



**INSTITUT DE
CARDIOLOGIE
DE MONTRÉAL**

AFFILIÉ À
Université 
de Montréal

**PRESS RELEASE
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**The 7th Annual Critical Markers of Disease Symposium
co-directed by Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif of the Montreal Heart Institute
is a great success**

Montreal, November 12, 2009 – The 7th edition of the annual Critical Markers of Disease Symposium (CMOD) on the theme of “Biomarkers and Surrogate Endpoints” was held from October 19 to 21, 2009, in Bethesda, Maryland, close to the offices of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The event was co-directed by Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif and Dr. Peter Libby, head of the department of cardiovascular medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital of Harvard University in Boston. During the symposium, the evidence on the use of biomarkers (measurable biological parameters) in the development and licensing of drugs for cardiovascular disease was reviewed and discussed.

This year’s symposium emphasized the role of biomarkers in accelerating the process of developing a drug, and of clinical studies (principal theme), as well as new concepts for developing drugs for diabetes.

The symposium, with some 175 senior participants from the academic, regulatory and industrial communities in attendance, was highly successful, considering that the event is first and foremost a forum for discussion. Bear in mind that the event is intended for academic leaders, representatives of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry, as well as for government regulatory agencies, among them the FDA, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the United States, and Health Canada, the European Medicines Agency (EMA), and representatives from Japan.

At the request of many, this symposium, which has taken place in Bethesda for the last seven years, will again be held there in 2010; at the request of the Europeans, a symposium on the same theme will also be held in Europe. Finally, this symposium will also take place in Japan in the fall of 2010. For each of these symposiums on biomarkers, Dr. Tardif and Dr. Libby will continue to serve as co-directors of the event.

About the Montreal Heart Institute

Founded in 1954 by Dr. Paul David, the Montreal Heart Institute constantly aims for the highest standards of excellence in the cardiovascular field through its leadership in prevention, ultra-specialized care, training of professionals, clinical and fundamental research, and assessment of new technologies. It is affiliated with the Université de Montréal and its clinical outcomes are among the best in the world. To learn more about the Institute, please visit our website at www.icm-mhi.org.

About the Université de Montréal

Rooted in Montreal and international in its vocation, the Université de Montréal is one of the largest French-speaking universities in the world. Founded in 1878, the Université de Montréal includes 13 faculties and two professional schools. With its affiliated schools, HEC Montréal and École Polytechnique, the Université de Montréal is the leading centre for higher learning and research in Québec and one of the most important in North America. The Université de Montréal brings together some 2,500 teachers and researchers and is home to over 60, 000 students.

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