

## Optimizing Stroke Rehabilitation: When, How Much, Who and What?

Dale Corbett, PhD – University of Ottawa, Scientific Director & CEO of the Heart and Stroke Foundation Canadian Partnership for Stroke Recovery

The last two decades have witnessed an explosion of new knowledge about neuroplasticity, brain repair and recovery of function following stroke. In spite of these research advances, there has been little translational benefit to those individuals impaired by stroke. Several large stroke recovery trials have failed, leading some to question whether rehabilitation is having any impact at all, or whether post-stroke improvement is due solely to spontaneous biological recovery. Clearly, stroke recovery research is at a crossroad - seeking direction. In my seminar, I will show how preclinical research can shed light on fundamentally critical questions in stroke recovery and rehabilitation around: timing, dosing, who benefits and what treatments should be given to patients. The resulting framework provides a means for better aligning preclinical and clinical research that ultimately can lead to new, more individualized and effective approaches for improving human stroke recovery.



**Dr. Dale Corbett** is a Professor in the Brain and Mind Institute and the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the

University of Ottawa. He is also the Scientific Director & CEO of the Heart and Stroke Foundation Canadian Partnership for Stroke Recovery. Dr. Corbett's research focuses on recovery of sensory-motor and cognitive function following stroke. His lab uses a variety of approaches to enhance neuroplasticity and stroke recovery including novel forms of rehabilitation, exercise and mobilization of endogenous neural precursors and stem cells. Another area of Dr. Corbett's research focuses on exercise and cognition and the metabolic and vascular consequences of obesity and a sedentary lifestyle. His research is funded by the Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR), the Heart and Stroke Foundation (HSFC) and the Canadian Partnership for Stroke Recovery (CPSR). among others.

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SEA 4.244 Refreshments will be provided.