

2019 Jacques de Champlain New Investigator Award



Jeffrey G. Dickhout, PhD

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Hypertension Canada is proud to recognize Dr. Jeffrey Dickhout as the recipient of the 2019 Hypertension Canada Jacques de Champlain New Investigator Award for his dedication and research contributions in the field of hypertension in Canada.

Dr. Dickhout is a highly accomplished early career investigator with a longstanding interest in understanding the mechanisms underlying hypertension and related cardiovascular complications dating back to his postdoctoral studies with Dr. Allen Cowley at the Medical College of Wisconsin, a world leader in the pathophysiology of hypertension and former chair of the AHA Hypertension Council. Dr. Dickhout took full advantage of laboratory expertise with animal models such as the Dahl S- rat to expand knowledge in the area of salt-sensitive hypertension.

In 2009, Dr. Dickhout was appointed as Scientist in the Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University where he built an outstanding independent research program focusing on the role of ER stress in hypertension and chronic kidney disease. He has received numerous awards including a St. Joseph's Healthcare Division of Nephrology Junior Researcher Award, a McMaster University Internal Career Research Award, and a KRESCENT New Investigator Award. Dr. Dickhout has trained more than 25 students and fellows and has 25 publications in high impact journals.

A highlight is his recent 2019 manuscript from the American Journal of Physiology which shows that ER stress occurs before the development of hypertension in spontaneously hypertensive rats and that inhibition of ER stress. Dr. Dickhout has previously shown that inhibition of ER stress reduces hypertension-induced renal injury in mice. These are seminal contributions that point towards a novel drug target and this remains an area of active investigation by his laboratory.

Dr. Dickhout, is widely recognized as a world leader in the area of ER stress. He is also an active participant in the Canadian Hypertensive Congress where his students deliver excellent presentations, indicative of his proficiency as a mentor. Dr. Dickhout is a consistent positive influence at these meetings and this has led to budding collaborations with other members of the Canadian hypertension community.