

SPEAKER PROFILES

OBESITY UPDATE 2010

CARIBBEAN: MARCH 13-20, 2010

**Dr. Sean Wharton, MD, FRCPC, PharmD****(Traditional Medicine)**

Dr. Wharton has his doctorate in both Pharmacy and Medicine. Dr. Wharton graduated from UofT Pharmacy program in 1992, and his Doctorate in Pharmacy in 1997. He completed medical school at UofT, in 2001 and residency in Internal Medicine at McMaster University in 2005. His interest in ethnicity and medicine led him to the study of hypertension and then to obesity under the guidance of Dr. Arya Sharma, an international recognized leader in Obesity research.

Dr. Wharton has treated thousands of obese patients and was one of the main physicians to spearhead the Hamilton General Hospital Bariatric Clinic, along with Dr. Sharma. Dr. Wharton's research includes The Inadequacy of Diagnostic Equipment for Bariatric Patients; Barriers to the Treatment of Obesity, and Epicardial Fat in Bariatric patients before and after a Low Calorie Diet Program.

Dr. Wharton has a vision to education all patients and their families, regarding the causes and treatment of increased weight. Patients should be part of the solution to their own medical condition and can be advocates to change the status of obesity from a social condition to a chronic medical condition that requires societal and governmental recognition and assistance.

Dr. Wharton is a strong advocate for government funded medical care for patients with increased weight. All care at the Weight Management Centre is an OHIP funded and there are no charges for patients. Ministry funding for bariatric medical care continues to be inadequate, and with advocacy this will improve the extent of care that can be delivered to all patients.

Dr. Wharton is a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Canadian Obesity Network, the Canadian Association of Bariatric Surgeons and Physicians.

**Dr. Andrea J. Kuzmiski HBSc, ND****(Integrative Medicine)**

Andrea J. Kuzmiski is a successful graduate of the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine. She is a member of the Canadian Association of Naturopathic Medicine (CAND), Ontario Association of Naturopathic Doctors (OAND) and is registered with the Board of Directors of Drugless Therapy – Naturopathy (BDDT-N). Andrea holds an Honours Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Waterloo, and has extensive experience in the field of naturopathic endocrinology and holistic weight management. She holds additional certifications in parenteral therapy, cosmetic acupuncture and WTS (Wilson's Temperature Syndrome) therapy.

While she enjoys all aspects of naturopathic medicine, Andrea has a special interest in hormone imbalances, metabolic syndrome, weight loss and digestive disorders. Her goal is to provide her patients with the guidance and knowledge that is essential for achieving optimal health and wellness. Andrea has adopted an integrative approach to naturopathic medicine and is committed to working with primary health care physicians to provide complementary care and prescription drug management.

Andrea's passion for promoting health and wellness has made her a sought after speaker in both the public and corporate environment. She was the integrative medical authority on the CUIT 89.5 FM Take 5 morning show, is a presenter with the Wharton Medical Clinic lecture series, and is an OAND lecture presenter for GoodLife Fitness Clubs. Andrea is the in-house naturopathic doctor for Boston Pizza International (Ontario division), frequently presents lectures to corporations such as Siemens International and Fortino's/Loblaws, and writes a monthly health column for SportsXpress Magazine.

**Dr. Derek Puddester, BA BMedSc MD MEd FRCPC****(Physician's Health)**

Dr. Derek Puddester is an Associate Professor at uOttawa's Faculty of Medicine where he also is the Director of the Faculty Wellness Program. The program provides support, advocacy, research, and educational services to medical students, residents, and practicing physicians. Dr. Puddester is also a Child/Adolescent Psychiatrist at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario where he co-leads the Behavioural Neurosciences and Consultation-Liaison Team. He completed his undergraduate training at Memorial University of Newfoundland, residency at McMaster, and fellowship at uOttawa. In 2008, he completed an MEd in Teaching/Learning at uOttawa with his research focused on physician health education. Dr. Puddester has developed several national and international curricular resources on physician health including www.ephysicianhealth.ca, eworkplacehealth.ca, the Royal College of Physician and Surgeon's Physician Health Guide, and the Canadian Medical Association's undergraduate curriculum in physician health.

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**Mr. Michael Fraleigh, B.A., LL.B.*****(Practice Management)***

Michael is a Partner at Fogler, Rubinoff LLP where he heads the health law group. He is also a member of the Firm's Executive Committee. Michael has extensive experience in all aspects of health law including the representation of physicians in regulatory matters involving complaints, discipline, quality assurance, fitness to practice and registration issues. He has represented numerous physicians in hospital privilege disputes as well as in matters involving the management and business operations of a medical practice including billing issues. He also advises corporations and institutions with respect to health law issues. Michael is also an experienced medical malpractice litigator having both defended physicians and represented plaintiffs. Michael is a frequent speaker at continuing education programs for health care practitioners and lawyers on issues relating to health law and medical practice.

**Gregory Hilderman CFP, CLU, CHFC*****(Wealth Management)***

Greg Hilderman has been a partner in G2 Financial Partners since 1989. A Certified Financial Planner, Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant, Greg has practiced comprehensive financial planning since 1981. He has been a specialist in retirement, tax and estate planning since 1987.

Greg is a founding member of the Conference for Advanced Life Underwriting (CALU) and is the past president of the local organization of the Canadian Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors. He has also served as a member of the Retirement Planning Steering committee in Ottawa.

Greg has been instrumental in reshaping how numerous physician groups are compensated, focusing on improving their current and future lifestyles. He has worked on formulating changes to provincial, federal and corporate pension plans to provide enhanced benefits to members. Some of the groups Greg has worked with include neo-natologists, radiologists, thoracic surgeons, neurologists and oncologists in Western Canada, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.