

CIHR CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE PRESENTS

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# The Genetics of Mental Health

**Tuesday, November 24, 2009, 7 p.m.**  
**Gladstone Hotel**

1214 Queen St. W., Toronto, Ontario  
(corner of Gladstone Ave. and Queen St., just east of Dufferin St.)  
RSVP: [cafescientifique@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:cafescientifique@cihr-irsc.gc.ca)

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Please join us for refreshments and a lively discussion about the latest health research evidence related to this issue. This event is presented by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and its Institute of Genetics, in partnership with the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

As with many diseases, mental health disorders can run in families, suggesting that genetics plays a role. In recent years, scientists have made substantial progress in identifying the genetic and environmental forces contributing to mental health. This research has changed the traditional understanding of the origin of mental illness.

What is the current knowledge of genetics and mental health disorders, and what does the future seem likely to hold? Will the fundamental causes of schizophrenia, autism, mental health illnesses and other developmental disabilities be uncovered in the next decade? Will there be genetic testing for such disorders? What are the ethical issues that will need to be addressed? Does genetics hold the promise of improved treatment?

## Experts:

**Dr. Trudo Lemmens**  
Lic. Jur. (K.U.Leuven), LL.M., DCL  
Associate Professor  
Faculty of Law  
University of Toronto

**Dr. Arturas Petronis**  
MD, PhD  
Head, Krembil Family  
Epigenetics Laboratory, Centre for  
Addiction and Mental Health  
Professor, Departments of  
Psychiatry and Pharmacology  
University of Toronto

**Dr. Peter Szatmari**  
BA, MD, MSc, FRCPC  
Director  
Offord Centre for Child Studies  
McMaster Children's Hospital  
Professor, Department of Psychiatry  
and Behavioural Neurosciences  
McMaster University

## Moderator:

**Dr. Roderick McInnes**  
Scientific Director, CIHR's Institute of Genetics



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