

### Profile – Dr. Maja Stupar, DC



Dr. Maja Stupar, DC  
PhD Candidate  
University of Toronto

Dr. Maja Stupar graduated from the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) in 2003 and completed the Clinical Sciences Residency in 2005. She is currently a doctoral candidate in Clinical Epidemiology at the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. Dr. Stupar's thesis addresses measurement of outcomes in musculoskeletal injuries. Specifically, it is evaluating psychometric properties of an outcome measure developed for assessing whiplash-related disability. Her doctoral thesis supervisor is Dr. Pierre Côté.

Dr. Stupar is a Vanier Canada Scholar. Vanier Canada Scholarships are funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in the amount of \$150 000 to support doctoral education. Dr. Stupar ranked within the top 2% among the review committee that evaluated her application for the Vanier Canada Scholarship competition. Furthermore, she was the recipient of the Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement through the CIHR for a six-month international collaboration project completed in November 2010 with researchers from Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. Dr. Stupar's work in Sweden assessed an outcome measure in the Swedish adult population with back and neck pain. While there, Dr. Stupar collaborated with researchers from different clinical professions and gave a presentation about the chiropractic profession in Canada at the Scandinavian College of Naprapathic Manual Medicine. Prior to her work abroad and during her doctoral studies, Dr. Stupar collaborated with other clinical groups locally. Her collaboration with Dr. Gillan Hawker, a rheumatologist and Chief of Medicine at Women's College Hospital, resulted in a publication in the JMPT in 2010. This paper "The Association Between Low Back Pain and Osteoarthritis of the Hip and Knee: A Population-Based Cohort Study" was awarded the 2nd place World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) research prize sponsored by NCMIC group. Dr. Stupar continues to work (part-time) as a clinical research coordinator for the UHN Whiplash Intervention Trial. This RCT focuses on identifying the program of care most effective for acute whiplash associated disorders.

Dr. Stupar started her outstanding research career while studying at CMCC. Her 4<sup>th</sup> year research project was chosen for presentation at the Canadian Chiropractic Association Research Day and her graduate research project was awarded the ACC Research Scholarship. This gave her the opportunity to present her project at the WFC Congress in Sydney, Australia. Dr. Stupar has been presenting her work extensively at international and interdisciplinary conferences.