



## Message from CLF Chairman

This is an exciting time when the pace of discovery in hepatitis and liver disease research is increasing exponentially. The most recent example of this is the next generation of hepatitis C treatments which have just been approved for use in Canada.

As members of the liver health community, you play a critical role in advancing research, patient care and advocacy for the benefit of people living with liver disease in Canada.

The Canadian Liver Foundation champions the liver health of Canadians by working with all levels of government, corporations, funding agencies, patients and other stakeholders to address issues such as prevention, treatment accessibility, knowledge translation, public awareness and patient support.

Together we can make a powerful team to improve patient care and education and increase resources for liver health research programs. With this goal in mind, I hope you enjoy this issue of *Liver News You Can Use* and consider it my invitation to get involved with the Canadian Liver Foundation.

Thank you again for your commitment to liver health.

Morris Sherman M.D., FRCPC

## You can help change the future for Canadians with hepatitis

For provinces with rising health care costs, the debate over cost and accessibility is not an easy one. Hepatitis B and C patients without private drug plans are at the mercy of their provincial formularies' decision regarding if, when and under what conditions these treatments will be reimbursed. If patients have access to and receive treatment at an early stage, they may be able to avoid the most severe consequences of their disease – cirrhosis, liver cancer or liver failure requiring a liver transplant.

### What can YOU do to help your patients with hepatitis B or C?

- Become more familiar with pre-treatment assessments, algorithms and treatment guidelines for hepatitis B and C. Visit [www.liver.ca](http://www.liver.ca) or [www.hepatology.ca](http://www.hepatology.ca) in early 2012 for the new guidelines from the CLF-supported 2011 CASL Consensus Conference on Viral Hepatitis taking place November 18 – 20, 2011.

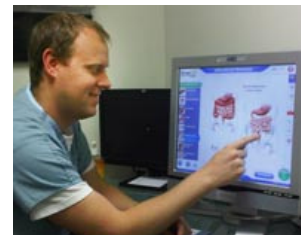
- Give your patients a voice. The CLF is here to provide peer support and education to your patients but we can also offer them opportunities to help themselves and help others by advocating, fundraising and volunteering with the Canadian Liver Foundation. Ask them to visit [www.liver.ca](http://www.liver.ca) for more information on how they can join you in changing the future for Canadians with hepatitis.

For more information or to speak with somebody at the Canadian Liver Foundation, please contact Karen Seto at 1-800-563-5483 x4939 or via email at [kseto@liver.ca](mailto:kseto@liver.ca).

## Canadian Liver Foundation partners with iMD Health Canada

### *Improve your communication and experience with liver disease patients.*

iMD Health Canada has developed an exciting new interactive computer terminal that helps you communicate more effectively with your patients and their caregivers about various diseases. The Canadian Liver Foundation is proud to partner with iMD Health Canada to offer information, support and advice about many forms of liver disease, including viral hepatitis, fatty liver disease, cirrhosis, hemochromatosis and many more. For more information about this innovative patient education tool, visit [www.imdhealth.ca](http://www.imdhealth.ca).



In an effort to expand outreach into the GI/Hepatology medical community and to evolve and improve physician and patient communications, iMD Health Canada is offering GI/Hepatologists the opportunity to apply for one FREE unit. To see if you are eligible for a free unit, complete the enclosed iMD Terminal Request Form and email/fax directly to iMD Health Canada.

## Stay connected

### *Become a CLF Member and Make a Donation*

To receive the latest in liver health news by e-mail, please consider becoming a CLF member, go to [www.liver.ca](http://www.liver.ca) and click on the 'Become a Member' link in the upper right-hand corner of our homepage.

Invest in liver health and make your donation to the Canadian Liver Foundation today! Please use the enclosed reply form and postage paid envelope provided for your convenience.