

# Corporate Profile

CCAR was formed in 1999 to co-ordinate Canadian efforts to control the development and spread of antimicrobial resistance. CCAR is headquartered in Vancouver.

Our main areas of interest are resistance surveillance, infection prevention and control and optimal antibiotic use. We provide outreach to the health care and agricultural communities through a variety of activities including a series of professional seminars, informational documents for specific target audiences and managing the most comprehensive Web site on resistance in Canada.

CCAR also assists both federal and provincial governments to develop policy and identify human and financial resources to address resistance. As well, we facilitate co-operative approaches and activities among the diverse interests within both the public and private sectors.

The Canadian Infectious Diseases Society provides financial oversight and acts as the contractor to Health Canada for the federal financial commitment terminating in March 2004.

It is only through cooperation that CCAR has managed to achieve any measure of success. Both industry and government have stepped up to the plate to provide the necessary financing for our activities. We sincerely thank the companies and government agencies that have provided financial support for our efforts. Without their generous support we would be unable to carry out our key projects or provide information services. Without our sponsors, our voice could not be heard. CCAR activities are partially financed through unrestricted educational grants and contributions from:

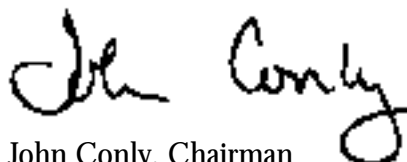


# Message from the Chairman

Antimicrobial resistance continues to be a dominant theme in the medical headlines. During this past year, on July 5, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention described the first report of a clinical isolate of *S aureus* fully resistant to vancomycin. The resistance in this strain was thought to have occurred as the result of the transfer of the genetic elements of resistance carried by a vancomycin resistant enterococcus which was being carried by the patient at the same time. This long anticipated but feared scenario presents a new challenge to the medical profession and the patients whom they serve. It is timely indeed that the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance has planned a major policy conference on antimicrobial resistance for October 5-7 of this year.

During the last 12 months the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance has continued its advocacy/promotional role through its Executive and member organizations. We have seen the release of the “burden of illness” project, which provides the first comprehensive description and modelling of the economic and social burden of antibiotic resistance in Canada. We have also seen an updating of the CCAR Web site with respect to outpatient prescribing rates by class and provincial breakdown, regular updates of activities in the Canadian Journal of Infectious Diseases, the addition of several new CCAR members, the development of a Pharmacy Tool Kit with an internal evaluation, and the planning of the National Policy conference in October of this year. Member organizations have continued to be very active with respect to their research and educational endeavours. A major review of antibiotic resistance in Canada under the auspices of CCAR will be published this fall which will provide Canadian physicians with an important educational document.

The organization continues to benefit from the organizational capabilities and dedication of Rick Walter in his capacity as Executive Director. The organization's membership, slate of activities and contracts continues to expand under his direction. The Executive of CCAR continues its high level of commitment to the organization and we are indebted to the Canadian Infectious Diseases Society for administrative support, to Health Canada, especially Shirley Paton, for continued resource allocation and logistical support, to our consultants who have worked diligently on dedicated projects and to the pharmaceutical and private sector industries for financial support.



John Conly, Chairman

# Message from the Executive Director

This past year has been a pivotal one for CCAR. Since our inception in 1999, we have been setting the stage for a concerted national response to resistance. We have provided information on the issue to physicians, veterinarians, pharmacists, public health workers and key government bureaucrats. We have raised the issue with industry associations, professional societies and numerous other stakeholder groups. We have developed a report on the social and economic burden of illness posed by resistance and facilitated considerable mass media coverage of this threat to the health of all Canadians. And, we have secured base funding from Health Canada until March 2004 as well as considerable project funding provided by a number of government departments and industry champions (see page 1).

This work has prepared us well for the next phase of our campaign, progressing our National Action Plan to combat antibiotic resistance. CCAR will be hosting the National Policy Conference on Antibiotic Resistance, to be held in Ottawa, October 5-7, 2002 and this event will provide the key components of the plan and establish roles and responsibilities. The next step, to be carried out over the coming year will be to work with the provincial and federal governments to ensure their commitment to the Plan.

The final and critical step will be the implementation process. We expect that there will be a mixture of short, medium and long term activities detailed in the Plan. There will be opportunity to build on successful activities that have been implemented to date and expand them to wider application. Our combined role in communicating the urgency of the situation to the public and those that control the purse strings cannot be overstated. In order to drive the message home to provincial and federal governments we need louder voices than ever to ensure resistance receives the attention it deserves.

To that end, CCAR will be working with several key media contacts to get the message out. Mass media coverage has a considerable impact on public policy. It is the squeaky wheel that gets the grease and headlines often dictate public policy. Our challenge will be to increase the quantity and quality of coverage. We'll take lessons from the media coverage of West Nile Virus, Small Pox and Anthrax. Each of these potential public health threats has received considerable attention from Departments of Health as well as dedicated human and financial resources.

The CCAR vision is that "Canada will be an international leader in the prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance". While we have made progress, there remains much to do. The coming year will test our resolve and offer opportunities to make a real impact. Working together we can control resistance in Canada. Working together we can make a difference.



Rick Walter, Executive Director

# Membership

The general membership is open to stakeholder organizations which, by the nature of their work, directly affect or influence the outcome of antimicrobial resistance in Canada. Members are divided into three categories: Not-for-Profit Professional Societies, Not-for-Profit Industrial Associations and Government Agencies. Associate membership is open to individuals with an interest in antibiotic resistance. There are no fees assessed to members or associate members. CCAR current members are:

Canadian Association of Clinical Microbiology  
and Infectious Diseases (CACMID)  
Canadian Association of Medical Microbiologists (CAMM)  
Canadian External Quality Assessment  
– Advisory Group on Antibiotic Resistance (CEQA-AGAR)  
Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee (CHEC)  
Canadian Infectious Disease Society (CIDS)  
Canadian Medical Association (CMA) – observer  
Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS)  
Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA)  
Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA)  
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)  
College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)  
Community and Hospital Infection Control Association (CHICA)  
Enteric Diseases Surveillance Steering Committee (ENDS)  
Groupe contre la Résistance aux Anti-Microbiens (GRAM)  
National Information Program on Antibiotics (NIPA)

BIOTECanada  
Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies (Rx&D)  
Canadian Animal Health Institute (CAHI)

British Columbia Ministry of Health  
Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
Canadian Institutes for Health Research  
Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health  
Health Canada  
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care

Numerous individuals with an interest in antibiotic resistance

Not-for-Profit  
Professional Societies:

Not-for-Profit  
Industrial Associations:

Government Agencies:

Associate Members:

# Committees

## Executive Group

The Executive Group provides strategic oversight, financial control and advice for the day-to-day operations of the Committee.

John Conly - Chair	
Nora Boyd	Community and Hospital Infection Control Association
Gerald Evans	Canadian Infectious Diseases Society
Jim Hutchinson	Associate Member at Large
Rebecca Irwin	Health Canada
Mike Mulvey	Health Canada
Shirley Paton	Health Canada
Anne Phillips	Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies (Rx&D)
Andrew Simor	Canadian Association of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases & Canadian Association of Medical Microbiologists

## National Policy Conference on Antibiotic Resistance – Program Committee

The Program Committee was formed in January 2002 to organize this key national event. It is expected that during the conference, key components of a National Action Plan to combat resistance will be developed. The event will be held in Ottawa, October 5-7, 2002.

Rick Walter - Chair	CCAR Executive Director
Edith Blondel-Hill	Associate Member
Bill Bowie	Associate Member
Nora Boyd	Community and Hospital Infection Control Association
John Conly	CCAR Chair
Rebecca Irwin	Health Canada
Don Low	Associate Member
Lindsay Nicolle	Associate Member
Yvonne Shevchuk	Canadian Pharmacists Association
John Stewart	Associate Member
Karl Weiss	Groupe contre la Résistance aux Anti-Microbiens

Nora Boyd - Chair **Community and Hospital Infection Control Association**  
Sandra Callery **Associate Member**  
John Conly **CCAR Chair**  
Jacqueline Daly **Associate Member**  
Cathy Egan **Associate Member**  
Susan MacMillan **Associate Member**  
Pat Piaskowski **Associate Member**  
Irene Rose **Associate Member**  
Liz Van Horne **Associate Member**  
Rick Walter **CCAR Executive Director**

**Infection Prevention and Control Working Group**  
This Working Group was formed on March 6, 2001. It provides concepts, planning and leadership for activities related to infection prevention and control.

John Conly **CCAR Chair**  
Mark Loeb **Associate Member**  
Kevin Forward **Associate Member**  
Lindsay Nicolle **Associate Member**  
Shirley Paton **Health Canada**  
Andrew Simor **Canadian Association of Clinical Microbiology  
and Infectious Diseases & Canadian Association of  
Medical Microbiologists**  
Karl Weiss **Groupe contre la Résistance aux Anti-Microbiens**

**Burden of Illness Review Committee**  
This Committee was formed in March 2001 to provide guidance on the development of the Burden of Illness report.

# Activities

CCAR is involved in a variety of activities which are helping to limit antimicrobial resistance. Acting in both project leader and facilitator roles, CCAR has focused on communications and outreach to a variety of audiences as well as continuing our policy development activities.

## Communications and Outreach

### Web Site

The CCAR Web site ([www.ccar-ccra.org](http://www.ccar-ccra.org)) provides a comprehensive and informative source of facts and discussion about antibiotic resistance. It is an extensive source of bilingual information for the public as well as more detailed reports and links to varied sources for physicians, veterinarians and other health care professionals. The site focuses on Canadian content on resistance surveillance, optimal antibiotic use and infection prevention and control in both the human health and the agri-food sectors.

The site includes current antibiotic use data supplied by IMS Health Canada as well as a series of Power Point slide presentations providing guidance and materials for speakers. Publications and new links are added on a regular basis.

### Seminars and Symposia

A series of presentations for specific target audiences forms one of the key activities of CCAR. These events provide an overview of resistance issues as well as current Canadian data on surveillance and optimal antibiotic use. Presentations were supported for:

- Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health (Ottawa)
- Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (Halifax).

### Information Kit for Pharmacists

A collection of informative tools for pharmacists was developed in conjunction with the Canadian Pharmacists Association. The kit includes a Continuing Education document, general information, brochures and posters as well as suggestions to improve dialogue between pharmacists and prescribing physicians. The project is sponsored by Aventis Pharma Inc.

### Resistance Updates in Canadian Journal of Infectious Diseases (CJID)

A series of updates on resistance activities in Canada was developed by CCAR and published every six months in CJID. The series provides current news on resistance and describes key activities being conducted by CCAR and our members. The updates are edited by Dodie Katzenstein.

## Policy Development

On October 5-7, 2002, CCAR will host this key event, kicking off the development of a National Action Plan to combat antibiotic resistance. The event will attract representatives from government and industry as well as health care and agricultural professionals. It is sponsored by a wide group of organizations previously listed in our Corporate Profile section.

National Policy Conference  
on Antibiotic Resistance

CCAR commissioned a report on the economic and social burden of illness posed by antibiotic resistance in Canada. This report entitled "Antimicrobial Resistance – A Deadly Burden No Country Can Afford to Ignore", was authored by David Birnbaum with assistance from Laurie Twells and Eric Jandciu. The report and the accompanying data sets are available on the CCAR Web site ([www.ccar-ccra.org](http://www.ccar-ccra.org)).

Burden of Illness Report

# Future Directions

A number of short and medium term priorities have been established. The key activity for 2002/03 will be to host the National Policy Conference on Antibiotic Resistance and develop a National Action Plan which builds on the conference outcomes. This will require considerable facilitation and coordination among various levels of government and stakeholder groups. We will also expand our advocacy efforts with the federal and provincial governments as well as with decision makers in institutional settings.

## Communications and Outreach

- Deliver seminars
- Update Web site and expand links
- Intensify discussions with bureaucrats, politicians and health care facility executives
- Expand outreach to the public through pharmacists, educators and the media
- Partner with groups that will enhance our ability to increase public awareness

## Policy Development

- Host the National Policy Conference on Antibiotic Resistance
- Develop a National Action Plan for Resistance
- Complete and distribute the Burden of Illness study

Efforts to raise project funds from both industry and government sources will continue to be priority in our day-to-day operations.

# Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

November 1, 1999 - July 2002 (unaudited)

Nov 99- Mar 00	Apr 00 - Mar 01	Apr 01 - Mar 02	Apr 02 - July 02 (4 months)	
				<b>Revenues</b>
228,849	273,712	279,279	83,322	Government of Canada
	85,689	60,000	150,000	Industry Grants
	789	286	29	Interest & Other
<u>\$228,849</u>	<u>\$360,190</u>	<u>\$339,565</u>	<u>\$233,351</u>	Total
				<b>Expenditures</b>
50,361	133,851	160,359	94,490	Staff & Recruitment
19,560	13,706	13,341	5,190	Materials and Supplies
122,875	61,528	54,023	8,715	Projects
28,352	34,092	40,780	14,751	Travel
7,500	18,000	18,000	6,000	Overhead
<u>\$228,648</u>	<u>\$261,177</u>	<u>\$286,503</u>	<u>\$129,146</u>	Total
\$201	\$99,013	\$53,062	\$104,205	Net Revenue

Note: CCAR uses a fiscal year ending March 31. This report includes results from fiscal years 1999/2000, 2000/01 and 2001/02 as well as partial results from fiscal year 2002/2003.