advanced Clinical and Educational Services at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, which developed into the ongoing Problem Gambling, Gaming and Internet Services. Dr. Ballon is a Senior Education Consultant for Baycrest, where he is involved in developing simulation & innovative experiential trainings. He also participates in the Arts and Humanities activities offered through Mount Sinai Hospital. Dr. Ballon also consults to

Homewood Health's specialty clinics and residential programs across Canada, focusing on concurrent mental health, addiction and trauma issues. He also a program development consultant for the Nursing Health Program for Ontario. He has also acted as a consultant for many healthcare professional organizations in regard to addiction and mental-health issues, such as the OMA, MOHLTC, and the CNO. He has created numerous clinical treatment programs for addressing complex health conditions involving trauma, mental health and addiction.

Dr. Ballon works with industries involved in technology & games for understanding its impact on people's lives. He is also an illusionist who performs to help educate the public of mental health issues, as well as collaborates with professional illusionists around the world. He has written books for children, parents, and the general public. He has been a media consultant to create accurate portrayals of psychiatric elements. He has also created games dealing with mental-health issues that have garnered him awards from the Games Manufacturers Association and international literary & academic associations.



*Joanne Romas, MSc(OT), OT Reg. (Ont.), Joanne Romas & Associates*

Mrs. Joanne Romas is a duly qualified Occupational Therapist licenced to practice in the Province of Ontario. She graduated from York University with a Specialized Honours Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology and Health Sciences. She also graduated from The University of Western Ontario with a Master's of Science in Occupational Therapy. She worked as an Accident Benefits Claims Representative.

Mrs. Romas is a member in good standing with the College of Occupational Therapists of Ontario, and has membership with the Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists (OSOT) and OSOT member of Auto Sector Insurance Sector Team and Attendant Care Needs (Form 1) Task Force. She is certified with the American Medical Association Guides to Impairment Rating, 4th Edition. Mrs. Romas has been the Director/Owner of her own Occupational Therapy firm, Joanne Romas & Associates for over 10 years, providing both defence and plaintiff assessments and treatment within the province of Ontario.



*Laura Emmett, Partner, Strigberger Brown Armstrong LLP and President, CCanadian Defence Lawyers*

Laura has a diverse practice where she focuses on accident benefits, bodily injury claims, product liability, cyber liability, privacy law and drone liability. She has appeared in all

levels of Court in Ontario as well as in various administrative tribunals. Laura has conducted jury and non-jury trials as well as arbitrations on behalf of insurers.

Laura is the President of the Canadian Defence Lawyers and the past chair of the Continuing Education Committee. She is also actively involved in the Defence Research Institute where she serves on two steering committees and holds the position of Canadian Counsel Representative. In the community, Laura is on the Board of Directors for the Ronald McDonald Charities of Southwestern Ontario and the chair of the Better Business Bureau Serving Western Ontario Business Integrity Awards. Laura is the co-author of the Annotated Accident Benefits Schedule – Effective September 1, 2010, an annual publication that summarizes the pertinent case law.

In 2014, she was the recipient of the 20 Under 40 Award from Business London. In 2015, Laura received the Canadian Defence Lawyers' Richard B. Lindsay QC Exceptional Young Lawyer award. In 2016, Laura was recognized as a Lexpert Rising Star which honours leading lawyers under 40. Finally, in 2017, she was invited to join the International Association of Defence Lawyers, a vetted organization of leading corporate and insurance defence lawyers, as well as executives from around the world.



*Jeffrey Shinehoft Personal Injury Law*

Jeffrey has represented injured people for 15 years. He has only acted for and represented injured people. Through his family's injury law practice in Hamilton and years of practice at a top-rated downtown personal injury firm, Jeffrey received invaluable experience and

appreciates how an accident can devastate a family. His expertise and knowledge allows him to effectively

meet the needs of his clients.

Jeffrey is a skilled Trial Lawyer and is capable to carry your case through to the end. Jeffrey is regularly consulted by his colleagues and asked to conduct trials on their behalf. He will fight for your fair legal result and is dedicated to ensuring that you recover your life and your health.

Jeffrey's practice includes complex civil litigation, with an emphasis on personal injury claims. He has successfully appeared in Court and Tribunals

*Joel Dick, Partner, Howie, Sacks & Henry Personal Injury Law*

Joel is a Partner at the firm whose practice is dedicated to personal injury litigation, and in particular, motor vehicle accidents, product liability injuries and solicitors' negligence. Joel has argued successfully in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, the Divisional Court and the Court of Appeal for Ontario and has handled the full range of personal injury claims, from slip and falls, to amputations and catastrophic brain injury.

Joel is passionate about his work and has earned a reputation for understanding and fighting for the needs of his clients.



## BRAIN, BEHAVIOUR AND HEALTH: EMERGING RESEARCH— ONE PER PERSON

To register please fax your completed registration form to 416 495 8723. You can also register by contacting Cristina at 416 487 4040 | 888 672 9999 or email: [info@csme.org](mailto:info@csme.org)

### ATTENDEE INFORMATION:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Specific diet requirements (vegetarian, allergies ...): \_\_\_\_\_

If you have a disability and require assistance (wheelchair access...), please inform us.

**REGISTRATION FEE:** Includes breakfast, lunch and breaks, and all program materials. All fees are inclusive of sale tax (13% HST—Reg # 894035195) as noted below.

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>CSME/CAPDA Members</b>	\$446.35	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Allied Health Professionals</b>	\$310.75
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Non-Member</b>	\$559.50	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Students</b>	\$ 84.75

**PAYMENT**  Cheque payable to CSME  VISA  MasterCard **Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV#: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS & TRANSFER POLICY:

Cancellations will only be considered when received in writing. A refund (less 25% admin/processing fee) will be issued for written cancellations received by February 18, 2019. **NO** refunds will be issued after February 18. If you are unable to attend for any reason, you can transfer your registration to another person without penalty.

Please retain a copy of your registration form for your records. An electronic copy of your receipt will be issued by email once payment has been received and processed.