



## RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT...



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L to R, Back Row: Claudia Harding, Anne Hiltz, Chris Daley, Heather Neville, Tammy MacDonald; Front Row: Bernadette Chevalier, Kathy Slayter, Lisa Nodwell, Missing: Chris Skedgel, Neil MacKinnon

### Bernadette Chevalier CSHP Foundation Research Grant Recipient

CSHP Foundation research grant recipients are changing the face of clinical practice. Read on to understand some of the exceptional work by our members. Inspired or curious? Apply for a CSHP Foundation grant at [www.cshpfoundation.ca](http://www.cshpfoundation.ca).

Bernadette Chevalier and her research team (listed below photo), conducted a study in 2008-09 using funds awarded by the CSHP Foundation. The team's project was entitled "Clinical Benefits and Economic Impact of a Surgical Pharmacist." Her group received \$2,000 for research that evaluated the severity, value, avoidance of potential adverse drug events, and cost avoidance for all clinical interventions by surgical pharmacists over six months. The project was awarded the CSHP National Award for Management and Leadership Best Practices for 2012/2013 and has been accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Pharmacy Practice*.

**Q: What impact did the research have in your hospital?**

**A:** The study led to permanent funding of 2 FTE clinical pharmacists in general and gastrointestinal surgery wards, and has been utilized to expand clinical services to other surgical patient care areas.

**Q. How would you estimate your research impacted patient care?**

**A:** Our research sought to quantify the impact in meaningful terms to patients: resolving drug therapy problems and avoiding adverse drug events that can result in patient harm and extended stays in the hospital. Interventions that produce cost avoidance can translate to numerous patient benefits such as the ability for hospitals to reduce wait times, improve patient flow, and provide safer care.

**Q: Why should others pay attention to the research done by pharmacists?**

**A:** Pharmacists work closely and collaboratively with other health care professionals to provide safe and effective drug therapy for patients. Pharmacy-led research encompasses the entire continuum of a patient's medication therapy from the hospital to the community resulting in improved cost-effective medication use for all.

**Q: Why is the CSHP Foundation important to hospital pharmacists?**

**A:** The CSHP Foundation provides a vital conduit for research and education grants to pharmacy practitioners. We are extremely grateful to have the support of the CSHP Foundation to support these specialized projects.