Program Name: Sexual Medicine Program

Program Head: Rosemary Basson, MD, FRCP (UK)

Members: Stacy Elliott, Ron Stevenson, Miriam Driscoll, Gail Knudson
Associates: Lori Brotto, Andre Krassioukov
Sexual health clinicians: Kate Mcbride, Marie Carlson, Shea Hocaloski

Program Description:
The program provides clinical service for patients with sexual dysfunction referred by their physicians from across the province. Our clinical research includes collaboration with the departments of OBGYN, urology, rehabilitation and neurology. We teach extensively at undergraduate, post-graduate, national and international CME courses.

Program Summary of Activities, Milestones, etc. for year of report:
We have welcomed Dr. Miriam Driscoll as a part-time colleague and slowly said goodbye to Dr. Oliver Robinow now residing in Victoria.

Presentations: 42 presentations were given at various national and international conferences including the 13th International Congress on Hormonal Steroids, Annual Scientific Meetings of the International Society for the Study of Women’s Sexual Health and the Society for Sex therapy and Research, the 3rd National Spinal Cord Injury Conference, the 16th Interurban Spinal Cord Injury Conference, and the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society Meeting.

Awards: Dr. Elliott received the UBC Department of Psychiatry Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development Award for 2008 – 2009.

Research: The CIHR funded study of total androgen activity in women with and without sexual dysfunction (collaborators Professor John Petkau, UBC Department of Epidemiology and Professor Fernand Labrie, Laval University) is undergoing final analysis, the manuscript to be submitted shortly. New grants this year include those from the Disabilities Health Research Network, Women's Health Research Institute, Hampton Research Fund and a William Fraser Rehabilitation Grant. Our ongoing research includes (1) BC Medical Services Foundation: Outcome of combined CBT, mindfulness, education and sex therapy programs for women with sexual desire and sexual arousal disorders and (2) Outcome of similar holistic program for women with provoked vestibulodynia. (3) An adapted program for women with childhood sexual abuse (4) CIHR: Sensory substitution for functional recovery of sexual sensations in individuals with chronic spinal cord injury (5) Sympathomimetics (Prazocin) in ejaculation after SCI
(6) Abdominal electrical stimulation with penile vibrostimulation to produce ejaculation in men with SCI, collaborating with the Miami Project and University of Texas.


**Positions held:** Dr Basson is co-chair of the 3rd International Consensus on Sexual Medicine – every 5 years 25 committees create evidence based assessment and management guidelines. Dr Brotto is scientific chair for the International Society for the Study of Women’s Sexual Health. Dr Knudsen is president and founder of the Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health and Secretary-Treasurer, World Professional Association for Transgender Health. Drs Brotto, Basson and Knudsen are members/consultants on the APA DSM-V Workgroup on Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders for revised definitions of sexual disorders. Dr Elliott serves on the Clinical Practice Guidelines for Sexuality after SCI (Paralyzed Veterans Association) and chairs the Canadian Male Sexual Health Council.

**Program Plans for the Future:**
Participation of Sexual Medicine in the Center for Brain Health may allow further collaboration within the Department of Psychiatry. We envisage collaborative research with MS, Movement disorders, Mood and other aligned neurological/psychiatric disciplines. The collaboration with ICORD continues as does the active business plan for a Chair in Sexual Rehabilitation. The Men’s Health Initiative, directed by Larry Goldenberg at the Prostate Center, is inclusive now of a full time sexual health clinician. By September 2009, 2 of the 4 pillars of Men’s Health (sexual medicine, bone health, cardiac health and androgen status) will be in place with Dr Elliott coordinating the Sexual Medicine component and collaborating with Richard Bebb (endocrinology) on androgen status. Cross collaborations with Radiation Oncology (Dr Elliott), Gynecology/Oncology (Dr Brotto/Basson) and Rehabilitation (Sexual Health Clinicians and PM&R specialists) are current and future combined clinical/research enterprises.

**Summary of program activities since the report of 2003-2004.**
Highlights include 71 publications with a series on sexual medicine for The Lancet as well as a review of women’s sexual dysfunction in the New England Journal of Medicine. There were 116 CME and conference presentations from this program locally, nationally and internationally. Research included CIHR funded study of psychoeducational intervention in cervical cancer; MSFHR funded study on cervical cancer and sexuality; CIHR funded study of androgen activity and women’s sexual function; CIHR funded study of sensory substitution for the functional recovery of sexual sensations in individuals with SCI and a previous RHMIM funded proof of concept study of the same; RHMIM funded study of the prophylactic value of Prazosin in reducing autonomic dysreflexia produced by ejaculation in men with SCI; Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation Community Research Project targeted toward understanding
and improving sexual dysfunction associated with SCI and an industry sponsored independent medical grant for understanding asexuality. We taught within DPAS, clinical skills, FERGU, endocrine and metabolism and brain and behaviour blocks, created online case management teaching for 3rd year and provided clinical experience for 4th year Selectives, Residents from Obgyn, Family Practice and Psychiatry as well as Fellowships to one family physician and two psychiatrists.