

2020 CSCC Award for Research Excellence

Sponsored by Ortho Clinical Diagnostics

Robert Hegele MD, FRCPC, Cert Endo, FACP, FAHA, FCAHS, FCCS



The Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists is pleased to present the 2020 award for Excellence in Education, sponsored by Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, to Dr. Robert Hegele MD, FRCPC, FACP. Rob Hegele is Distinguished University Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry, Western University, and Director of London Regional Genomics Centre at Robarts Research Institute. He holds the Wolfe Distinguished Medical Research Chair in Cardiovascular Research at Western University, and the Martha G. Blackburn Chair in Cardiovascular Research.

Dr. Hegele has an active medical practice. He cares for > 2500 patients in his lipid clinic at University Hospital of the London Health Sciences Centre in London Ontario.

He was first in North America to use 5 medications that are now routinely prescribed to treat high cholesterol or diabetes.

He has contributed to national clinical practice guidelines for cholesterol, blood pressure and diabetes, and to international guidelines on familial hypercholesterolemia and hypertriglyceridemia. He has trained many physicians, medical students and graduate students.

His research activities are focused on genetic molecular basis of human diseases, with a focus on lipid metabolism and vascular disease, including identification of new genes that can cause heart disease, stroke and such high-risk conditions as diabetes, hyperlipidemia and hypertension. Why do some individuals and families develop heart disease and stroke despite very clean living and healthy lifestyles? His laboratory discovered the molecular genetic basis of 25 human diseases. He has published > 1000 papers, which have been cited > 40,000 times in the medical literature and is in the Clarivate top 1% of highly cited scientists. The website expertscape.com in 2018 ranked him #1 globally in the area of “hypertriglyceridemia” and #1 for “disorders of lipid metabolism”.

He received The American Heart Association Award for Top Ten Scientific Discoveries for 2001. In 2019, he was selected to present the American Heart Association George Lyman Duff Memorial Lecture in Atherosclerosis Research.

Advances in basic and translational research mean advances in healthcare, including changes in clinical laboratories. The significant contributions of Dr. Hegele and his colleagues and students will lead to better healthcare for all.

It is our pleasure to present the 2020 Excellence in Research award to Dr. Robert Hegele.