

**ENDOWED** 

## **CLINICAL RESEARCH CHAIR**

IN

**KETOTHERAPEUTICS** 

**FOR** 

**BRAIN DISORDERS** 

KETOTHERAPEUTICS: Treating disease using *ketones* – two small molecules derived from fats and that are important for optimal brain function.

**CURRENT FUNDING:** \$ 1.1 MILLION

**FUNDING OBJECTIVE: \$5 MILLION** 





# Chairholder: STEPHEN CUNNANE, Ph.D.

- Professor, Dept. of Medicine and researcher at the Sherbrooke University's Research Center on Aging since 2003.
- Expert in brain energy metabolism during aging.
- Developed the world's 1<sup>st</sup> treatment for the early stage of Alzheimer disease (based on ketones:
- Holds the world's 1<sup>st</sup> academic research chair in ketotherapeutics.
- B.Sc. Bishop's University | Ph.D. McGill University | Post-doc. Aberdeen and London, UK.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Senior Canada Research Chair in brain energy metabolism (2003-2010).
- University Research Chair in brain energy metabolism (2012-2019).
- 350 peer-reviewed publications with 23,000 citations, an H-index of 79 and an i10-index of 286 (Google Scholar); 5 books; 2 patents.
- 2020 review on ketotherapeutics ranked in top 1% of all <u>Nature</u> <u>Reviews Drug Discovery</u> publications.
- Elected to the French National Academy of Medicine; 5th Canadian.
- Chevreul Medal, French Society for Research on Lipids (2017).
- 9 of his 44 students have gone on to academic appointments in Canada (4), USA (2), Europe (2) and Asia (1).

## **SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS**

- Developed the concept of ketones to rescue the 'brain energy gap' in Alzheimer disease.
- First to demonstrate that ketones improve cognitive performance early in Alzheimer disease because they correct declining brain fuel supply.
- First to assess whether a *ketogenic supplement increases the* benefit of exercise in Parkinson disease.
- Developed the 1st method to measure brain glucose and ketone metabolism by PET imaging.
- Solid track record of clinical trials testing dietary supplements that require regulatory approval.



## Clinical Research Chair in ketotherapeutics for brain disorders – Prof. Cunnane

#### THE CHAIR'S OBJECTIVES

- Validate a new generation of ketone treatment for Alzheimer and Parkinson disease.
- Determine whether ketones can improve brain energy metabolism in *psychiatric disorders*.
- Assess a new ketogenic supplement plus a reduced carbohydrate diet to improve quality of life in nursing home residents.

#### **LONG-TERM VISION**

- This research chair is *endowed* projects on ketones will be financed from a permanent endowment. Longterm commitment by the University of Sherbrooke.
- Recruit a 2<sup>nd</sup> world-class researcher to grow our leadership role in ketotherapeutics.
- Train and inspire young doctors and graduate students for research careers in ketotherapeutics.

ENDOWED CHAIR TARGET: \$ 5 million Current funding: \$ 1.1 million

# PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH WITH KETONES: IT WILL IMPROVE THE TREATMENT OF BRAIN DISORDERS

