

Joint
Orthopaedic
Initiative for
National Trials
of the Shoulder

OFF THE CUFF

The Official Publication of JOINTS Canada

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ABOUT THE GROUP...

JOINTS Canada is an organization of Canadian Orthopaedic surgeons dedicated to raising the standards of education assessment and care through multi-centre clinical trials, to improve the quality of life for patients with shoulder disorders.

Successful Cambridge Meeting!

Katie Dainty, MSc.

Thanks to the ambition and resources provided by Dr. Nick Mohtadi the shoulder research group was able to have another meeting in 2002. The group met on the weekend of November 14, 2002 at the Langdon Hall Resort in Cambridge, Ontario. There was a fantastic member turn out, 11 surgeons and 13 research assistants were able to make the trip despite Mother Nature deciding to bring the first snowfall on Sunday!

The group officially met all day Saturday and until noon on Sunday but many of the most influential discussions went on around the dinner table! During the meeting we were able to update and clarify many of the ongoing multi-centre research projects, discuss and refine new projects introduced and define some infrastructure for the group as a whole. Mandates, membership, future research directions and funding opportunities were deliberated. The minutes from the Cambridge meeting have been emailed to all registered members. If you did not receive them, please contact Katie and you will be added to the mailing list.

As you can see from this newsletter and other communications since November, the name of the group has been changed. Formerly the Canadian Shoulder Research Group, the group felt that the name needed to have a catchy acronym in order to be memorable and marketable. It was thought that the name JOINTS (Joint Orthopaedic Initiative for National Trials of the Shoulder) was more reflective of the group's endeavors and Canada was added in order to signify our distinctly Canadian connection. The fact that the acronym can also work fairly well in French was also a consideration. We are in the process of having a logo designed and hope to have it available for the group to view at the our meeting in June at the COA.

Thanks again to everyone who attended. We were able to accomplish a lot to move the group ahead and we look forward to having everyone join us next time in Toronto!

NEXT MEETING

JOINTS Canada

**COA 2003
Toronto
May 30—June 6**

**Meeting time
TBA**



Editor's Note:

I must apologize for my delinquent efforts in publishing the JOINTS newsletter that was due in the fall of 2002.

For obvious reasons it was not ready to go in September and since then I have not been able to sit down and focus my efforts on getting it out. So here it is, the April edition for 2003—chalk full of information and a bit of fun too!

I hope you enjoy it! KD



Photo Gallery

JOINT ORTHOPAEDIC INITIATIVE FOR NATIONAL TRIALS OF THE SHOULDER

FULL ACTIVE MEMBERS 2002-2003

John Antoniou— Montreal, QC
Robert Balyk— Edmonton, AB
Richard Boorman— Calgary, AB
Erin Boynton— Toronto, ON
Darren Drosdewech— London, ON
Ken Faber— London, ON
Robert Hawkins— Vancouver, BC
Laurie Hiemstra— Calgary, AB
Bob Hollinshead— Calgary, AB
Richard Holtby— Toronto, ON
Jordan Leith— Vancouver, BC
Bob Litchfield— London, ON
Peter MacDonald— Winnipeg, MN
Scott Mandel— Hamilton, ON
Bob McCormack— New Westminster, BC
Mike McKee— Toronto, ON
Jaydeep Moro— Hamilton, ON
Nick Mohtadi— Calgary, AB
Bill Reagan— Vancouver, BC
Eric Renaud— Montreal, QC

The Incriminating Evidence of our Cambridge 2002 Meeting



“I have five of my good friends here sir....a bottle of your cheapest wine please!!”

There are two types of people - those who come in a room & say “Well here I am.” and those who come in and say “Ah, there you are.”

- Fredrick Collins



SIS Pilot Study Grant to go Back In

For those of you involved in the SIS Augmentation for Rotator Cuff Repair Pilot submission to CIHR, the results are in and we missed being funded by the skin of our teeth (or our pig skin as it may be...!). The responses to the grant were exceptionally positive though and we were ranked 12th out of 69 grants!

The grant will be resubmitted once all of the reviewer queries are answered and we are very positive that we will be successful in the second go around! We are also still in negotiations with Dupuy and they are keen to provide the product for the pilot study and perhaps funding for the multi-centre trial as well.

We always knew she was smart....now it's official!



Congratulations to JOINTS member, Dr. Laurie Hiemstra (Calgary) on successfully defending her Ph.D. thesis in March. Laurie completed her graduate studies at the University of Manitoba under Dr. Dean Kriellaars, Department of Physiology. Her thesis was entitled Neuromuscular Control after Injury to the Knee: An Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injury and Reconstruction Model. Way to go Laurie!

\$\$ FUNDING UPDATE \$\$

The Financial Committee has set up an account for JOINTS which is managed through the COF. This was the best way to accomplish non-profit status for the group.

In December a letter was sent to a variety of industry partners on behalf of the group, requesting a 3 year commitment for financial support of JOINTS Canada.

Please be reminded that we will soon be sending out the requests for the \$100 buy-in donation from the full active members of the group. Tax receipts will be available once donations are received.

Prize Patrol!

Congratulations to Mike McKee and Lisa Wild of Toronto St. Mike's for a fantastic job on recruitment for the Cement Study—they have enrolled their 10 patients and are still on a roll! Way to go guys!

New Studies in the Works!

Randomized Arthroscopic Anterior Instability (with Bankart) Shoulder Study (RAAIB)

- *Peter MacDonald et al*

Arthroscopic vs. Open Rotator Cuff Repair

- *Richard Holtby et al*

Intra-Rater Reliability of Diagnostic Shoulder Arthroscopy: Video Analysis

- *Treny Sasyniuk et al*

Prospective Data Collection on the Delta Reverse Shoulder Prosthesis

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**Questions, comments,
compliments and
correspondence regarding
this publication should be
addressed to:**

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From the picture archives.....



**Do we really
want this
guy
in the
group??**

Literature Review-

**Scoring Systems for the Functional Assessment of The
Shoulder**

Alexandra Kirkley, MD, FRCSC (see reference below)

In the specialty of orthopaedic surgery, most conditions impact tremendously on patients' quality of life but not the length of their life. Traditional objective measures of patient outcome have included such things as range of motion, strength and radiographic variables. These measures are usually very poor indicators of the functional and psychological aspects of patient health. Najman and Levin in their review of studies using quality of life criteria pointed out that the use of objective indicators alone produced results totally unrelated to the feelings and experiences of the patients in the studies. They warned that those investigators who use objective indicators alone may simply be projecting their own values and priorities on the patients they are studying. Further, it has been shown that the reliability and validity of many objective measures is surprisingly poor. (Berle R and Mewa A). On the contrary, subjective measures of quality of life, when rigorously developed, have been found to be more reliable and valid.

We found that older instruments reflect the fact that they were developed at a time when little information was available on the appropriate methodology instrument development. It is clear however that much progress has been made in this area of orthopaedic surgery and that currently there exists an appropriate instrument for each of the main conditions of the shoulder. Investigators planning clinical trials should select one of the modern instruments developed with appropriate patient input for item generation and reduction, established validity and reliability. All things being equal the most responsive instrument available should be used in order to minimize the sample size for the proposed study. The shoulder instruments reviewed in this article include: the Rating Sheet for Bankart Repair (Rowe), ASES Shoulder Evaluation Form, UCLA Shoulder Score, The Constant Score, Disabilities of the Arm, Shoulder and Hand (DASH), the Shoulder Rating Questionnaire, the Western Ontario Osteoarthritis of the Shoulder Index (WOOS), the Western Ontario Rotator Cuff Index (WORC) and the Western Ontario Shoulder Instability Index (WOSI) and Rotator Cuff Quality of Life (RC-QOL).

Recent Shoulder Publications By Members of The Group

Kirkley A, Alvarez C, Griffin S: The Development and Evaluation of a Disease-specific Quality of Life Measurement Tool for Rotator Cuff Disease: The Western Ontario Rotator Cuff (WORC) Index. *Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine* (in press 2003)

Edmonds G, Kirkley A, Fowler P: The Effects of Early Arthroscopic Stabilization Compared to Immobilization and Rehabilitation on Proprioception of the Shoulder after Primary Anterior Dislocation. *The Journal of Knee Surgery, Sports, Traumatology and Arthroscopy* (in press 2003)

Spangehl MJ, Hawkins RH, McCormack RG, Loomer RL. Arthroscopic versus open acromioplasty: a prospective, randomized, blinded study. *Journal of Shoulder & Elbow Surgery*. 2002;11:101-7.

Kirkley A: Scoring Systems for the Functional Assessment of the Shoulder. *Techniques in Shoulder & Elbow Surgery* 3(4): 220-233, 2002

Wallace AL, Hollinshead RM, Frank CB. Creep behavior of a rabbit model of ligament laxity after electrothermal shrinkage in vivo. *Am J Sports Med*. 2002 Jan-Feb;30(1):98-102

Drosdowech DS, Faber KJ, King GJW. Distal biceps tendon repair: one and two-incision techniques. *Techniques in Shoulder and Elbow Surg*. 2002. 3: 90-95.

Hiemstra LA, Kirkley A. "Shoulder Instability in Female Athletes" *Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy Review* 2002;10:50-57.

Hiemstra LA, MacDonald, PB, Froese W. "Subacromial Infection Following Corticosteroid Injection" *Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery* (in press Jan-Feb, 2003)