



## S.U.C.C.E.S.S. in Health Research for Different Ethnic Populations

## *Arthritis Research Centre of Canada Partners with social services agency, S.U.C.C.E.S.S., to Launch Ground-Breaking Research into Joint Disease*

Vancouver, BC (April 23, 2012) – The Arthritis Research Centre of Canada (ARC) and S.U.C.C.E.S.S. have come together to build awareness of a \$2.5 million research study that targets a mix of ethnicities. April 2012 marks the start of recruitment for the research, which is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and aims to determine the cause of hip pain and its link to osteoarthritis. Known as <u>IMPAKT-HiP</u> (Investigations of Mobility, Physical Activity, and Knowledge in Hip Pain), the study is relying on the involvement of three Canadian populations: Chinese, Caucasian and Aboriginal Peoples to reach its goals.

<u>IMPAKT-HiP</u> is a comprehensive study that looks at whether hip pain is caused by certain physical activities, a common deformity of the hip joint called femoroacetabular impingement (FAI), or a combination of the two. It is believed that certain types of physical activity, such as hockey, skiing and cycling, combined with the deformity causes damage to the hip. This damage may lead to osteoarthritis.

One in ten Canadians have osteoarthritis, which most commonly affects the joints of the hips, knees, hands and spine. It is the most common form of arthritis and hip osteoarthritis is responsible for more than 90% of hip replacements performed in Canada at a cost to our health care system of \$10,000-\$12,000 each.

A key objective of this research is to look at the prevalence of FAI in Chinese, Caucasian and Aboriginal Peoples to find out if there is a relation with osteoarthritis.

Ms. Alice Choi, Executive Director of Health Services, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Multi-Level Care Society, outlines the importance of the study for the Chinese community, *"The Chinese community needs to participate actively in research projects to help in generating new knowledge. With results generated from this research, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. will act as the bridge to disseminate new information to our community, which hopefully will directly improve the quality of life for those who suffer from osteoarthritis."* 

Results from IMPAKT-HiP could change the way hip pain is treated and prevent debilitating osteoarthritis in populations where it's needed. To accomplish research goals like these, support generated through partnerships such as the ARC- S.U.C.C.E.S.S. collaboration is becoming increasingly important. As interest grows in the Chinese community, both partners are now striving to provide resources on osteoarthritis and deliver clear research findings to decision-makers.





## **Interview Opportunities Include:**

<u>Dr. John Esdaile</u> - Is the lead investigator of the IMPAKT-HiP study. He is available to speak (in English or French) in depth regarding the study and its importance in preventing hip pain. Dr. Esdaile is the Scientific Director of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada and a Professor of Medicine at the University of British Columbia.

<u>Dr. Linda Li</u> – Is a Co-Investigator of the IMPAKT-HiP study and the project leader on the prevalence study. She is available to speak (in English or Cantonese) about the study and its importance in preventing hip pain. Dr. Li is an Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia, and Research Scientist at the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada.

-30-

Established in 1973, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. is one of the largest social service agencies in British Columbia. It is a charitable organization providing services in settlement, language training, employment, family and youth counseling, business and economic development, health care, housing and community development. For more details, please visit: <u>www.success.bc.ca</u>

The Arthritis Research Centre of Canada's **IMPAKT-HiP** study is led by Dr. John Esdaile, Scientific Director of the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada and Professor of Medicine at University of British Columbia. The research team involves 14 top-level scientists across Canada, many of whom are supported by Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI). The IMPAKT-HiP study is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). For more information, visit <u>www.arthritisresearch.ca</u>

## For media enquiries, please contact:

Jenny Leese Research Assistant, Knowledge Translation Arthritis Research Centre of Canada Tel: 604-871-4502 Email: jleese@arthritisresearch.ca

Joanna Ye (Cantonese & Mandarin) Research Assistant Arthritis Research Centre of Canada Tel: 604-871-4540 Email: <u>iye@arthritisresearch.ca</u>