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HEART+LUNG Health
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Joint Heart + Lung Rounds

Bloody pathways in health and disease



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Thursday, February 23, 2012
8:00am - 9:00am

Vancouver General Hospital, Paetzold HEC Auditorium, Jim Pattison Pavilion with videolink to St. Paul's Hospital, New Lecture Theatre, Level 1 Providence Building

Abstract: Throughout evolution, organisms have developed means to simultaneously contain wounds by limiting bleeding with clot formation and to fight pathogens, thereby enabling rapid healing. Two major proteolytic cascades in the blood - the coagulation and complement systems - are key to achieve this end. Disease emerges when there is unchecked activation of these pathways. Thus, excess coagulation and complement activation are evident in, for example, atherosclerosis, coronary heart disease, organ ischemia-reperfusion injury and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Using a human disease model, I will review our current understanding of these primarily blood-borne proteolytic pathways, describe how their dysregulation may result in disease, provide new insights into how the pathways intersect, and finally consider how this information may impact on the development of new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches.

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a place of mind



This event is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada