

## CLL Live 2018 - Bios of Presenters



**Dr. Versha Banerji** is born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She completed her undergraduate, medical education and residencies in Internal Medicine at the University of Manitoba. She completed her hematology at the University of Manitoba and CancerCare Manitoba where she spent much of her clinical and research work with Drs. James Johnston and Spencer Gibson in CLL. She then went on to do a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Broad Institute of MIT in Drug Discovery and Target Validation. She was recruited back to Manitoba where she is part of the CLL Cluster providing clinical care and runs a basic science laboratory testing novel agents, and validating their targets in CLL and other cancer types. She also has a clinical research program evaluating the use of novel agents in the non-clinical trial environment.



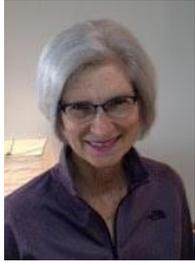
**Dr. Mathieu Crupi** is a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. John Bell's laboratory at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. To combat cancer, he now engineers oncolytic viruses which can be used in combination with CAR-T therapy. He completed his PhD in Dr. Lois Mulligan's laboratory at Queen's University, where he studied the underlying complexities and molecular biology of cancer.



**Dr. Graeme Fraser** graduated from the University of Western Ontario (UWO) and completed post-graduate training in Internal Medicine and Hematology at UWO and McMaster University respectively. His malignant hematology training was supported by a National Cancer Institute of Canada-Terry Fox Foundation Clinical Research Fellowship. He is a Hematologist at the Juravinski Cancer Centre/Hamilton Health Sciences and is an Associate Professor in the Department of Oncology. His research interests include the care of adolescent and young adult cancer patients, clinical trials in CLL, lymphoma & myeloma, and practice guideline development as a member of the CCO Program in Evidence Based Care.



**Dr. Spencer B. Gibson** is a Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Medical Genetics at the University of Manitoba and is a Senior Investigator at the Manitoba Institute of Cell Biology since 1999. In 2008, the Manitoba Health Research Council awarded Dr. Gibson a Manitoba Research Chair to support his research efforts. At the Manitoba Institute of Cell Biology, Dr. Gibson is Director of Translational Research where he contributed to the creation of the expansion of the Manitoba Tumor Bank and initiated new translational research projects. He is also appointed as Director, MICB in 2012, to provide leadership for cancer research with the province of Manitoba. Dr. Gibson attended the University of Toronto where he gained his Ph.D. in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology. During his Ph.D. studies, he traveled to M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas as a pre-doctoral fellow where he completed his Ph.D. studies. Dr. Gibson was a post-doctoral fellow at the National Jewish Medical and Research Center in Denver, Colorado



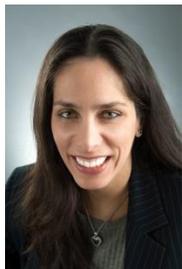
**Marcyne Heinrichs** I'm just an average CLL patient, diagnosed 12 years ago. I was given no CLL information at that time and cast about online, looking for what I could trust. Wanting to light a candle where I found darkness, and with help from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, I started a humble little email of CLL news several years later. That was 10 years ago, and it has turned into a meaningful pastime for me. I have found purpose in my diagnosis by offering others information and by volunteering with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. I enjoy my family, humour, music and nature.



**Stephanie Hubbard** is a Nurse Practitioner working within the Hematology Tumour Group at the Tom Baker Cancer Center in Calgary, Alberta. She graduated with a Bachelor of Nursing in 1997 and then completed her Graduate Education in 2006. Stephanie has spent her nursing career caring for adult patients with cancer and most specifically patients with hematological malignancies. In her role as an NP, Stephanie is in charge of a busy CLL focused clinic. She is fortunate to have the opportunity to provide care for both the newly diagnosed and long term follow up patients living with CLL. Her work interests include long term survivorship and helping patients live well in spite of their cancer diagnoses. Stephanie is also involved in teaching nursing students and she volunteers her services by attending various cancer support groups and patient advocacy boards.



**Thomas Kipps, MD, PhD**, is Professor of Medicine, Evelyn and Edwin Tasch Chair in Cancer Research, and Deputy Director of Research Operations at the UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center. He received his Ph.D. in Immunology and M.D. from Harvard University and had his residency and fellowship training in Internal Medicine, Hematology, and Genetics at Stanford University. Dr. Kipps has a national and international reputation for his work in cancer research, immunology, and gene therapy. He has been a leader in the field for many years, and has helped to develop standardized treatment protocols. He is the author of more than 300 publications and is the PI on several peer-reviewed grants, including an award from NCI/NIH to fund the Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Research Consortium (CRC).



**Dr. Nicole Lamanna**, is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Hematologic Malignancies Section of the Hematology/Oncology Division at Columbia University Medical Center. She is a nationally recognized clinical investigator specializing in the lymphoid leukemias, specifically chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). Her research focus has been the development of novel combination therapies that include chemo-immunotherapy, immune-modulatory drugs, kinase inhibitors, and monoclonal antibodies. Her clinical research aims have also encompassed the development of safer and more effective therapies for older patients with CLL and the investigation of novel agents for all patients with the disease. She has lectured at international and national meetings and has published in various scientific journals, including Blood, Journal of Clinical Oncology, and the New England Journal of Medicine.



**Dr. Carolyn Owen** is an Associate Professor in the Division of Hematology & Hematological Malignancies at the University of Calgary. She completed internal medicine training in Ottawa, Hematology training in Vancouver followed by a research fellowship in molecular genetics at Barts and the London School of Medicine in London, UK. Her prior research is focussed on familial myelodysplasia and acute myeloid leukemia. Her current clinical interests are low grade lymphoma and chronic lymphocytic leukemia and she is the local principal investigator at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre for several clinical trials in these areas.



**Christina Russomanno** is a Leukemia Nurse Practitioner at Columbia University Medical Center in New York, NY. She has worked her entire career in the field of Leukemia, starting as an inpatient nurse at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2005. She went on to receive her Master's Degree in Adult Health so that she could care for cancer patients in an advanced practice role. She left Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2013 to be a part of the development of a new Leukemia program at Columbia University Medical Center. She has spent the last 4 years of her career working almost exclusively with CLL patients. She also serves as the Nursing Coordinator for Liquid Tumors for the division of hematology/oncology.



**Esther Schorr** has been a care partner since 1986 when her husband and business partner, Andrew Schorr was diagnosed with CLL. Even before that, she was involved in educating patients and their loved ones about how to be empowered to make their own healthcare decisions. Most recently, she has been developing a Care Partner Center on the Patient Power website to help connect care partners with each other for support and information sharing, as well as surface resources to help care partners navigate their special role in the healthcare and advocacy journey.

Esther has 25+ years of experience as a business and marketing consultant and project manager, having worked across high technology, finance, hospitality, not-for-profit, and of course, the health care sectors.



**Andrew Schorr** is a medical journalist who was diagnosed with CLL in 1996 and received FCR treatment in a Phase II clinical trial in 2000. Andrew was in remission for his CLL until 2017, when he received six months of monoclonal antibody infusions, leading to a second deep remission. Andrew was diagnosed with a second blood cancer, myelofibrosis, in 2011 and takes a daily oral medicine to allow him to lead a full life. Still energized, Andrew is the co-founder and driving force behind PatientPower.info, a leading online CLL education channel and producer of "town meetings" for patients and caregivers. He is the author of the acclaimed *The Web-Savvy Patient: An Insider's Guide to Navigating the Internet When Facing Medical Crisis*. Andrew and his wife and work partner, Esther Schorr, have been happily married since 1985 and have three grown children. They reside in Carlsbad, California (near San Diego).



**Mark Silverstein** I was born & raised in Toronto Canada, and currently reside in the suburbs with my wife and two step-children. In December 2010, at the age of 45, I was diagnosed with Stage 4 SLL and proceeded with 6 rounds of FCR. Since that time I have relapsed twice - first in late 2014 where I also found out I was 17p, then again in early 2017; and finally I went through an Allogeneic stem cell transplant this past November. After my initial diagnosis (2010) and recovering from chemo, I decided to go back to school for psychotherapy. I currently work in private practice, as well as co-facilitating a survivor group at the local hospice. In addition, after participating in training at Princess Margaret Hospital in a program called C.A.L.M (managing Cancer And Living Meaningfully) designed to support individuals with advanced cancer, I created my own group wellness support program for cancer patients nearing the end of their life.



**Erin Streu** received both her Bachelors and Masters in Nursing from the University of Manitoba. She has been an oncology nurse for 15 years and her clinical expertise is in lymphoma and chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and is currently a clinical nurse specialist in this area. Erin also developed and implemented a new provincial subcutaneous immunoglobulin (SCIG) program for oncology patients with secondary immune deficiencies who require replacement therapy.

Erin's research and clinical interests include uncertainty, second malignancies in CLL, quality of life and infectious complications in patients with lymphomas and CLL, as well as transitional care planning for patients with lymphoma. She is the past president of her provincial chapter for the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology and is currently an associate-editor for the Clinical Challenges column in Oncology Nursing Forum.



**Lorna Warwick** has successfully held senior leadership roles in a number of charities over the past twenty years, previously as part of national (Canadian) organisations and recently switching her focus to global initiatives. Lorna currently works for Lymphoma Coalition as Director, Strategic Communications & Engagement, is the volunteer Chair of the CLL Advocates Network (CLLAN) and is also a volunteer member of the board of the CLL Patient Advocacy Group (CLLPAG). She has a stellar reputation and is frequently asked to present on the emerging trends and critical issues in the lymphoma landscape.