



**GROUPE CANADIEN  
D'APHÉRÈSE**

**CANADIAN  
APHERESIS**

# Invitation to Support



**2017**

**Apheresis Education and Development Initiatives  
Annual General Meeting and Exhibit**

## Who we are

The Canadian Apheresis Group (CAG) was formed in 1980 under the auspices of National Health and Welfare, Canada. The group includes representatives from more than 42 apheresis units in major medical centres across Canada.

Our procedures include plasma exchange, cytopheresis (including stem cell collections) and photopheresis. Each year we do more than 10,000 plasma exchange procedures using plasma, albumin and crystalloids as the replacement fluids. As such, we use more than 10% of the plasma collected in the country.

Since the start, the CAG has been involved in the organization and direction of many randomized controlled studies of plasma exchange. In addition, the CAG has acted as a registry by collecting information on all apheresis procedures in Canada.

The Canadian Apheresis Group was one of five founding members of the World Apheresis Association (WAA) in 1986. The WAA, an umbrella organization for national and international professional societies devoted to all aspects of apheresis, now represents 15 member societies around the globe.

The Canadian Apheresis Group (CAG) consists of representatives of all centres performing therapeutic apheresis in Canada. Its role is to collect data on all procedures performed and to monitor the effectiveness of treatment and to survey complications associated with it.

Increasingly, a variety of pharmaceuticals are being used to enhance the apheresis procedures and/or augment therapy. The CAG is constantly evaluating various drugs to assist us in providing optimal therapy. Our many clinical trials have been instrumental in defining therapy and introducing new approaches to patient care throughout the country and the world.

As a national organization, the CAG provides liaison with other national and international apheresis societies. It promotes the study of apheresis by encouraging cooperative clinical trials across Canada and in association with international bodies and it fosters basic research into the mechanisms of the diseases treated.

The CAG aids in the assessment and application of new and innovative techniques of apheresis and provides education and advice to Canadian practitioners to ensure that the technique of therapeutic apheresis is applied in a humane and scientifically sound manner across the country, with optimal cost efficiency and preservation of our national blood supply.

To learn more, visit [www.cagcanada.ca](http://www.cagcanada.ca)

# Supporter Opportunities

As the only association for apheresis in Canada, we provide a prime opportunity for industry partners and not-for-profit organizations to foster collaboration in research, education and networking.

Corporate participation is possible through several opportunities and at varying support levels.

There are three ways to support the CAG: donations to the CAG are accepted to support our Core Apheresis Educational and Development initiatives as sponsors for our Annual General Meeting and as an exhibitor at the AGM.

## 1. APHERESIS EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES – OUR CORE FUNDING

The CAG represents all practitioners involved in therapeutic apheresis in Canada with members from 42 medical centres. These procedures include plasma exchange, photopheresis, therapeutic cytopheresis and peripheral blood stem cell collections.

Funding is needed to maintain communication between centres to permit protocol development and national data collection and education. The operations budget covers the development of educational programs and the teaching and training of both nurses and physicians. It is exclusive of other CAG costs, such as the annual meeting or any clinical trials undertaken by our group.

The CAG has created an online National Registry to collect data on all apheresis procedures across the country. Through this data we monitor outcomes of these procedures and plan practice improvements. We also track the incidence of blood-borne pathogens in specialized population groups. The statistics are collected annually and are shared, reviewed and discussed at our annual general meeting. This database, a web-based system, not only facilitates tracking of real time reactions but also provides the basis for many of the projects and studies we undertake. The information is also used to help standardize practices at centres across the country.

Funding is required to maintain the database and to allow us to continue our important role as a national co-ordinating group.

## LEVELS OF SUPPORT

Description	Platinum \$25 000.00	Gold \$15 000.00	Silver \$7 500.00
Complimentary full registration at the AGM	4	2	1
Recognition on the CAG website including a link to your company's website	✓	✓	✓
Corporate logo in the members' directory for 1 year	✓	✓	✓

## 2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Canadian Apheresis Group's Annual General Meeting is the premier event for Canada's Apheresis physicians and nurses, bringing together the leaders in this field from across Canada. This is your opportunity to display your product to a captive audience. Sponsoring organizations will receive recognition that will position the corporate brand clearly to the delegates.

At this event, our physicians and nurses come together to discuss and review our progress and to share ideas that relate to this field of practice, as well as to plan future projects. Our seminars help us to improve knowledge and to collaboratively plan activities to improve patient care.

This creates a once-per-year opportunity for organizations to showcase or promote their products and services to Canada's leading apheresis physicians and nurses, each of whom represents their local or regional centre.

At the annual meeting of the CAG we focus on new evidence and techniques for apheresis. We also carry out a centre-by-centre review of activities. In these reviews the physicians from each medical centre are asked to explain variances in their centre's activity, with reference to available published evidence and to address the feasibility of creating a future pilot or randomized controlled studies. The national data are also used as a basis for deciding on the need for new trials. Adverse events are reported and discussed, at the AGM. Guest speakers address new or improved approaches to practice.

As an organization that has a long and established prominence on the national stage, we invite you to participate in this national event.

The Annual General Meeting is an opportunity for leading apheresis physicians and nurses from across Canada to present updates on data including ongoing studies in plasma exchange and stem cell use as well as other issues related to apheresis practice.

### LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP FOR THE AGM

Description	Platinum \$20 000.00	Gold \$10 000.00	Silver \$5 000.00
Complimentary full registration at the AGM	4	2	1
Table top booth	1	1	-
Corporate recognition on website	✓	✓	✓
Corporate advertisement in AGM book	1 page	½ page	¼ page

### 3. EXHIBITING OPPORTUNITIES AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

The CAG Annual General Meeting is the premiere annual learning event in Canada and the ‘must attend’ meeting for all apheresis professionals.

This meeting is CME accredited by the Canadian Society of Internal Medicine.

Our AGM exhibits are an opportunity for your organization to introduce yourself and your product to the physicians and nurses who deal with apheresis every day. Plan to join us in 2017!

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Set-up and Registration	11:00-13:00		
Exhibit hours	During meals and breaks		

The price for a table at our AGM is \$3,000.00.

#### Cancellation Policy

Written cancellation must be sent to the CAG office via email ([cag@cagcanada.ca](mailto:cag@cagcanada.ca)). If a cancellation is made after the pre-determined cut-off date, a fee of \$500 will apply.

#### Cancellation by the CAG

If the annual meeting is cancelled by the CAG, it will not be liable for any expense or loss incurred by the exhibitor, with the exception of a refund for the rental fee of the booth space.

All sponsorships must be in the form of unrestricted educational grants.

- Sponsorship will not be tied to any quid pro quo agreement
- Sponsors will be acknowledged as outlined in the Invitation to Support
- Acknowledgement will be through recognition of the company and not through the naming of particular products.

The CAG will make all decisions about the use of sponsorships funds with the understanding that there will be accountability and reporting to sponsors about how funds have been used.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities or to donate, please contact Marianne Rochon-Tryon by email at [cag@cagcanada.ca](mailto:cag@cagcanada.ca), by phone at **613-748-9613** or fax at 613-748-6392