

CSIM Annual Meeting 2025

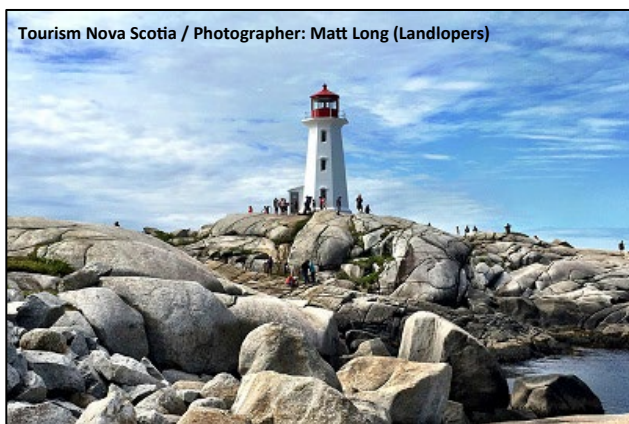
In collaboration with

ACP Atlantic Provinces Chapter

October 15-17, 2025 | Halifax Convention Centre

As internists and general internists responsible for delivering complex care to patients spanning the inpatient and ambulatory settings, issues of healthcare quality, patient safety, and stewardship of finite resources are core to our everyday practice.

Throughout this meeting, participants will hear from internationally recognized researchers, educators, and clinicians through a diverse program of workshops, plenary sessions, Top Five Papers, and more. These sessions aim to cover the most current topics and issues relevant to physicians in the field of General Internal Medicine.



MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION: *The CSIM/ACP Atlantic Provinces Chapter Annual Meeting 2025 is an educational event approved as an Accredited Group Learning Activity under Section 1 of the Framework of Continuing Professional Development options as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. As an accredited provider, CSIM has approved this program for 18 hours.*

Preliminary Program

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025 (times listed are local time)

0700 – 1200 CIMUS POCUS Foundational Skills Workshop Series: Cardiac Imaging and Vascular Access

[Click for details](#). Space limited; additional fee applies. Available to conference registrants only.

- Understand the scope and limitations of basic cardiac ultrasound in the care of the general medical patient.
- Acquire and interpret basic findings in the four focused cardiac ultrasound views on a standardized patient.
- Identify relevant vascular anatomy for peripheral vascular access.
- Perform real-time ultrasound-guided vascular access on task trainers using both out-of-plane and in-plane techniques.

1245 – 1700 Themed Workshops (select two of four)

1. Cardiology

Pulmonary Hypertension: What's New in 2025 – Dr. Simon Jackson, Halifax

- Recite the new definition of pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) and describe the use of exercise testing for prognostic value.
- Demonstrate the importance of fast-track referral to PAH centers.
- Review medical and surgical therapy, including a new class of medication that inhibits transforming growth factor-beta, for patients even with mild PAH.

Cardiac Critical Care: Cardiogenic Shock – Dr. Andrew Caddell, Halifax

- Identify and recognize cardiogenic shock.
- Review the initial management including reperfusion therapy, volume and inotrope therapy.
- Discuss and manage refractory cardiogenic shock and identify when to refer.

2. Approach to Exertional Intolerance

What is Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing (CPET)? – Dr. Jeffrey Ratushny, Bridgewater, NS

- Describe the clinical concept of 'exertional intolerance' and recognize the value of advanced functional testing in its evaluation.
- Summarize the basic purpose and components of cardiopulmonary exercise testing (CPET) and how it differs from traditional tests of cardiac and respiratory function.
- Observe a live CPET demonstration and identify key features of its graphical outputs, understanding how they reflect the body's physiologic response to exercise.

How can CPET be Used in your General Internal Medicine Practice? – Dr. Jeffrey Ratushny

- Discuss common presentations of exertional intolerance in general internal medicine and describe how CPET findings can guide clinical decision-making.
- Recognize underappreciated and emerging causes of exertional symptoms that may be overlooked in routine evaluation.
- Describe how CPET can support patient understanding, empower behavior change, and guide shared decision-making.

3. Critical Care

Shock States – Dr. Hayam Hamodat, Halifax

- Integrate practical tools for fluid management in hypotensive patients, including bedside assessment techniques for volume responsiveness.
- Differentiate volume status markers and optimize vasopressor and vasodilator use to reduce ICU admissions and improve patient outcomes.
- Apply evidence-based strategies for using midodrine in sepsis-related hypotension, including its role in weaning vasopressors.

Identifying Ideal Candidates for the ICU – Dr. Anne Gregory, St. John's, NL

- Assess which patients should, or should not, be admitted to the ICU based on clinical data and prognostic indicators.
- Incorporate frailty assessments and prognostication tools into decision-making for critically ill patients.
- Develop management strategies for complex patients who may not be ICU candidates but still require high-level care in alternative settings.

4. Neurology

Movement Disorders for the Internist: Shake, Rattle and Roll – Dr. Heather Rigby, Halifax

- Differentiate movement disorder phenotypes in hospitalized patients.
- Develop an approach to the diagnosis and management of drug induced and metabolic causes of movement disorders.
- Develop an approach to the management of hospitalized patients with Parkinson's disease and other established movement disorders.

Strokes: Not just "take 2 ASA and call me in the morning" anymore... – Dr. Sean Taylor, Halifax

- Evaluate risks and benefits of primary and secondary stroke prevention.
- Identify posterior circulation stroke symptoms and construct an approach to management.
- Recommend appropriate antiplatelet and anticoagulant options post-stroke.

1715 – 1830 Opening Remarks and Keynote Plenary: MAiD in October 2025 – What every Internist Needs to Know

Dr. Gord Gubitz, Halifax

- Briefly review the history of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) in Canada.
- Describe the eligibility criteria and safeguards underlying MAiD assessments.
- Understand our obligations to our patients when MAiD is asked for or being considered.

0730 Breakfast Opens

0755 – 0900 Plenary over Breakfast: Top Five Papers – Dr. Heather Chambers, Saint John, NB

- Identify and summarize the findings of five papers published in 2025 that are highly relevant to internists and general internists in Canada.
- Review the strengths and limitations of the papers using the principles of evidence-based medicine.
- Recognize the implications of these papers for one's own clinical practice.

0915 – 1145 Clinical Workshops *(select two of five)*

1. Cytokine Storm Syndromes: HLH, Still's, TAFRO – Dr. Luke Chen, Halifax

- Review the diagnosis of cytokine storm syndromes.
- Explain the management of cytokine storm syndromes.

2. Interesting Cases in Perioperative Care

Dr. Chinmoy Chowdhury, Halifax and Dr. Dayna Butler, St. John's, NL

- Identify patients who are suitable for surgery without extensive preoperative assessment.
- Thoughtfully determine essential preoperative tests whilst avoiding superfluous investigations.
- Apply current guidelines for the perioperative management of biologic medications.
- Identify which patients are most likely to benefit from a preoperative consultation

3. Update on ILD for the Internist – Dr. Sarah MacIsaac, Halifax

- Develop an approach to, and a differential for, Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD).
- Integrate clinical trial data to propose therapies, including for acute exacerbations.
- Select criteria for which patients should be referred for subspecialty consultation.

4. From Dilution to Decision: Navigating the Modern Hyponatremia Landscape in Hospitalized Patients

Dr. Peter Gregory, Halifax

- Analyze recent literature around hyponatremia including the rate of correction, 3% saline versus normal saline, and epidemiology of osmotic demyelination.
- Develop an approach to pre-emptive and reactive DDAVP clamping in the treatment of severe hyponatremia.
- Apply core principles of the management of severe hyponatremia to case-based scenarios.

5. Geriatrics in the ER – Dr. Samuel Searle, Halifax

- Identify frailty in the ER department.
- Utilizing clinical trial data, consider how frailty may alter one's treatment plans.
- Define 'Dignity of Risk' and recognize how this concept may inform patient care.

0915 – 1045 Interest Group and Networking: Making Trials Work on GIM: Challenges, Strategies, and Ongoing Work

Dr. Robert Fowler, Toronto, Dr. Emily Gibson McDonald, Montreal, Dr. Ryan Zarychanski, Winnipeg,

Dr. Jonathan Zipursky, Toronto

This session will convene several of Canada's leading researchers to enrich strategic discussion around our nation's clinical trials "enterprise" and identify opportunities for involvement. All are welcome, regardless of their ability to lead or participate in clinical trial research.

- Demonstrate an understanding of the GIM clinical trials "enterprise" in Canada.
- Engage in a unique national networking opportunity for internists interested in clinical trials.
- Share information about opportunities to get involved in existing and emerging multi-institutional collaborative clinical trials.

1145 – 1300 Lunch and Senior Investigator Award Lecture – Dr. Moira Kapral, Toronto

1315 – 1600 Cases In... Workshops (select two of four)

1. Challenging Hypertension Cases

Dr. Lisa Dubrofsky, Toronto, Dr. Karen Tran, Vancouver, and Dr. Iulia Iatan, Vancouver

- Understand approaches to assessing and managing resistant and refractory hypertension where there is diagnostic or therapeutic uncertainty.
- Discern how and when to evaluate and intervene on patients for fibromuscular dysplasia and atherosclerotic renal artery stenosis.
- Discuss the work up and management of the young patient with hypertension and secondary causes of hypertension.

2. Controversies in Thrombosis – Dr. Amye Harrigan, Halifax

- Develop practical approaches to the assessment and management of challenging thrombosis cases
- Discuss the management of intermediate-high risk pulmonary embolism and splanchnic vein thrombosis
- Develop a framework for thrombophilia testing including appropriate patient selection, test ordering and interpretation of results to guide clinical management decisions

3. Beyond the Bullseye: Atypical Cases of Tick-Borne Diseases – Dr. Glenn Patriquin, Halifax

- Describe the changing epidemiology of tick-borne infections in Canada.
- Recognize clinical features that should prompt the work up for tick-borne infections.
- Determine the empiric antibiotic treatment for patients who have a high likelihood of an acute tick-borne infection.

4. Dermatologic Manifestations of Disease for the Internist – Dr. Kerri Purdy, Halifax

- Identify cutaneous manifestations of acute emergencies relevant to internal medicine.
- Determine when a referral to dermatology is required in patients who have a cutaneous eruption in hospital.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025 *(continued)*

1315 – 1430 **Clinical, Research & QI: Poster Competition** *(concurrent to the Cases In... workshops)*

1445 – 1600 **Research/QI: ORAL Presentations** *(concurrent to the Cases In... workshops)*

- Recite updates on current research in the field of general internal medicine.
- Apply QI methodology to the care of internal medicine patients.

1615 – 1700 **Annual Business Meeting of CSIM Members** *(CSIM Members and Associates only)*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025 *(times listed are local time)*

0715 – 0745 **ACP TOWN HALL – hosted by the Atlantic Provinces Chapter of the American College of Physicians**

Chair: Dr. Sahar Iqbal, St. John's, NL. Join us for [ACP updates](#) and networking – all are welcome!

0730 **Breakfast Opens**

0755 – 0900 **Plenary over Breakfast: 15 Years of GIM in Canada!** – *Dr. Steven Shadowitz, Toronto*

Dr. Jon Zipursky, Toronto, Dr. Sharon Card, Saskatoon, Dr. Amy Hendricks, Antigonish (NS) and Dr. Willem Blois, Halifax

0915 – 1145 **Clinical Workshops** *(select two of five)*

1. **Allergy Update** – *Dr. Gina Lacuesta, Halifax*

- Assess risk and know when to challenge for penicillin allergy.
- Discuss the approach to the patient with angioedema and how to treat acutely.
- List the differential for mast cell disorders and review treatment for mast cell activation syndrome.

2. **Addictions Medicine for the General Internist** – *Dr. Tommy Brothers, Halifax*

- Develop an approach to inpatient opioid withdrawal in terms of diagnosis and management.
- Utilize an evidence-based approach to the inpatient initiation of opioid agonist treatment
- Discuss harm reduction strategies to utilize for inpatients with substance use disorders admitted to General Internal Medicine.

3. **Obstetric Medicine: Advances in Diabetes Management** – *Dr. Tom Ransom, Halifax*

- Describe the evidence-based benefits and risks of continuous glucose monitoring in a pregnant patient with diabetes.
- Identify which pregnant patients with gestational diabetes or type 2 diabetes could benefit from oral glucose-lowering medications.
- Describe the optimal preconception management of a patient with diabetes who is attempting conception.

4. **"Or is it Menopause?"** – *Dr. Navpreet Bal and Dr. Heidi Bentley, Halifax*

- Identify signs and symptoms consistent with menopause.
- Identify when a referral for systemic symptoms is likely menopause.
- Select appropriate diagnostic testing in the work up of patients with undifferentiated symptoms which may be attributable to menopause.
- Employ evidence-based strategies to the non-pharmacological and pharmacological treatment of menopausal symptoms.

5. **The Internist's Approach to Encephalitis** – *Dr. Caitlin Tarlton, Halifax*

- Identify clinical presentations that raise a high index of suspicion for encephalitis.
- Judiciously select patients who warrant further diagnostic evaluation.
- Order high-yield and discerning diagnostic tests when the diagnosis of encephalitis is a consideration.
- Accurately interpret lumbar puncture findings suggestive of encephalitis.
- Understand current treatment modalities for managing encephalitis.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025 *(continued)*

1145 – 1300 Lunch and New Investigator Award Lecture – *Dr. Isabelle Malhamé, Montreal*

1315 – 1415 What's New In... Short Snappers

- **Updates in Cardiology for the Internist** – *Dr. Andrew Moeller, Halifax*
 - Diagnose and treat HOCM with an improved awareness of the newer drug treatments available.
- **What's New in Pre-eclampsia** – *Dr. Nabha Shetty and Dr. Chris Nash, Halifax*
 - Interpret biomarkers used in the prediction and management of preeclampsia.
 - Recognize medium- and long-term risks for patients with preeclampsia.
- **NASH/MAFLD Guidelines and Management** – *Dr. Magnus McLeod, Charlottetown*
 - Manage NASH/MAFLD in the outpatient population, using the latest guidelines and therapies.

1430 – 1630 Clinical Vignettes

- Describe unusual presentations of common diseases and common presentations of rare diseases.
- Become familiar with the characteristics of engaging and educational case presentations.

1630 – 1700 Networking Reception

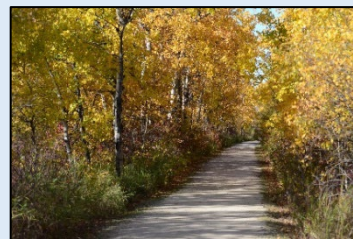
1645 – 1745 ACP Doctor's Dilemma® – *Join us for a fast-paced game of medical jeopardy!*
Hosted by the Atlantic Provinces Chapter of the American College of Physicians.
CALL FOR TEAMS: Residents, [click here to register!](#) *(number of teams limited)*

Thank you for attending!

Mark your calendars for the next CSIM Annual Meetings!



October 21-23, 2026
Montreal, QC



October 13-15, 2027
Winnipeg, MB

JOIN THE CSIM!

Members enjoy many benefits such as:

- ✓ Discounted registration to the CSIM Annual Meeting
 - ✓ Eligibility to apply for [awards and funding](#).
- ✓ Free publishing in the [Canadian Journal of General Internal Medicine](#).

Residents and Medical Students join for free! [Click here](#) to learn more and apply today.

Preliminary program; subject to change.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

FULL CONFERENCE RATES <i>Please refer to footnotes below.</i>	SAVE! Early Bird Rates <i>By July 31, 2025</i>	Regular Rates <i>After July 31, 2025</i>
CSIM or ACP Physician Member ¹	\$760	\$930
Physician Non-member ²	\$1,115	\$1,305
CSIM Senior Associate ³	\$525	\$675
Allied Health Professional ⁴	\$525	\$675
Resident	\$410	\$520
Medical Student	\$305	\$385
ONE-DAY REGISTRATION <i>Participants attending two or more days must register for the full conference.</i>		
CSIM or ACP Physician Member ¹	\$325	\$380
Physician Non-member ²	\$455	\$520
CSIM Senior Associate ³	\$225	\$285
Allied Health Professional ⁴	\$225	\$285
Resident	\$185	\$225
Medical Student	\$145	\$175
CIMUS POCUS Foundational Skills Workshop: Cardiac Imaging and Vascular Access ⁵ - Click here to register	\$615	

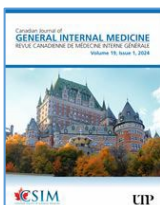
[Click here to register!](#)

1. Members of CSIM and/or ACP in good standing.
2. Eligible physicians may apply \$350 of the non-member registration fee towards a CSIM Membership. Contact info@csim.ca.
3. Senior Associate members of the CSIM.
4. Healthcare professionals working in the field of IM/GIM (e.g., nurses, technicians, health educators and others.)
5. CIMUS POCUS Workshop pre-registration required. Space is limited. Must be registered for at least one day of the CSIM Annual Meeting to register for the POCUS Workshop.

Terms and conditions: All fees are subject to 14% HST and are payable by credit card online only. Registration is not confirmed until full payment has been received; unpaid registrations will be cancelled. Space in workshops is limited and seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Name badges are non-transferable and must be worn at all times.

Dietary Requirements: While we try our best to accommodate all requests, registrants are responsible for ensuring that their dietary needs are met. If you have any questions, please contact info@csim.ca or see staff onsite. Additional costs to provide special meals may apply.

Cancellation policy: Cancellation of registration must be received in writing to the CSIM Office by September 19, 2025 for a full refund less an administration fee of 10% (+ tax) of the registration fee paid. No refunds will be provided after this date. Registrations cannot be shared or transferred.



Canadian Journal of General Internal Medicine

CSIM Members submit for free!

Original Research, Case Reports, Research Abstract Days, Book Reviews, and more!

Read and submit at www.cjgim.ca.

CSIM CONFERENCE VENUE

Halifax Convention Centre

1650 Argyle Street, Halifax, NS B3J 0E6

HOTEL

Sutton Place Hotel Halifax

1700 Grafton Street, Halifax, NS B3J 2C4

[Click here](#) to reserve your room at the special rate CSIM today!

Or call 1-888-378-8866 and note the group code "CSIM2025".

Rooms are limited – book early!



Come early, stay late, and discover Halifax!

[Click here](#) to learn about the history, vibrant culinary and cultural scene, natural attractions and more things to do while you're here!

Don't forget to [show your badge](#) at participating local businesses for discounts and special offers.

TRAVEL DISCOUNTS

- [Air Canada](#) is the official carrier of the CSIM Annual Meeting. For a discount of 5%-10% on eligible fares, enter promotional code **U8AW99H1**.
- [WestJet](#): Use code **1W0S8DB** for 2%-10% off eligible flights.
- [Porter](#): Use code **CSIM25** for a 10% discount on eligible base fares.
- [VIA Rail](#): Use code **15793** for 10% off Economy (Plus) and Business (Plus) fares.

MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION

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Through an agreement between the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the American Medical Association, physicians may convert Royal College MOC credits to *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Information on the process to convert Royal College MOC credit to AMA credit can be found by [clicking here](#).

Live educational activities recognized by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada as Accredited Group Learning Activities (Section 1) are deemed by the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) eligible for ECMEC®.

Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

GENERAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Maintain competence on a wide variety of relevant topics in Internal and General Internal Medicine.
- Discuss emergent topics, both published and un-published.
- Establish a national network of general internist colleagues from community and university settings.
- Promote General Internal Medicine as a specialty to residents in training.

info@csim.ca | www.csim.ca

**This program has received an educational
grant and in-kind support from:**

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