CALL for ABSTRACTS (FOR VIRTUAL WEBCAST LECTURE AND “VIRTUAL POSTER SESSION”):
Abstracts submission deadline is no later than Sunday, August 2, 2020 at 22:00 USA Pacific Daylight Time.

Dear Investigators:

• Abstracts are now invited for submission to the Gout, Hyperuricemia and Crystal-Associated Disease Network (G-CAN) 2020 Early Career Investigator Symposium at the Sixth Annual G-CAN Meeting November 2020.

• For established investigators, please convey this information to your promising research trainees and others, such as junior faculty, who qualify as Early Career Investigators. This program focuses on work driven by MD and PhD students and fellows, including clinical and bench research trainees, bench and clinical research graduate students, and emerging junior faculty investigators (*please see eligibility criteria below).

• Due to the dynamic situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, G-CAN leadership has made the decision to hold this year’s annual G-CAN scientific symposium on a virtual platform, rather than in-person. The Early Career Investigator Poster Session (formerly called the Young Investigator Poster Session) will be presented as on-demand 5-minute webcasts to be released October 30, 2020. Questions to poster presenters will be virtual, via a new G-CAN chatroom, with questions selected by session moderators, and answered on November 4, 2020. The top 5 abstract authors will be invited for oral presentations, to be prerecorded as webcasts and streamed live. The oral presentation webcasts will be a maximum of 10 minutes each, with 2 minutes for moderated, live-streamed chatroom questions, and will be part of the half-day, virtual G-CAN Plenary Meeting on November 4, 2020, to start at 12:00 (12 noon) USA Pacific Daylight Time. Please refer to the G-CAN website www.g-can.org for details on the draft agenda of the 2020 meeting.

• The top-rated “Early Career Investigator” abstract will be awarded the “2020 Ralph Schumacher Memorial G-CAN Young Investigator Lecture.”

Eligibility criteria for “Early Career Investigators” and abstract grading considerations:
1. Age <40 years old on November 6, 2020.
2. Graduate students are eligible
3. The abstract submitter has a primary academic appointment as trainee or faculty member
4. Career advancement to no further than Assistant Professor at time of abstract submission (i.e. Associate Professors are not eligible)
5. Does not have past or present independent non-pharma research grant as principal investigator equivalent to NIH R01 grant (training grant equivalent such as K award, or ACR RRF award is acceptable to qualify as an Early Career Investigator)
6. No more than 3 past meeting years with abstract submissions to G-CAN as a Young Investigator

A panel comprised of the G-CAN Board members (see G-CAN website) will rank the abstracts. Abstracts are graded on criteria including originality and quality of the research. For those with a terminal postgraduate degree such as MD or PhD, including those in training, abstract grading assigns higher weighting to those with up to 7 years following completion of terminal degree and postdoc or fellowship training. Career development plans and the potential for
development into an independent and successful investigator in the gout, hyperuricemia, crystal arthropathy field are factored into grading of the abstract.

Abstract Submission Rules and Guidelines, and “How to Submit an Abstract”

• “Early Career Investigators” must submit a maximum 2750-character abstract (spaces between words are not included in the count) describing their work
• Attaching up to a maximum of 3 figures or tables is permitted, and these attachments should have terse legends of up to 3 lines.
• Abstract submitters must agree to create a prerecorded poster and/or PowerPoint presentation to be submitted to G-CAN by October 12, 2020.
• The abstract should describe a research project in Gout, Hyperuricemia, or Crystal Arthropathy primarily driven by the Early Career Investigator. The research should be of potential interest to rheumatologists and/or nephrologists, or others working in the fields of Gout, Hyperuricemia, or Crystal Arthropathy.
• An individual applicant may submit up to a maximum of 2 abstracts as the first author. (Abstracts submitted as other than first or senior author are not counted in the maximum total of 2 abstract submissions).
• The abstract does not have to be substantially different from the 2020 abstract submissions to other meetings, but the impact and originality of the abstract will be judged accordingly, if the same abstract has been submitted to another international symposium in 2020.
• There is no abstract submission fee or meeting registration fee. All abstract submitters will be asked to register for this virtual meeting.
• Abstracts will be ranked no later than the end of the first week of August 2020. Announcements will be made shortly thereafter.
• If a score of "not recommended" is assigned, the author will still be invited to attend the G-CAN Annual Meeting, but there will not be an invitation to present research at the meeting.

How to Submit an Abstract

Please submit abstract(s), as follows to our Executive Director, Rebecca Hill via her email: medicusmediallc@gmail.com. The header of the email should begin with: G-CAN 2020 “Early Career Investigators” SUBMISSION: (Your last name).

-- Submit the following:
1. A Cover Note with complete contact information: Name of trainee, title/degree, name of university and department, trainee street address (either at work or home), phone number and Email address(es).
2. Your abstract (in WORD only, a maximum of 2750 words, and up to 3 attached Tables or Figures)
3. Your CV (in Word or PDF)
4. Letter of recommendation (maximum of 1 page) from your research or departmental supervisor/mentor (as a PDF file).
5. The abstract should include a title, date submitted, name of trainee/“Early Career Investigator” as first author, other authors, name of university and department, trainee mailing address, phone number and email address.
6. See an example below of how the first page of the abstract should look. If any of this information is omitted, the abstract will be returned for revision. Name the document this way: (Your last name_your first name_first few words of title_2019) like this: Smith_Jane_Patient-centered studies_2020. Send it with an email cover note including complete contact information: Name of trainee, title/degree, name of university and department, trainee street address (either at
work or home), phone number and email address(es). Both the cover note and the abstract should include complete contact information in the order described. Two email addresses are preferred to ensure we are able to contact you.

- **Sample Front Page. Please follow this format for your submission:**
  - Jane Smith, MD
  - Gout and Parkinson’s Disease: a longitudinal study June 5, 2019
  - Jane Smith, MD; Peter R. Rock, MD; Bill Valdez, MPH, University of Yukon
  - 400 East River Road, MS 4-300
  - White River, Yukon, B2W 105 Canada
  - Phone: 999 - 466 - XXXX
  - Email: J.Smith@yukon.edu
  - Secondary email: ImaJS@gmail.com

- **Please save your document titled THIS WAY:**
  - Smith_Jane_PsA_and_gout_2018 (Last Name_First Name_First few words of your title_2019)
  - ***Please use Microsoft WORD. Do not use a PDF***

- **Indicate in the email subject line that this is an Early Career Investigator G-CAN abstract submission.**

*Thank you*
Rebecca Snyders Hill, Acting Executive Director, G-CAN
Robert Terkeltaub, MD, G-CAN President
Hyon Choi, MD, DPh, G-CAN Vice President and Treasurer