

*We proudly announce our Inaugural*

# International Symposium on **MOLAR HYPOMINERALISATION & CHALKY TEETH**

Kindly hosted by our D3 colleagues  
at the University of Toronto &  
SickKids hospital

**OCT 2020  
22ND – 24TH  
TORONTO, CANADA**

## ORIGINAL PLANS FOR A WORLD-FIRST SYMPOSIUM ON D3s (2020)

The COVID pandemic curtailed our 2020 plans to host a **live D3 Symposium** in Toronto in and so we pivoted to the **Toronto webinar series** during 2020 and 2021 as reported [here](#). Pre-COVID advertising for the 2020 Symposium follows:

### “Plan A”, from 2020 – A useful milestone for reflection!

In May 2019, we proudly announced D3G's inaugural **International Symposium on Molar Hypomineralisation and Chalky Teeth**. This breakthrough event was an exciting step in our **“Chalky Teeth Campaign”** – a pioneering public-awareness initiative highlighting that, if appropriate research is done, much tooth decay should become preventable through medical intervention (**“Healthier Babies = Stronger Teeth”**). Such an advance would have **massive social impact** given that **1-in-5 children worldwide** have “chalky molars”.

As originally planned, this symposium prompted a “cross-sector call to action” and used a translational approach to **formulate key questions** aimed at **improving management** of, and ultimately **preventing**, **Molar Hypomineralisation** and other types of **chalky teeth**. Aspects to be covered included population health, clinical management, research, education, and science translation through to improved policy and products.

As elaborated below, we invited interested parties from **academia, health professions, government and industry** to help develop a collaborative event that would be not only memorable but also **transformative for social good**.

Happily, we noted that **definitions** of “symposium” convey not only lots of hard work (i.e. **erudite** discussion about a specific topic) but also the idea of fun (i.e. a convivial party, as after a banquet in ancient Greece). So, learning that others agreed, we proposed that plenty of time be allowed for networking across the ever-expanding **“D3 family”**.



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## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS – TRANSLATIONAL THEORY & PRACTICE

### **Jane Atkinson (NIH, USA): What is science translation and why plan for it early?**

We felt privileged and thrilled that the world authority on translational science, USA's [National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences \(NCATS\)](#), provided a keynote speaker/facilitator to guide our collective thinking throughout this event.

**Jane Atkinson** directed the clinical [Trial Innovation Network](#) at NCATS and as such holds a wonderful perspective on how D3G might develop a **global research network** to attack the [chalky teeth problem](#). And if that wasn't great enough, Jane is a highly experienced dentist and researcher who spent many years working at NIH's [National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research](#) (NIDCR). Read more about Jane [here](#).

A big thanks to **Christopher Austin** (Director, NCATS) for making this possible, and to **Jason Wan** (NIDCR) and **Eric Sid** (NCATS) for facilitation.

### **Stanley Zlotkin (SickKids, Canada): My translational journey from lab to social good**

It's hard to imagine a better inspiration for our D3 movement than **Stanley Zlotkin** and his **Sprinkles Global Health** initiative. Challenged by UNICEF to do something about childhood malnutrition 20 years ago, Stanley has since used science, wisdom and social entrepreneurship to deliver a culturally-refined product to help **15 million children in 60 developing countries annually**. This herculean showcase for end-to-end translation has earned widespread recognition including Canada's top civilian honour and professional awards for knowledge translation and humanitarianism. This remarkable story also has a dental twist.

Trained as a paediatrician and researcher with a PhD in nutritional sciences, **Stanley** is founding director of the [Centre for Global Child Health](#) at Toronto's SickKids hospital, and professor of paediatrics, [public health sciences](#), and nutritional sciences at the University of Toronto.

Read more about Stanley and *Sprinkles* [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).





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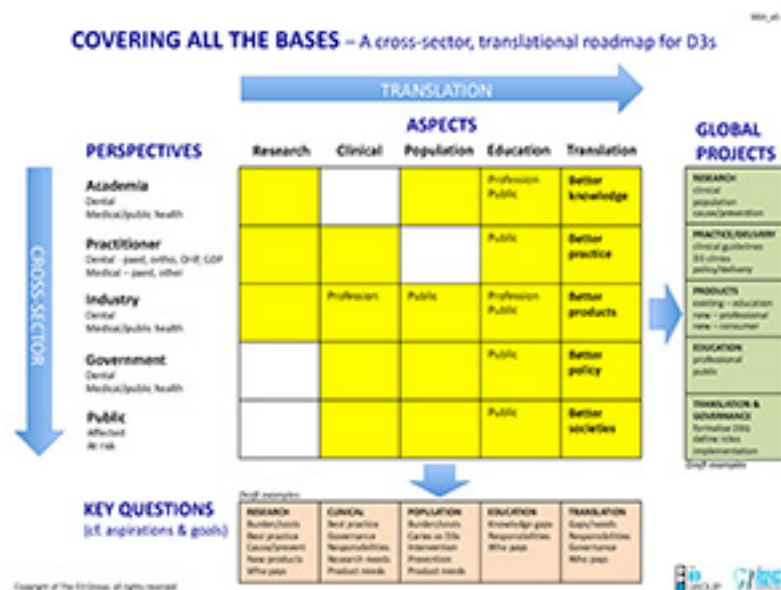
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## SYMPOSIUM THEME – “ATTACKING KEY QUESTIONS” (DISCUSSION DRAFT)

With the D3 field developing into an international movement that's both cross-sector and translational, a wonderful opportunity existed to improve global health through a networked approach. This advance in turn begged for a “**translational roadmap**” that takes us from today's beginnings through to a holistic effort directed at improving management of, and ultimately preventing, major D3s (download concept chart [here](#)). Fundamental to such a framework was a **staged set of questions** that are **pivotal** regards where we're headed and **approachable** by today's capabilities. In turn, such key questions will underpin the conceptualisation of worthy **global projects** that can be approached translationally. ([read more](#))



## SYMPOSIUM FLYER

The original D3 Symposium flyer remains available to download [here](#).