

Preface from the Editors

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to present you with the third issue of the 94th volume of the *UTMJ*. We have consistently sought out unique themes to discuss over the course of this year, but there is perhaps no issue more relevant than that of cardiovascular health, which we highlight in our current issue. Heart disease is the second leading cause of death and affects more than 1.6 million Canadians.¹ However, tremendous progress has been made in the field: the last decade has seen a nearly 40% decrease in cardiovascular disease mortality.² Advances have been made in imaging, cellular therapies, regeneration, health policy, and preventative care.

We are thrilled to feature reviews, commentaries, and interviews that encompass a variety of topics pertinent to cardiovascular health. In his review, Dr. Mansoor Husain provides a thorough discussion of the relationship between diabetes and myocardial disease. We are also proud to feature an interview with Dr. Heather Ross, world-renowned cardiologist at the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre, who is on the forefront on cardiovascular research and is spearheading new approaches to treating cardiovascular disease.

This is an exciting time for cardiovascular health, with new disease mechanisms being discovered and new therapies being brought to light. It is with this same sense of duty and optimism that the 2016-2017 *UTMJ* team has endeavoured to compile this issue. We would like to express our appreciation for the dedication and hard work of our team of section reviewers, copy editors, associate editors, the interview team, cover artist, and web developers. We are grateful for ongoing patronage of the journal by our sponsors. Finally, we would like to thank you - the reader; we hope you enjoy reading this issue!

Sincerely,

Ahmad Mousa
Mark Shafarenko

Editors-in-Chief, UTMJ

References

1. Health Canada
2. Heart and Stroke Foundation