



**DEPARTMENT OF
OTOLARYNGOLOGY**
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

in retrospect

2023



McGill

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INTRODUCTION

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the McGill Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery is to provide high quality and specialized patient-centered clinical and surgical care, train the next generation of clinicians, surgeons and scientists, and lead in the innovation, development and transfer of new knowledge – all in an environment that is welcoming, collegial, and supportive both for those receiving and those providing the care.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



It is with great pleasure that I present to you *In Retrospect* 2023 on the behalf of the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, McGill University.

This past year has been marked by tremendous growth and accomplishments for the department thanks to the unwavering dedication and energy of our exceptional faculty across all disciplines and specialties. We have distinguished ourselves as skilled educators and mentors, imparting our knowledge and experience to our students, residents, and fellows. We have diligently trained the next generation of compassionate physicians, skilled surgeons, and innovative educators. Beyond our institution, we have emerged as leaders nationally and internationally, sharing our expertise at conferences, symposia, and on expert panels, thereby contributing significantly to the global medical community.

In 2023, our faculty's scholarly endeavors spanned fundamental scientific research and clinically applied studies, all aimed at improving the health of our patients and communities. The unprecedented research productivity within our department was evident by the competitive research funding secured across all of our disciplines. We also trained the largest body of graduate trainees in our laboratories for both MSc and PhD programs. Our research scope is vast, encompassing themes such as the neuroscience of hearing, advanced biomaterials for vocal fold restoration, machine learning for infant hearing screening, genomics, the immune microenvironment in head and neck cancer, and much more. The collaborative network we have built within the McGill research ecosystem, as well as with national and international partners, has fostered a multidisciplinary approach that bridges the gap from bench to bedside, creating a synergy that drives our scientific achievements.

The Montreal Cochlear Implant Program, newly inaugurated in 2023, has been a resounding success, performing 137 cochlear implant surgeries at the MUHC for both adults and children. This rapid growth has made it one of the largest cochlear implant (CI) programs in the country – indeed a testament to our department’s ability to implement new initiatives successfully.

We are particularly proud of this program as it is also a successful collaborative effort between Montreal’s two university faculties of Medicine, McGill University and the Université de Montréal with the support of an interdisciplinary team of CI surgeons, audiology-speech language pathologists and staff at base hospital sites, as well as rehabilitation professionals from centres in and around Montreal. We share one goal to deliver the best evidence-based clinical and surgical CI care, improving the hearing health of our communities – pediatric and adult.

The annual Saul Frenkiel Lecture in Rhinology was established this year at McGill - this in honour of Dr. Frenkiel for his years of service to our department as chair, chief, teacher, and most cherished colleague. The inaugural lecture delivered by Professor P.J. Wormald, Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, University of Adelaide, Australia was launched on October 4, 2023. It was a landmark event, attended by many from near and far, underscoring our commitment to honoring our contributors to and the advancement of the field of rhinology.

Our department remains at the forefront of surgical innovation, providing the highest quality care to our patients. This success is due to the unwavering dedication of our faculty, administrative staff, nurses, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, nutritionists, technicians, and medical secretarial support. One and all’s commitment to patient care is inspiring and instrumental in our continued growth and success.

Reflecting on 2023, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the accomplishments and achievements driven by the collaborative spirit, dedication, and talent of so many. I hope you enjoy reading this year’s annual report *In Retrospect* as much as I have.

Warm regards,

Nader Sadeghi, MD, FRCSC

Professor and Chair

Department of Otolaryngology -
Head and Neck Surgery

Director

McGill Head and Neck
Cancer Program



LEADERSHIP



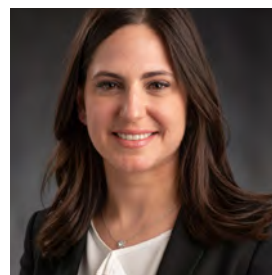
Nader Sadeghi, MD
Chair
Chief, MUHC



Keith Richardson, MD
Residency Program
Director



Tamara Mijovic, MD
Competence Committee
Chair



Cinzia Marchica, MD
Undergraduate
Education Program
Co-Director



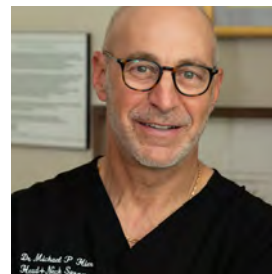
Joshua Gurberg, MD
Undergraduate
Education Program
Co-Director



Bernard Segal, MD
Enrichment Year/
MSc Program Director



Jamie Rappaport, MD
Fellowship Program
Director



Michel Hier, MD
Chief
Jewish General Hospital



Sam J. Daniel, MD
Chief
Montreal Children's
Hospital

THE DEPARTMENT BY NUMBERS

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

| RANK | FULL TIME | PART TIME | TOTAL |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Adjunct Professor | | 4 | 4 |
| Associate Member | | 4 | 4 |
| Clinical Faculty | | | |
| Faculty Lecturer | | 18 | 18 |
| Assistant Professor | 13 | 2 | 15 |
| Associate Professor | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Professor | 5 | | 5 |
| Emeritus Professor | | 2 | 2 |
| Research Faculty | | | |
| Assistant Professor | 1 | | 1 |
| Associate Professor | 4 | | 4 |
| | 30 | 33 | 63 |

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ACADEMIC & PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS 2023

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Article | 55 |
| Chapter | 3 |
| Editorial | 1 |
| Erratum | 1 |
| Letter | 1 |
| Note | 5 |
| Review | 6 |
| TOTAL | 72 |

(Source: SciVal 2024/05/07)

For a comprehensive list of 2023 publications
www.mcgill.ca/ent/research/publications-0

RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS

Academic Year 2022-2023

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Fellows | 8 |
| Residents | 16 |
| TOTAL | 24 |

Publications 2023

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Articles | 7 |
| TOTAL | 7 |



Fellowships

ONE-YEAR

- Auditory Sciences Laboratory
- Laryngology
- Pediatric Otolaryngology
- Skull Base and Advanced Rhinology
- Thyroid and Parathyroid Surgery

TWO-YEAR

- Advanced Head and Neck Surgical Oncology, Microvascular Reconstruction, and Trans Oral Robotic Surgery Fellowship
- Pediatric Otolaryngology

For additional information please visit:

www.mcgill.ca/ent/fellowship



FACULTY

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| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | POSITION | APPOINTMENT TYPE | ACADEMIC RANK | PRIMARY DEPARTMENT | JOINT DEPARTMENT |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Boucher | Carl | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Bouhabel | Sarah | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Caouette | Richard | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Chagnon | Francoise | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Chan | David | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Daniel | Sam | Full time | Clinical | Professor (Clinical) | Pediatric Surgery | Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery |
| Deroche | Mickael | Part time | Research | Adjunct Professor | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Dionne | Renee | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Dolev | Yalon | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Duval | Melanie | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Pediatric Surgery | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Fanous | Nabil | Part time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Forest | Véronique-Isabelle | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Forghani | Reza | Part time | Clinical | Adjunct Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Frenkiel | Saul | Full time | Clinical | Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Funnell | Robert | Full time | Research | Associate Professor (Research) | Biomedical Engineering | Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery |

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | POSITION | APPOINTMENT TYPE | ACADEMIC RANK | PRIMARY DEPARTMENT | JOINT DEPARTMENT |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Gabra | Nathalie | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Gurberg | Joshua | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Pediatric Surgery | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Henry | Melissa | Part time | Research | Associate Member | Associate Professor Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Hier | Michael P | Full time | Clinical | Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology |
| Himdi | Lamiae | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Houle | Olivier | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Iordanescu | Vlad | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Katsarkas | Anthanasios | Part time | Clinical | Emeritus Professor | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Kay-Rivest | Emily | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Kost | Karen | Full time | Clinical | Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Lalonde | Michel | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Lehmann | Alexandre | Full time | Research | Associate Professor (Research) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Li-Jessen | Nicole | Part time | Research | Associate Member | Associate Professor School of Communication Sciences & Disorders | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Loganathan | Sampath Kumar | Full time | Research | Assistant Professor (Research) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Manoukian | John | Full time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Pediatric Surgery | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | POSITION | APPOINTMENT TYPE | ACADEMIC RANK | PRIMARY DEPARTMENT | JOINT DEPARTMENT |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Marchica | Cinzia | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Mascarella | Marco | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| McHugh | Tobial | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Pediatric Surgery | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Mijovic | Tamara | Part time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Mlynarek | Marcin | Full time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology |
| Monette | Luc | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Mongeau | Luc | Part time | Research | Associate Member | Professor Mechanical Engineering | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Nguyen | Phan Ha-Nam | Full time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Pediatric Surgery | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Nguyen | Sally | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Paliouras | Miltiadis | Part time | Research | Associate Member | Affiliate Member Medicine | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Payne | Richard J | Full time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology |
| Picard | Lyne | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Rappaport | Jamie M | Full time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Richardson | Keith | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Rothstein | Jack | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Sadeghi | Nader | Full time | Clinical | Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology |

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | POSITION | APPOINTMENT TYPE | ACADEMIC RANK | PRIMARY DEPARTMENT | JOINT DEPARTMENT |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Saliba | Issam | Part time | Clinical | Adjunct Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Saliba | Joe | Part time | Clinical | Adjunct Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Samaha | Mark | Part time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Schloss | Melvin | Part time | Clinical | Emeritus Professor | Pediatric Surgery | |
| Schwartz | Joseph | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Segal | Bernard | Full time | Research | Associate Professor (Research) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Sejean | George | Part time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Shapiro | Robert | Part time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Post retire-ment) | Pediatric Surgery | |
| Tewfik | Marc | Full time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Varshney | Rickul | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Vu | Thien Tuong Vi | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Wurzba | Sabrina | Full time | Research | Associate Professor (Research) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Yang | Nathan | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Yeung | Jeffrey | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Pediatric Surgery | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery |
| Young | Jonathan | Full time | Clinical | Assistant Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Ywakim | Rania | Part time | Clinical | Faculty Lecturer (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | |
| Zeitouni | Anthony G | Full time | Clinical | Associate Professor (Clinical) | Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery | Neurology & Neurosurgery |

PROMOTIONS AND RECRUITMENTS

PROMOTIONS



Congratulations to **Sabrina Wurzba, DDS, MSc, PhD**, promoted to the rank of Associate Professor (CAS) Research in August 2023. Dr. Wurzba joined our department in 2014

as an assistant professor at the Jewish General Hospital. She is currently a project director at the Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research - Segal Cancer Centre where she is leading basic and translational research with the primary goal to improve prevention, promote early tumour detection, and discover alternative therapeutic approaches for patients with advanced disease.

Dr. Wurzba obtained her DDS degree from the University of Sao Paulo State, Brazil and her MSc and PhD in pathology and molecular biology at the University of Campinas (UNICAMP, Brazil). She completed her postdoctoral training in genetics/genomics in oncology under the supervision of Dr. Luiz Paulo Kowalski, a renowned expert at

AC Camargo Cancer Center, from whom she gained a vast experience in the field. She also pursued complementary training in experimental medicine. In collaboration with Dr. Moulay Alaoui-Jamali, a professor and scientist from the Segal Cancer Centre and Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research, she carries out fundamental research to understand the mechanisms of tumour progression, including the establishment of orthotropic metastatic models using tissue samples from patients with head and neck cancer.

Dr. Wurzba's research has been published in several international peer-reviewed biomedical and medical journals and she has contributed to book chapters related to the field of oncology science. She has presented at national and international conferences, including the American Head and Neck Society, the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, and the International Academy of Oral Oncology. She also serves on several national and international grant panels and editorial boards of biomedical and medical journals.

RECRUITMENTS



A warm welcome to **Dr. David Chan** who joined the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery as an Assistant Professor in 2023.

Dr. Chan obtained his medical degree from the University of Ottawa and then completed his otolaryngology - head and neck surgery residency at McGill University. This was followed with extended fellowship training at Flinders Medical

Centre in Adelaide, Australia where he sub-specialized in advanced rhinology, endoscopic skull base surgery, and head and neck oncology.

Dr. Chan is an attending physician at St Mary's Hospital. His current practice focuses on diseases of the nasal sinuses, nasal breathing, and tumours of the sinuses and skull base. Dr. Chan obtained his MSc at McGill University and has published numerous peer-reviewed studies. He also enjoys teaching and actively takes part in training McGill's medical students and residents.



It is also our pleasure to extend a heartfelt welcome to **Dr. Issam Saliba** who joined our faculty as an Adjunct Professor (Clinical) in 2023.

Dr. Saliba is a professor and chair of the Division of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at the Université de Montréal, and chief of the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM). He is also the director of the otology, neurotology and skull base surgery fellowship program at the Université de Montréal.

Dr. Saliba completed his otorhinolaryngology residency training at the Université de Montréal in 2001. His major interests in pathologies of the ear, dizziness, and skull base tumours led him to complete two years of fellowship training in Montreal as well as at the Université Toulouse III

- Paul Sabatier in France, before eventually joining the ORL department of the CHUM in 2003. In addition to clinical work, a keen interest in research propelled him to develop two globally renowned surgical techniques: one for tympanic membrane perforations (hyaluronic acid fat graft myringoplasty - HAFGM) performed under local anesthesia as an office-based surgery, and another technique for treating refractory Meniere's disease - endolymphatic duct blockage. His CV includes more than 130 peer-reviewed publications and more than 10 book chapters.

In 2004, Dr. Saliba began developing the cochlear implant project for western Quebec with a group of ENT specialists from both the Université de Montréal and McGill University. Now, after two decades of perseverance, the team has finally realized their vision by establishing Quebec's pioneering cochlear implant program in the western region of the province.



We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Joe Saliba** joined our faculty as an Adjunct Professor (Clinical) in 2023 as part of the cochlear implant team.

Dr. Saliba is a neuro-otologist and skull base surgeon at the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM), an assistant professor and director of the temporal bone dissection laboratory at the Université de Montréal.

Dr. Saliba graduated from McGill University's Faculty of Medicine and was awarded the prestigious Holmes Gold Medal. He then completed his residency in otolaryngology - head and neck surgery at McGill receiving numerous accolades and joined the Royal

College of Surgeons of Canada. In addition to his clinical training, Dr. Saliba pursued a Master of Science degree at McGill with a research internship at Stanford University in California, studying music perception in patients with cochlear implants using functional neuro-imaging. He then completed a two-year post-doctoral fellowship in neurotology & skull base surgery at the University of California - San Diego.

Since 2019, Dr. Saliba has been in academic practice as an assistant professor and surgeon at the Université de Montréal. We are delighted that Dr. Saliba has joined the cochlear implant surgery team bringing his expertise and energy to our newly developed program.



SPECIALTIES

**HEAD AND NECK SURGERY
AND RECONSTRUCTION**

FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY

LARYNGOLOGY

**RHINOLOGY AND
SKULL BASE SURGERY**

OTOLOGY/NEUROTOLOGY

PEDIATRIC

HEAD & NECK SURGERY AND RECONSTRUCTION

Head and neck surgery and reconstruction, integrated under the McGill Head and Neck Cancer Program, is a thriving service based at the McGill University Health Centre and the Jewish General Hospital.

The McGill Head and Neck Cancer Program is a multidisciplinary team consisting of surgeons, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, pathologists, radiologists, speech language pathologists, nutritionists, and nurses. Our specialty provides state-of-the-art patient care for a wide range of malignant and non-malignant tumours of the head and neck, including skin, oral cavity, pharynx, larynx, salivary glands, thyroid, and parathyroid glands. Our service provides surgical care covering a wide range of procedures such as complex ablative surgery, transoral robotic surgery and transoral laser microsurgery,

as well as reconstructive surgical procedures including microvascular reconstruction, facial animation, and voice restoration.

We are an academic team of dedicated scientists and surgeon investigators promoting a streamlined and innovative research agenda performing cutting edge clinical trials and fundamental studies on head and neck cancer. We provide expert cancer care to all of our patients using an interdisciplinary and comprehensive head and neck cancer care team approach at both of our affiliate teaching hospitals.



CLINICAL TEAM



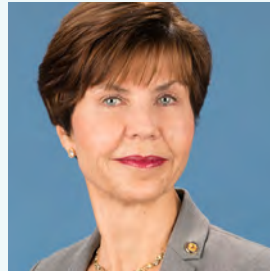
Nader Sadeghi, MD
Chief, MUHC
Division Lead



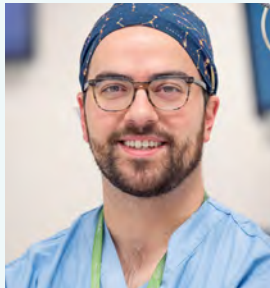
Michael Hier, MD
Chief
Jewish General Hospital



Véronique Forest, MD



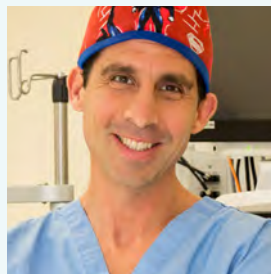
Karen Kost, MD



Marco Mascarella, MD



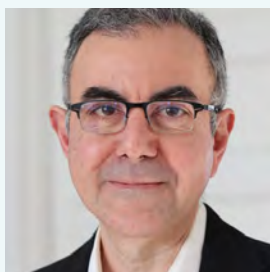
Alex Mlynarek, MD



Richard Payne, MD



Keith Richardson, MD

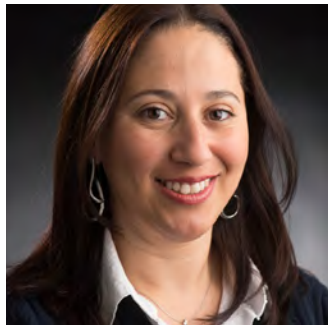


Anthony Zeitouni, MD

SCIENTIFIC TEAM



**Sampath Kumar
Loganathan, PhD**
OTL-HNS



Sabrina Wurzba, PhD
OTL-HNS



Melissa Henri, PhD
Oncology

RESEARCH TEAM

Our head and neck cancer research team consists of scientists covering many domains of research including functional genomics, tumour microenvironment and immune response, liquid biopsy, cellular signaling, patient-reported outcomes, psychosocial oncology, and clinical trials. Our team is fortunate to have active and integrated collaborations throughout the oncology research landscape at McGill, most notably:

Dr. Julia Burnier, Department of Pathology
Lead and collaborator in liquid biopsy research with multidisciplinary head and neck surgery team at the MUHC.

Dr. Anie Philip, Department of Surgery (Experimental Medicine)
Collaborator with the Head and Neck Cancer Program based at the Research Institute, MUHC.

Dr. Nicole Li-Jessen, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders, McGill Main Campus
Collaborator with the head and neck team as well as our laryngology team.

FELLOWS

Advanced Head and Neck Surgical Oncology, Microvascular Reconstruction, and Trans Oral Robotic Surgery Fellowship

We offer a comprehensive two-year fellowship program that includes both ablative and microvascular reconstruction surgery, practised at our two sites - the McGill University Health Centre and the Jewish General Hospital.

www.mcgill.ca/ent/education/fellowship/headandneck



Dr. Arnaud Lambert, an otolaryngologist from Belgium completed his residency at the University Hospital of Leuven in July 2021, after which he completed a one-year fellowship in advanced head and neck surgical oncology at Guys & St. Thomas' Hospital in London, UK. He is currently completing a two-year fellowship program in head and neck surgery, robotic surgery and microvascular reconstruction at McGill, which started in July 2022 and will finish at the end of June 2024. He is expected to join the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at St. Lucas Ghent in Belgium where he will be supporting head and neck cancer care.



Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Salem, originally from Saudi Arabia, is set to complete the first year of his two-year fellowship in June 2024. Following completion of his fellowship in June 2025, he will return to King Abdulaziz Medical City in Riyadh. Dr. Al-Salem earned his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from King Saud University in Saudi Arabia. He aspires to become a leader in head and neck surgery in his home country, focusing on combating the rising incidence of head and neck cancers. Additionally, he aims to establish a fellowship training program at his institution to train future Saudi head and neck surgeons.

Thyroid and Parathyroid Surgery

This is a one-year fellowship exclusively on thyroid and parathyroid surgery under the supervision of Drs. Richard Payne and Véronique Forest.



Dr. Orr Dimitstein graduated with honors from the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel. He completed a six-year otolaryngology – head and neck surgery residency program at Soroka University Medical Center in Be'er Sheva, Israel. He is our thyroid and parathyroid surgery fellow for the 2023-2024 academic year, specializing in thyroid ultrasound and ultrasound-guided biopsies, and the incorporation of molecular testing into clinical practice and high-volume, safe, and efficient surgery of the thyroid and parathyroid glands.

HIGHLIGHTS

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The **Head and Neck Cancer Integration Program**, led by Dr. Nader Sadeghi and the McGill head and neck team, was launched with the support of the Rossy Cancer Network. Our team is made up of multi-disciplinary representation from the MUHC, the Jewish General Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital. Our aim and goal are to improve on quality of care by streamlining cancer care pathways from diagnosis, throughout treatment, to post-treatment survivorship care. An important component of this program is in the development of psycho-social distress screening tools and interventions, and incorporating patient-reported outcomes into our quality of life metrics. We continue to make inroads, as well, building upon our robust research-quality head and neck cancer data and bio tissue bank – an important resource for future qualitative collaborations.

The **Quebec thyroid molecular testing project**, a province-wide initiative piloted under the leadership of Dr. Richard Payne was successfully rolled out across all regions of the province. A multidisciplinary team of representatives from Quebec's four academic centres (CHUM, CHU de Québec, CHUS, MUHC/JGH) ushered in this momentous task, the goals of which are: to avoid unnecessary thyroid surgeries; provide optimal care to those needing thyroid surgery; and to reduce government spending such that there is an overall cost savings benefit for the health care system. Results of the project have been presented nationally. The Ministry continues to support this project after reviewing the data, recognizing that both patients and the healthcare system have benefitted from the program.



Our **transoral robotic surgery (TORS)** program remains at the forefront of paradigm shifting innovation in the treatment of oropharyngeal cancer. With our ongoing research into circulating tumour DNA for detection, response to treatment and surveillance of oropharyngeal cancer, we are entering a new era of precision oncology and personalized treatments for this disease. Published data from patient-reported outcomes research in 2023, and presented at international conferences, demonstrated that our model of **Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy followed by TORS (NECTORS)**, a concept spearheaded by Dr. Nader Sadeghi, preserves the quality of life for our patients with oropharyngeal cancer, while improving cancer cure rates. This approach attracted significant international attention in 2023.

Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network (MOHCCN) Initiative: Canadian Head And Neck cancer **GE**nomic (**CHANGE**) collaborative. Our overall vision is to establish a Canada-wide multidisciplinary collaboration focused on head and neck cancer bench-to-bedside science to improve cancer survival. To this effect, we have created a **CHANGE** collaborative multi-disciplinary team of head and neck experts from across three regional MOHCCN consortia (MOH-Quebec, Princess Margaret cancer consortium, and Prairie cancer research consortium) and five institutions (McGill University, Princess Margaret

Cancer Centre, Western University, Sunnybrook Research Institute, and the lead institution the University of Calgary) to investigate the mechanisms underlying oral cancer recurrence. Our team consists of head and neck surgeons (Drs. Eskander, Nichols and **Sadeghi**), a pathologist (Dr. Hyrcza), a medical oncologist (Dr. Liu), a radiation oncologist (Dr. Bratman), a molecular epidemiologist (Dr. Liu), molecular biologists (Drs. Ailles and Bose), a mass spectrometrists/biochemist (Dr. Dufour), genome scientists (Drs. Bose and **Loganathan**), bioinformaticians (Drs. Bose and Dufour), and translational scientists (Drs. Bratman and Nichols), who will work together to assemble and genomically characterize the largest Canadian cohort of oral cancer to date.



Our **translational head and neck cancer research program**, with the support of CIHR and FRQS grants and awards, continues to grow its scope of research and productivity at our **functional genomic laboratory** at the RI MUHC and at our **head and neck cancer translational laboratory** at the JGH LDI led by **Dr. Sampath Loganathan** and **Dr. Sabrina Wurzbach** respectively. Our laboratories housed 15 graduate students in 2023, nine MSc and six PhD students.



GRADUATE STUDENTS

27

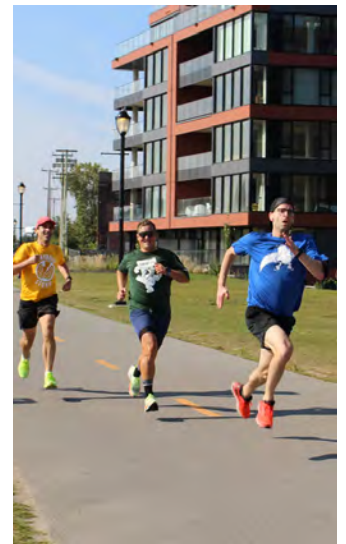
FUNCTIONAL GENOMIC LABORATORY RESEARCH INSTITUTE - MUHC

Zahra Kardan MSc | McGill Experimental Surgery
 Ali Taqvi MSc | McGill Experimental Medicine
 Tuan Khang Huynh MSc | McGill Experimental Medicine
 Adway Kadam PhD | McGill Experimental Surgery
 Drishti Soni PhD | McGill Biochemistry
 Yue Yan PhD | McGill Experimental Medicine
 Amina Laham | McGill post doctoral fellow
 Nahid Golabi | McGill research assistant

HEAD & NECK CANCER TRANSLATIONAL LABORATORY LADY DAVIS INSTITUTE - JGH

Jenna Bouassaly MSc | McGill Experimental Surgery
 Megan Araujo MSc | McGill Experimental Surgery
 Fatemeh Farshadi MSc | McGill Experimental Surgery
 Claudia Boasiako MSc | McGill ENT-OTL
 Mai Atique MSc | McGill Dentistry
 Alexander Merims MSc | MSc McGill Biochemistry
 Isis Muniz PhD | Brazil
 Lilianny Querino PhD | Brazil
 Sara Pires PhD | Brazil
 Sophia Chehade | McGill Medical Summer Student
 Naser Karimi | McGill ENT Resident
 Kia Gupta | DDS McGill Dentistry

FUNDRAISING



This year's **annual 5km race fundraiser** was held along the picturesque Lachine Canal on a beautiful sunlit day. Chair of the fundraiser, Dr. Richard Payne announced to the more than 100 dedicated runners and volunteers, that they collectively raised an impressive sum exceeding \$250,000 (\$60,000 of which was raised by our H+N Tumournators team captain Dr. Michael Hier).

Team **Running Noses**, however, emerged victorious, claiming the top honor for the first time. Led by Dr. Marc Tewfik, Dr. Joseph Schwartz, Dr. Saul Frenkiel, and Dr. Rickul Varshney, their remarkable teamwork and determination propelled them to success.

During the award presentation ceremony, Dr. Payne shared a poignant quote from Theodore Roosevelt, reminding us all of the significance of our collective efforts in addressing challenges. Roosevelt's words, "Complaining about a problem without proposing a solution is called whining," resonated deeply with the mission and spirit of our fundraising endeavor.

Thank you to all participants, volunteers, and sponsors for their unwavering support and commitment to our cause. Together, we continue to make a tangible difference in our healthcare system.

GRANTS

2024-2026

Assessing DNA methylation-based epigenetic signatures for prognostic prediction in patients with HPV-positive head and neck cancer

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Sabrina Wurzba

COLLABORATORS:

Belinda Nicolau, Michael Hier,
Alex Mlynarek, Moulay Alaoui-Jamali

FUNDING SOURCE:

RSBO, Réseau de recherche en santé
buccodentaire et osseuse

AMOUNT:

\$40 000

2024-2025

Development of a CRISPR-based screening platform in patient-derived cancer organoids

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:

Alex Gregorieff and Sampath Loganathan

FUNDING SOURCE:

RI-MUHC Seed Funding competition

AMOUNT:

\$100 000

2023-2027

Using CRISPR based functional genomics technologies in mouse models of head and neck cancer to elucidate tumor suppressors, oncogenes and drug targets

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Sampath Loganathan

FUNDING SOURCE:

FRQS Junior 1 Chercheur Boursier
Fundamental

AMOUNT:

\$340 000

2023-2026

Investigating host cell vulnerabilities for human papilloma virus infection and risks for cancer development

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Sampath Loganathan

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research
(CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$450 000

GRANTS

2023

Soutien du RSBO à un consortium d'infrastructures multi-institutionnel

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Sabrina Wurzba

COLLABORATORS:

Michael Hier, Alex Mlynarek, Moulay Alaoui-Jamali, Belinda Nicolau

FUNDING SOURCE:

Réseau de recherche en santé buccodentaire et osseuse (RSBO)

AMOUNT:

\$100 000

2023

Enhancing Head and Neck Cancer Care in the Elderly (ENHANCE): A trajectory-based quality improvement program

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Marco Mascarella

FUNDING SOURCE:

Rossy Cancer Network QI 2 grant

AMOUNT:

\$41 000

2022-2027

Deciphering the Role of Metabolic Genes in Head and Neck Cancer

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Sampath Loganathan

COLLABORATORS:

Nader Sadeghi, Lawrence Kazak (Goodman Cancer Institute) and Anthony Michaelraj (U of Pittsburgh)

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$830 000

2022-2025

Head and Neck Cancer Integration Program: Patient Reported Outcomes, Quality of Care, and Trajectory Improvement Initiative - Head and Neck Cancer

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Nader Sadeghi

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Entire head and neck cancer team across MUHC, JGH and St. Mary's Hospital

FUNDING SOURCE:

Rossy Cancer Network

AMOUNT:

\$473 000

GRANTS

2021-2026

Identification of Biological and Molecular Signatures to Predict Treatment Response in Patients with Advanced HPV Positive Oropharyngeal Cancer

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:

Sabrina Silva Wurzba, Nader Sadeghi

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Guillaume Bourque, Michael Hier

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$665 550

2021-2023

In vivo CRISPR to Study Tumor Suppressors in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Sampath Loganathan

FUNDING SOURCE:

Cancer Research Society

AMOUNT:

\$150 000

2019-2024

Role of CD109 in Regulating Cellular Signalling and Responses in Skin and Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Anie Philip

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Alex Gregorieff, Nader Sadeghi

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$1 074 825



NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH: NETWORKING & LEADERSHIP

Invited Lectures:

Michael Hier

- JUL 2023** Invited panelist, "Management of Aggressive Thyroid Malignancies"
AHNS 11th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer. Montreal, Quebec
- JUL 2023** Invited panelist, "Management of Malignant Salivary Neoplasia"
AHNS 11th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer. Montreal, Quebec
- JAN 2023** "Challenging Cases in Thyroid Surgery"
International Federation of Otolaryngologic Societies (IFOS) Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE
- JAN 2023** Keynote speaker, "Brachytherapy for Margin Control in Oral Tongue SCC"
IFOS Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE
- JAN 2023** "Submandibular Gland Transfers Prior to Radiation Therapy for Prevention of Xerostomia"
IFOS Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE

Marco Mascarella

- MAY 2023** Invited lecturer, “Malignant Salivary Gland Lesions”
Otolaryngology Grand Rounds, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
- APR 2023** Invited lecturer, “Pediatric Free Flap Reconstruction for the Head and Neck”
Pediatric Grand Rounds, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

Alex Mlynarek

- JUL 2023** Session chair, Melanoma
AHNS 11th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer. Montreal, Quebec
- JUL 2023** Invited speaker, “Role of the Surgeon in Melanoma Treatment in 2023”
AHNS 11th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer. Montreal, Quebec
- JAN 2023** Guest of honour / Keynote speaker, “Melanoma in 2023”
International Federation of Otolaryngologic Societies (IFOS) Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE
- JAN 2023** Session chair and moderator, “Head and Neck Reconstruction”
IFOS Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE
- JAN 2023** Invited speaker, “Total Nasal Reconstruction”
IFOS Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE
- JAN 2023** Panelist: “Mandibular Reconstruction”
IFOS Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE
- JAN 2023** Panelist, “Oncologic and Reconstructive Head and Neck Surgery”
IFOS Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE

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Richard Payne

- JUN 2023** Instructor, Ultrasound Guided Radiofrequency Ablation Thyroid Nodule Course, Canadian Society of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery (CSOHNS) 2023 Annual Meeting. Toronto, Ontario
- JUN 2023** Director and speaker, Workshop - Thyroid Nodule Molecular Testing CSOHNS 2023 Annual Meeting. Toronto, Ontario
- JUN 2023** Session moderator, Endocrine Surgery Oral Presentations CSOHNS 2023 Annual Meeting. Toronto, Ontario

Nader Sadeghi

- SEP 2023** Panelist and speaker, Session: "De-Escalation of Therapy in HPV-Related Oropharyngeal Cancer: Myth or Reality?" Lecture: "What is the Best De-Escalation Strategy in HPV-Related Oropharyngeal Tumors?" Next Frontiers to Cure Cancer 2023. Sao Paulo, Brazil
- JUL 2023** Panelist and speaker, Session: "Management of Unresectable" Lecture: "Making the Unresectable Resectable in Oropharyngeal Cancer" AHNS 11th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer. Montreal, Quebec
- JUL 2023** Co-chair, Robotic Symposium AHNS 11th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer. Montreal, Quebec
- JUL 2023** Moderator, Proffered Papers Session 9: Skin 1 and Hot Topics AHNS 11th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer. Montreal, Quebec
- JUN 2023** Instructional course moderator, "Ultrasonography of the Head and Neck Performed by the Otolaryngologist" 7th World Congress of the International Federation of Head and Neck Oncologic Societies (IFHNOS). Rome, Italy
- JUN 2023** Instructional course speaker, "Survivorship Care in Head and Neck Cancer" Lecture: "Survivorship Guidelines for Head and Neck Cancer" 7th World Congress of the IFHNOS. Rome, Italy
- JUN 2023** Instructional course speaker, "Evidence and Indications for HPV Vaccination: Global Trends" Course: "State of the Art for the Prophylactic HPV Vaccination" 7th World Congress of the IFHNOS. Rome, Italy



- JUN 2023** Speaker, round table session: “HPV De-escalation Approaches” Topic “Surgical de-escalation strategies and personalized treatment in oropharyngeal cancer” 7th World Congress of the IFHNOS. Rome, Italy
- JAN 2023** Keynote speaker, “De-escalation and Personalised Treatment in Oropharyngeal Cancer: The Role of Surgery” International Federation of Otolaryngologic Societies (IFOS) Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE
- JAN 2023** Panelist, “Medullary Thyroid Cancer Tumour Board” IFOS Dubai ENT World Congress 2023. Dubai, UAE

FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY

Our facial plastic surgery program complements the reconstructive surgery provided by the head and neck program at our teaching hospitals. We provide services on complex functional and cosmetic nasal deformities, facial paralysis, reconstruction of traumatic, oncologic, and other nasal and facial surgical defects. We provide clinical services for cosmetic facial plastic surgery from private, accredited, state-of-the-art surgical facilities.



Our team, dedicated to enriching the surgical education and experience of our residents, provides a comprehensive curriculum that includes hands-on practice, workshops, one-on-one instruction, as well as exposure to live surgery performed at off-site private surgical centres. We also offer observership opportunities to McGill medical students as well as to residents and surgeons from across Canada, the US, and the Middle East.

Resident rotations (2 rotations of 2 weeks each) are provided at two different sites whereby residents are exposed to consultations, non-surgical treatments, surgical procedures, and follow-ups. In parallel, residents are expected to complete a reading list and a video library.

Residents are also expected to complete a one-on-one hands-on dissection course using simulation models to practice septoplasty and rhinoplasty as part of their evaluation.

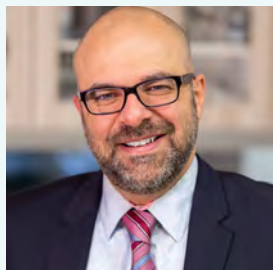
Our department is not only invested in our residents being excellent scholars and professionals, but sophisticated communicators, collaborators, leaders, and health advocates as well. Dr. Nabil Fanous provides CanMeds courses to residents on time organization, stress management and patient-positive interactions.

Our team contributes to grand rounds, didactic lectures and other CME accredited activities as well as presentations, courses, and panel discussions at national and international levels.

CLINICAL TEAM



Nabil Fanous, MD
Division Lead



Mark Samaha, MD



Yalon Dolev, MD



Amanda Fanous, MD

HIGHLIGHTS



The poster features a night view of the New York City skyline. At the top, it reads 'Twelfth Annual McGill Facial Plastic Surgery Course'. Below this, a list of highlights is provided with checkmarks: 'One on one instruction and teaching', 'Injectable fillers and neurotoxins workshop', 'Hands-on fresh frozen cadaver dissection for all participants', and 'Bring your difficult cases and ask the experts'. The McGill logo is prominently displayed in the center, followed by the dates 'May 19-21 2023'. Below the dates, the Course Director is listed as 'Mark Samaha, MSc, MD, FRCSC'. At the bottom, there are four circular icons representing different aspects of facial plastic surgery: a hand performing a procedure, a close-up of a face, a close-up of eyes, and a 3D model of a nose.

Lead by event and course director Dr. Mark Samaha, the Twelfth Annual McGill Facial Plastic Surgery Course took place from May 19-21 at the McGill Steinberg Simulation Centre. This annual event, a 2.5-day course on cosmetic and reconstructive facial plastic surgery, consists of some didactic teaching with an emphasis on hands-on surgical dissection on fresh cadaver specimens, with one-on-one instruction provided by invited leaders in the field of facial plastic surgery from across Canada and the USA. A non-surgical injections workshop is also part of the course.



On June 17, 2023, our residents participated in a didactic teaching and hands-on injectables (botox, fillers) course at Dr. Mark Samaha's Montreal Centre for Facial Plastic Surgery, a McGill University satellite teaching site.



Dr. Nabil Fanous received the distinguished honor of delivering the keynote address at "The Global Aesthetics Conference" held in Miami, Florida in October 2023. As the premier speaker, he shared his insights, expertise, and his approach on time management, personal fulfillment and professional success using excerpts from his recent book "*The Universal Rules of Life: 27 Secrets for Managing Time, Stress & People*" (Simon and Shuster, 2022)



Dr. Mark Samaha is director and treasurer of the Canadian Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (CAFPRS).

On an annual basis, Dr. Mark Samaha spearheads medical missions to deliver vital reconstructive surgical care to underprivileged communities. One of these humanitarian endeavors takes him to the West Indies, where he not only performs procedures but also mentors local medical professionals. Similarly, Dr. Samaha participates in a yearly surgical mission to Hanoi, Vietnam, with the same objectives - providing much-needed surgical interventions and imparting his expertise to local physicians.



LARYNGOLOGY

The Voice and Dysphagia Laboratory treats a wide range of voice and swallowing disorders. Staff includes three full-time, fellowship-trained laryngologists, along with a dedicated, passionate and engaged multidisciplinary team consisting of a fellow, speech-language pathologists, an occupational therapist, a nutritionist and talented nurses. We provide cutting edge care to our patients while pushing the boundaries of innovation.

What we do is both unique and rewarding because we can dramatically improve our patients' quality of life with outpatient procedures in a matter of minutes; a patient can walk in whispering and leave a few minutes later talking, sometimes even singing! Indeed, it's not surprising to hear students and visitors often describe what we do as 'cool' and 'amazing' because of the dramatic change we effect in a short period of time. We love showing and teaching what we do to medical students and residents who watch in awe as we restore voices and smiles with clinic-based procedures.

We treat a wide range of voice disorders in singers, professional voice users, coaches, teachers, and anyone whose voice is not 'quite right'. With our talented team, huge volume of patients, and enormous variety of clinical cases treated, we are proud to have earned both national and international recognition as a 'center of excellence' in voice and dysphagia-related disorders. As such, we see patients not only from Montreal and its environs, but also from

remote regions of Quebec, Ontario, the Maritime provinces, and indeed from across the country.

Our laryngology fellowship program is competitive and attracts candidates from across the globe. Antonia Lagos, our 2022-2023 fellow from northern Chile, graduated from our program this past June. Our current 2023-2024 fellow, Carolina Peralta Castillo, hails from southern Chile; she is learning to speak French and is enjoying her year in Canada. We are proud to have trained the *first two laryngologists* in Chile!

Our laryngologists have extensive experience in office-based procedures and continue to push the boundaries of outpatient treatment by expanding the number of procedures offered. Well established procedures include: i) a variety of vocal fold injections including steroids, cidofovir, botulinum toxin and substances for temporary/permanent augmentation; ii) laryngeal biopsies; iii) esophagoscopy and biopsy; and iv) KTP laser.



Two programs established in the last few years have broadened the scope of services provided by the Voice and Dysphagia Lab at the MUHC Glen site: i) the management of laryngeal dystonias; and ii) transgender voice therapy consisting primarily of voice feminization. This also includes sensitization protocols for staff in terms of appropriate nomenclature designations and treatment with respect and dignity.

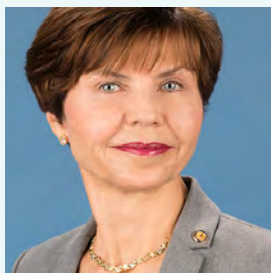
Our **clinical mission** is to i) provide the highest quality, cutting-edge care in a multidisciplinary setting ii) facilitate patient access in a timely manner iii) educate and empower patients to participate in their care iv) innovate through the introduction of new techniques v) actively lead the drive from the operating room to the out-patient department for procedures, thereby avoiding general anesthesia, vi) actively teach students, residents and fellows, and vii) provide a milieu that is conducive to the education, evaluation and comprehensive management of patients with voice and swallowing disorders.

Our **teaching mission** is to i) provide the highest quality of education through the dissemination of information to undergraduate, graduate, and

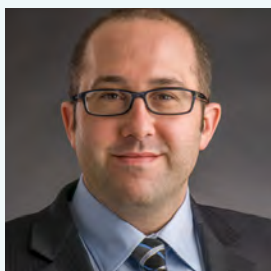
post-graduate students, fellow otolaryngologists, family physicians and specialists, as well as other medical personnel, ii) foster the international dissemination of knowledge in laryngology through an international fellowship program and iii) facilitate education through didactic, interactive, and 'hands-on' teaching, simulation, specialized courses, as well as local, national and international meetings.

Our **research mission** consists of i) conducting clinical and basic science research which is innovative with translational potential ii) maximizing collaborative and multidisciplinary research iii) contributing to the pertinent body of knowledge through presentations, publications and book chapters. Our lab is fortunate to work closely with a team of basic science researchers, including Dr. Nicole Li-Jessen, Assistant Professor in the School of Communication Sciences and Dr. Luc Mongeau, Professor of the Department of Engineering at McGill University.

CLINICAL TEAM



Karen M. Kost, MD
Division Lead



Jonathan Young, MD



Françoise Chagnon, MD

FELLOW



Dr. Carolina Peralta Castillo is the current laryngology fellow for the year 2023-2024. She is from the Universidad de la Frontera, Temuco, southern Chile. Dr. Peralta actively participates in all clinical activities related to voice and dysphagia, teaches residents and students, and is involved in some research as well. She approaches her work with dedication and enthusiasm, and is both hard-working and an excellent teacher and mentor to students, and junior residents.

MENTORING



42 Drs. Young, Chagnon and Kost are each involved in mentoring our current fellow, Dr. Carolina Peralta Castillo, and actively supervise all projects she is involved in. Other mentored student projects over the past year included the *iSCAN* assessment, subglottic stenosis, and the validation of the French translation of voice and dysphagia questionnaires. Residents/students involved in these projects included Dr. Jennifer Silver, Dr. Catherine Roy and Gabriella Le Blanc.

Dr. Chagnon collaborates with the Schulich School of Music for the advancement of the art and science of the singing voice and the development of successful vocal artists; she is a co-supervisor of Theodora Nestorova, PhD

candidate in the Interdisciplinary Studies and Applied Performance Sciences program.

As founder of the Women in Otolaryngology (WIO) section of the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery (CSO-HNS), Dr. Kost has a vested interest in mentoring and sponsoring young women pursuing careers in the field. This WIO group has evolved into a valuable asset for women in OTL-HNS across the country particularly here at McGill – our chapter providing a safe and comfortable environment for young women to share concerns and seek advice, personal or career related. A bi-annual McGill WIO dinner, funded by female staff, provides an opportunity for open dialogue on any topic of concern in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Françoise Chagnon serves as chair of the scientific advisory committee for l'Opéra de Montréal as well as leader for their community engagement Programme Respirer, a virtual clinic for individuals who have had COVID and, post-recovery from the effects, experience respiratory and anxiety disorders.

Dr. Chagnon is a member of the governance committee of the College des Medecins du Québec.

Dr. Chagnon is a member of the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons. She is also a member of the ethics committee, investment committee, communications committee and the OTL advisory committee.

Dr. Karen Kost was the keynote speaker at the 18th Annual Middle East Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery meeting in Dubai in May 2023, as well as at the Chilean Congress of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery in November 2023.

Dr. Kost was nominated to the position of section editor of the 'How I Do It' section of the *Laryngoscope* in September 2023. She continues as editor for the American Laryngological Association.

Dr. Kost serves on the board of the Voice Foundation, as well as the board of the International Association of Phonosurgery. She recently became a member of the International Association of Transvoice Surgeons.

24th Annual McGill University in Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery - Mont Tremblant 2023



Dr. Kost is co-director (with Dr. Jamie Rappaport) of the McGill Annual Update in Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery Meeting held each year at the Fairmount Mont-Tremblant. After three years of COVID hiatus, an in-person 3-day conference was held on March 17, 18, and 19, 2023.

Dr. Kost was interviewed by ENT Today on the subject of '*The Second Victim*'; her interview was published in the fall of 2023 (www.enttoday.org/article/second-victims-the-effects-of-a-medical-error-on-physicians-can-be-devastating).

Dr. Kost also produced a podcast, along with Dr. Sujana Chandrasekhar and Dr. Gina Jefferson, highlighting sections of a textbook she co-edited with Dr. Jefferson. Kost K., Jefferson G, Co- Editor, April 2023. Clinics of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, Edition: Cancer of the Larynx, Elsevier Publisher.

Dr. Kost is a member of the McGill Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery promotions committee. She recently completed her term on the McGill faculty promotions committee and was appointed to sit on the university's senate pool for the statutory selection committee (SSC). She also chairs the laryngology subcommittee of the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery.



Dr. Jonathan Young is a member of the board of examiners for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons for otolaryngology - head and neck surgery as well as the laryngology subcommittee of the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Young is a member of our department's residency training committee and competency committee. He also directs the mentorship program for medical students, residents and fellows. In addition to actively teaching, he also contributes to the clinical supervision of weekly resident clinics.



Dr. Young participated in the JGH OTL departmental 5km fundraiser as team captain of the "Aspirators".

Dr. Young continues to have dysphagia clinics at both the Jewish General Hospital and the MUHC providing care to patients with swallowing disorders. Patients at these clinics are thoroughly evaluated and given exercise programs/texture modifications/lifestyle modifications in order to improve safety and recovery of their swallowing function. These clinics work in conjunction with the speech and language pathology and clinical nutrition services.



SPECIFIC NOTE-WORTHY INNOVATIONS

- The Voice and Dysphagia Lab is one of the pioneers of safe out-patient balloon dilatation for subglottic stenosis, a procedure traditionally carried out in the operating room under general anesthesia. Our group has submitted a manuscript with the first series of out-patient balloon dilatations for subglottic stenosis.
- Transtracheal steroid injections for subglottic/tracheal stenosis.
- The Voice and Dysphagia Lab has also successfully introduced a technique for out-patient balloon dilatation of esophageal stenosis and cricopharyngeal spasm, allowing our patients rapid access to a procedure with significant implications for quality of life.
- Dr. Chagnon is involved in singers' voice analysis profiles, and the acoustical analysis of phonatory variability in vibrato.





GRANTS

2020-2025

Potential Clinical Value of IScan Technology

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Karen Kost, Françoise Chagnon,
Jonathan Young

FUNDING SOURCE:

Pentax Medical

AMOUNT:

\$75 000

2020-2024

Bioprintable Composite Materials and Microfluidic Tools for Vocal Fold Restoration and Repair

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Luc Mongeau

CO-INVESTIGATORS (MCGILL):

Jianyu Li, Nicole Li-Jessen, Paul Wiseman,
Karen Kost

FUNDING SOURCE:

National Institutes of Health

AMOUNT:

\$2 474 309 (USD)

2018-2025

Patient-Specific Computational Models of Vocal Recovery from Phonosurgery

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Nicole Li-Jessen

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Luc Mongeau, Karen Kost

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$111 690/year

2018-2024

A Paper-based Microfluidic Platform for Rapid Point-of-Care Diagnosis of Laryngopharyngeal Reflux

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:

Xinyu Liu, Karen Kost, Nicole Li-Jessen

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research
(CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$118 728/year

RHINOLOGY AND SKULL BASE SURGERY



The rhinology/skull base division of the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery treats a wide spectrum of disorders of the sinonasal tract, including anatomical nasal obstruction, inflammatory disorders and tumours.

These disorders are very common in the general population and lead to a significant reduction in quality of life. We also help to advance the field through the investigation of novel treatments, as well as by innovating in surgical techniques and in surgical education.

Our team provides tertiary level specialized care for sinonasal disorders and skull base pathologies at the MUHC - Glen site, Jewish General Hospital, Montreal Children's Hospital, Montreal Neurological Hospital, Lakeshore General Hospital, Saint-Mary's Hospital, Hôpital Notre-Dame, and ENT Specialty Group. Members are an integral part of skull base tumour board and Type 2 inflammation multidisciplinary meetings. We continue to offer the advanced rhinology fellowship, but we also receive fellows in allergy and clinical immunology that regularly spend month-long rotations with our rhinology service.

The division of rhinology includes seven otolaryngologists with advanced training in rhinology and/or skull base surgery. We also have with our team, Dr. Ahmad Aldajani, a clinical fellow from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, specialising in advanced rhinology and skull base surgery.

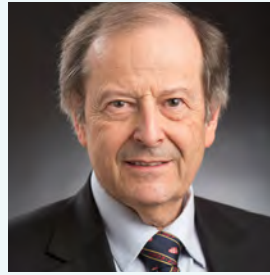
Dr. Frenkiel continues to be a guiding figure and role model for many in our group, all the while playing an integral part in our clinical activities. We are most grateful to Dr. Frenkiel for his many years of precious mentorship and we look forward to many more.

The first honorary **Saul Frenkiel Lecture** was held on October 4th 2023, and delivered by invited **Professor Peter-John Wormald** from Adelaide Australia. It was truly a very special event, attended not only by our department's faculty, residents and friends, but by an international group of attendees and teaching faculty in town for the North American Masterclass in Endoscopic Sinus Surgery.





Marc Tewfik, MD
Division Lead



Saul Frenkiel, MD

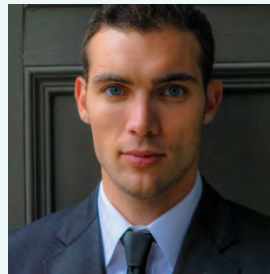


Joseph Schwartz, MD



Lamiae Himdi, MD

CLINICAL TEAM



Tobial McHugh, MD



Rickul Varshney, MD



David Chan, MD

FELLOW



Dr. Ahmad Aldajani is an otolaryngology - head and neck surgeon from Saudi Arabia. He completed his residency at King Abdulaziz University Hospital in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in 2019. He then undertook a two-year fellowship in rhinology and skull base surgery at King Saud University Medical City in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Currently, Dr. Aldajani is completing his skull base & advanced rhinology fellowship at McGill University, which began in July 2023 and will conclude at the end of June 2024. Following this, Dr. Aldajani is expected to join the Department of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery at the University of Jeddah in Saudi Arabia, where he will specialize in advanced rhinology and skull base surgery, as well as teach, mentor, and guide younger generations.

HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Tewfik is the founding member of the type 2 inflammation multidisciplinary group, with the participation of ENT, respirology, and allergy + immunology at the Glen. The group is lobbying for the creation of a combined clinic, offered once a month, for reviewing our most challenging shared patients.

Dr. Tewfik continues to be co-chair of the Royal College examination committee for otolaryngology - head and neck surgery and is a member of the specialty committee for OTL-HNS as well for the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada.

Dr. Tewfik was the course director for the North American Masterclass in Endoscopic Sinus Surgery: The fifth edition and our 10-year anniversary took place from October 4-6, 2023. The event was a huge success, attracting participants from around the globe and showcasing cutting edge surgical techniques, instruments and equipment for sinus surgery. In addition, the course used state-of-the-art 3D-printed sinus models available for teaching advanced techniques at McGill University's unique Steinberg Centre for Simulation and Interactive Learning.



The Quebec Resident Sinus Course was held in April 2023, this year at the Université de Sherbrooke. This event continues to invite R2-3 residents and rhinology staff from all four Quebec university ENT faculties for a dissection course. Following its inception at McGill over a decade ago, this course is held annually at the four different sites on a rotating basis.

Dr. Tewfik is the principal investigator and Dr. Frenkiel is sub-investigator for two ongoing phase 3 studies:

1. WAYPOINT, sponsored by AstraZeneca, studying the efficacy of Tezepilumab in CRSwNP.
2. ORION, sponsored by Sanofi, studying the efficacy of Dupilumab in CRSsNP.

Both MDs are also involved in the startup of two other studies:

1. EVEREST, sponsored by Sanofi, phase 4 study comparing Dupilumab to Omalizumab in CRSwNP.
2. BIRCH, sponsored by Insmed, phase 2b study investigating Brensocatib in CRSsNP.

Dr. Lamiae Himdi is the team lead of a community/rhinology rotation at Notre-Dame and Sacré-Coeur hospitals; a 8-12 week rotation intended for third year residents. The resident spends 4-5 days a week with the majority of cases rhinology-related (FESS, septo, septorhino). Hôpital Notre-Dame received a grant of \$5 579.00 in support of this community rotation.

Dr. Joseph Schwartz is a member of the awards committee and the education committee of the American Rhinologic Society.

Under the direction of Dr. Rickul Varshney, an endoscopic sinus surgery program was developed at the Lakeshore General Hospital introducing new technologies for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. Sinus surgery training is provided to our senior residents and McGill students rotate with the ENT Lakeshore Hospital team throughout the year as well. Dr. Varshney is a member of our resident program committee as well as a voting member of the competence committee.



GRANTS

2016-2024

Endoscopic Polypectomy Performed in Clinic for Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Polyps: The EPIC Multicentre Randomised Controlled Trial

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:

Shaun Kilty (Nominated), Dean Fergusson

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

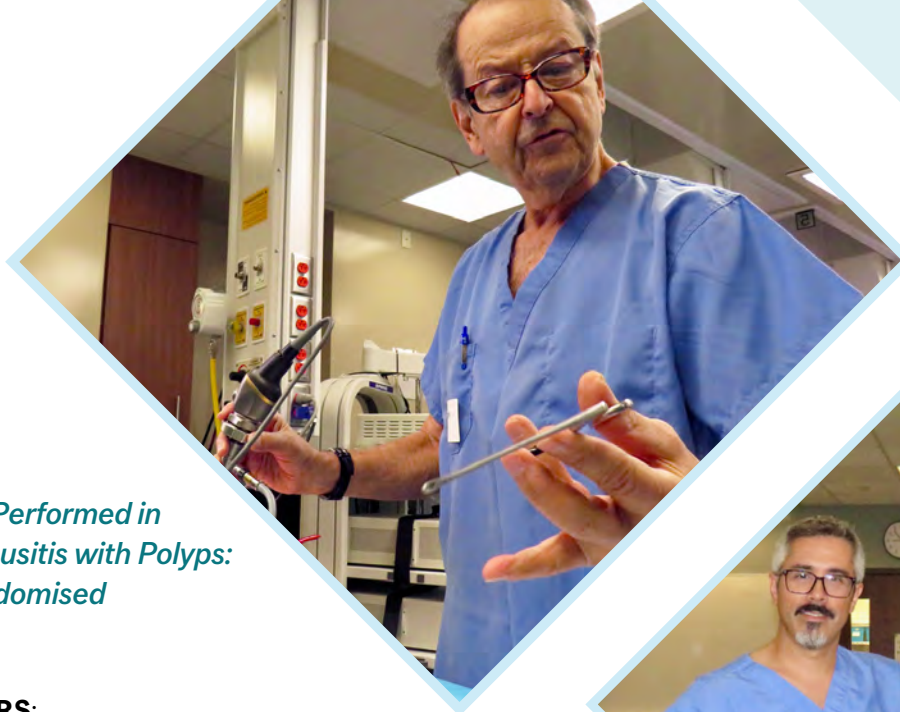
Arif Janjua, John Lee, Kristian MacDonald, Eric Meen, Damian Micomonaco, Brian Rotenberg, Luke Rudmik, Leigh J Sowerby, Marc Tewfik, Kednapa Thavorn

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$240 818





OTOLOGY AND NEUROTOLOGY

The youngest section of the department is making significant strides in establishing McGill's local, national and international leadership role in the field of otology and neurotology.

Our members are highly skilled and prolific at clinical, surgical, research and educational levels.

Our mission is to combine our skills and efforts into a practice dedicated to healing those affected by hearing loss, infections, and tumours; to give patients back their connection to the world by restoring their hearing.



CLINICAL TEAM



Tamara Mijovic, MD
Division Lead



Anthony Zeitouni, MD



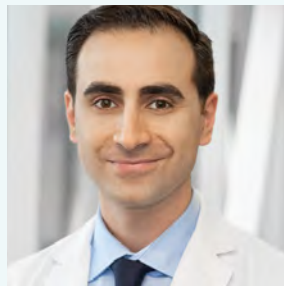
Jamie Rappaport, MD



Emily Kay-Rivest, MD



Issam Saliba, MD
Cochlear Implant
Program



Joe Saliba, MD
Cochlear Implant
Program

SCIENTIFIC TEAM



Alexandre Lehmann, PhD



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

The Montreal Cochlear Implant (CI) Program at the MUHC Takes Flight: Our very own MUHC-based program soared in 2023, performing a remarkable 132 cochlear implant surgeries (76 adult, 56 pediatric) since the start of surgeries in January 2023. Dr. Mijovic, as the director of the adult arm of the program, co-presented the program's success at the Association of Quebec Otolaryngologist Otology Day, alongside a CHU de Québec colleague, solidifying our leadership at the provincial level.

Multi-University Integration: Building on our partnership with the Université de Montréal in the development of the Montreal CI program, we've welcomed **Dr. Issam Saliba** and **Dr. Joe Saliba** from the CHUM as associates at McGill. This innovative venture marks a unique, multi-university surgical partnership all under one roof!

Quality in Focus: We're committed to excellence. The CI team has implemented monthly quality improvement initiatives and multidisciplinary checks with the Department of Audiology, ensuring the best possible outcomes for our patients.

Research Takes Root: Alexandre Lehman has been a driving force in establishing the program's research infrastructure. This includes the launch of the CI executive research committee and the design of a comprehensive cochlear implant patient database, paving the way for a strong culture of research and evidence base practices.



Dr. Tamara Mijovic and Dr. Koorosh Semsar-Kazerooni (resident) arriving in Puvirnituaq, Nunavik

MCGILL OTOLARYNGOLOGY NORTHERN MISSION

The Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery has been **delivering care to the Inuit population of Nunavik for more than 50 years**, with an emphasis on otologic pathologies which are particularly prevalent in the north. The mission was initiated by former chairman James D. Baxter in the 1970s and has since been built upon by our faculty over the years.



Dr. Jamie Rappaport and Dr. Paolo Campisi in 2002 with their surgical team at the Ungava Tulattavik Health Centre.



Dr. Jamie Rappaport and Dr. Paolo Campisi in 2002, performing the first ever sterile surgery in Kuujuaq.

Dr. Jamie Rappaport has been servicing the population of Kuujjaaq and its surrounding villages in the Ungava Bay as our leading force in supporting the hearing and otitis program. **After more than two decades** of hard work, he is **retiring from the Northern Mission**. Our department and otology division would like to highlight his unparalleled commitment and care and we congratulate him on all the years he has invested in this valuable project. **Nakurmiik Jamie!**

Our department's **commitment to the north continues to grow** with the establishment of a full service covering both Hudson and Ungava bays, staffed by Dr. Lamiae Himdi, Dr. Tamara Mijovic, and Dr. Jeffrey Yeung. Our team provides more than 10 weeks of otolaryngology care, on site in Nunavik, all the **while training and inspiring our residents** to pursue this type of work in the future.



Dr. Jamie Rappaport and Dr. Sama Alohal (resident) in Kuujuaq



Dr. Tamara Mijovic and Dr. Jennifer Silver (resident) in Salluit, Nunavik

OUTREACH IN OUR COMMUNITY

Dr. Mijovic has led three seminars at the Centre des Femmes de Laval. These were information sessions to inform, encourage and empower otherwise discriminated against or underprivileged women's readiness for medical/doctor appointments as well as increase their knowledge on ear care, hearing loss, tinnitus and hearing rehabilitation.

Dr. Kay-Rivest presented on cochlear implantation on October 17, 2023 to the Hear Entendre Quebec patients and families association.

Race winners from last year, the otology team "Ear We Go" participated once again this year at the JGH 5K annual race. Although trophy bragging rights had to be given up this time around, a great time was had by all!



Ear We Go Team at the Annual Fundraiser Run!

ACADEMIC COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Dr. Mijovic sits on the board of the Quebec Association of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery as treasurer.
- Dr. Mijovic is exam developer and examiner in otology for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons.
- Dr. Mijovic and Dr. Rappaport are both very active lecturers of Block J in Otology for the MDCM program.
- Dr. Mijovic is the competence committee chair and Dr. Kay-Rivest is the surgical foundation representative of the OTL-H+N residency program at McGill.
- On February 6 & 7, 2023, the adult and pediatric otology teams ran a successful cadaveric temporal bone course at the Mendelsohn Temporal Bone Laboratory.
- In the fall 2023, the otology block teaching for the residents was delivered over a 10-week period with a bonafide curriculum integrating hands-on training by physiotherapists, hearing aids specialists, etc. It received consistent feedback from residents as one of the top teaching blocks in their training.

GRANTS

Dr. Tamara Mijovic and Dr. Catherine Roy were awarded a Canadian Aid and Action Fund (CAAF) grant of **\$7 000** from the Royal College to support their research initiative on tympanoplasty outcomes for patients in Nunavik.

Dr. Anthony Zeitouni is a co-investigator with Dr. Franco Lepore at the Université de Montréal for a large grant on cochlear implants and cognition. Both are co-supervisors of Dr. Vanessa Hadid, post-doctoral fellow, Université de Montréal.

Dr. Zeitouni and Alexandre Lehmann, PhD received renewed funding from the Richard and Edith Strauss Foundation in support of the McGill cochlear implant research program. Both investigators have contributed over many years to the CI research program and have trained graduate students with a focus on cochlear implant research.

2024-2029

Toward an objective measure of listening effort in the hearing impaired

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Alexandre Lehman

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$345 000

**This is Dr. Lehman's first CIHR grant as principal applicant marking a significant career milestone. The application was rated 4.35 out of 5 and ranked 5th out of 47 submissions (top 91.3%). Dr. Anthony Zeitouni contributes as a collaborator on this project.*

2023-2025

Effects of early childhood music training: A randomized clinical trial

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Dr. Freitas and 6 others

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Alexandre Lehman and 4 other researchers

FUNDING SOURCE:

São Paulo Research Foundation

AMOUNT:

USD \$9 283

2020-2025

Neuroplastic impacts of hearing augmentation on cognitive abilities

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Etienne De Villers-Sidani

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Sylvain Baillet, Nancy E Mayo, Patrice Voss, Robert J Zatorre, Anthony G Zeitouni

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$573 750

2019-2024

Deafness Induced Brain Reorganization: A research program to examine how deafness modifies cortical functions and affects compensatory vision and auditory performance following cochlear implantation

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Franco Lepore

COLLABORATOR:

Anthony Zeitouni

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$650 250

2019-2023

Neuroplastic mechanisms underlying the pathophysiology of tinnitus

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Etienne De Villers-Sidani

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Sylvain Baillet, Sylvie Hébert, Patrice Voss, Anthony G Zeitouni

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$413 101

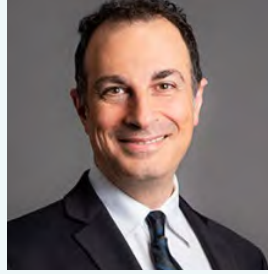


PEDIATRICS

Our pediatric otolaryngologists provide high-quality and evidence-based care for a variety of ear, nose, throat, neck, and airway pathologies in children. We offer full evaluation, and leading edge medical and surgical treatments with a patient-family centered approach.

Otolaryngologists on our team have extra specialized training and expertise obtained from world-renowned centres. We are leaders in tertiary interdisciplinary clinics treating complex pathologies - including cochlear implants, complex dysphagia, vertigo, otology, apnea, tracheo-esophageal anomalies, voice, velopharyngeal insufficiency, reflux, saliva management, vascular anomalies, and bone anchored hearing aid implants.

CLINICAL TEAM



Sam Daniel, MD
Division Lead
Surgeon-in-Chief and
Chair, Pediatric Surgery



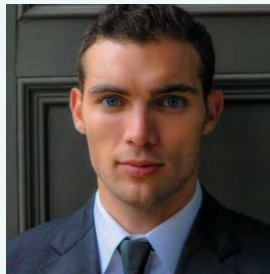
Joshua Gurberg, MD



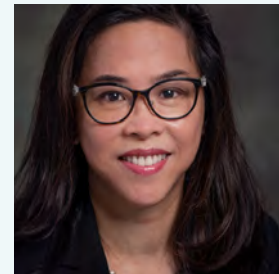
Melanie Duval, MD



John Manoukian, MD



Tobial McHugh, MD



Lily Nguyen, MD



Jeffrey Yeung, MD



Robert Shapiro, MD

FELLOW



Dr. Faisal Alosamey, matched to a one-year pediatric otolaryngology fellowship program at the Montreal Children's Hospital for 2023-2024 for which he thanks his "amazing mentors"

for his enriching experience. Pediatric ENT is a relatively expanding branch of otolaryngology that accommodates few surgeons within his home

country. Those surgeons face a growing number of patients with advanced diseases and his fellowship at the MCH will help him provide the high standard of care his patients need. Dr. Alosamey intends to import what he has learned and return to his country to produce higher quality care for OTL patients. Finally, he aspires to strengthen the local fellowship program in his home country as he is passionate about teaching and passing on his experience to the next generation.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Lily HP Nguyen published eight research papers in 2023, reflecting her consistent engagement in medical research. She holds key positions on several national and university committees, including executive member of the Royal College Otolaryngology Examination Board and core member of McGill's admissions committee. Dr. Nguyen's expertise in simulation has brought her international recognition with several keynote lectures delivered abroad, and an invited book chapter for KJ Lee's *Essential Pediatric Otolaryngology*. She is heavily engaged in team training across multiple disciplines, thereby impacting medical education and patient safety at large.

Dr. Sam Daniel was appointed Surgeon-in-Chief at the Montreal Children's Hospital and Chair of the Department of Pediatric Surgery at McGill University.

Dr. Melanie Duval is the director of the Pediatric Cochlear Implant Program. Under her leadership the program is thriving and impacting many children's lives.





Our MUHC team pictured during a busy surgical week at the Inuulitsivik Heath Centre in Puvirnituq in November

L to R: Respiratory therapist Sherish Nasser, anesthesiologist Dr. Erika Nguyen, pediatric otolaryngologist Dr. Jeffrey Yeung, and otolaryngology resident Dr. Catherine Roy

Special Northern Outreach Program: Nunavik

This 2023 trip not only helped offer much-needed health services to improve the otologic health of our neighbouring communities, but also allowed us to collect valuable data for an ongoing project focused on tympanoplasty outcomes in Indigenous patients. The principal investigators,

Dr. Catherine Roy and Dr. Tamara Mijovic, received two prestigious grants to help support this initiative, namely the CSO Global Health Scholarship and a Canadian Aid and Action Fund - Royal College grant!



Dr. Jeffrey Yeung remains involved on the MCH safety committee and is the QI lead for the Department of Pediatric Surgery. He led an impressive international consensus statement on the approach to atypical mycobacteria in the neck. He has impressive contributions to specialty societies, research endeavours, and editorial activities. These include chairing the CSO pediatric subspecialty committee, sitting on the Canadian fellowship grant selection committee as well as the scientific program committee for the CSO. Dr. Yeung was also an invited lecturer at ESPO 2023 and invited panelist for the AAO-HNS FlexCAST Podcast Series. From a QI perspective, he is developing an ERAS protocol for supraglottoplasty patients.

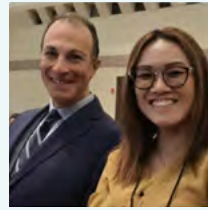
Dr. Joshua Gurberg has quality otology research submissions in Otology & Neurotology and JAMA - OTL. He was also appointed as surgical lead for the Centre Medical Spécialisé of the Montreal Children's Hospital and has been instrumental in the success of enhancing the surgical footprint at the MCH through planned strategic expansion to a community surgical centre.

Dr. Tobial McHugh was appointed research committee chair for the Department of Pediatric Surgery, and he leads the Bruce Williams Research Academic Day.

Dr. John Manoukian is active in animal research on tracheal reconstruction techniques using a 3D printed polyethylene segment in a rabbit model. He is also a mentor for many surgeons in our division.

Dr. Robert Shapiro was appointed ombudsman for the Department of Pediatric Surgery.

Dr. Sam Daniel received the Distinction of the President Award from the College of Physicians of Quebec. This is bestowed annually to a physician who contributes significantly to the development of their profession or the activities of their professional order, while demonstrating expertise and skills worthy of mention and recognized by their peers.



Dr. Sam Daniel's and Dr. Ching Yee Chan's research has been recognized with a prestigious award from the American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology (ASPO).

Their study "Otologic safety of intratympanic n-acetylcysteine", presented at the ASPO annual meeting last May, has **won the William Potsic Basic Science Award for best research paper**.

Dr. Ching Yee Chang is an otolaryngologist from Singapore who has come to the MCH for post-doctoral training in pediatric otolaryngology and research and the RI-MUHC.

Source: MUHC News.

Dr. Daniel is the current vice-president of the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery and was nominated chair of the American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology Annual Meeting, which will be held for the first time in Montreal, in April 2025. He is a senior CPD educator at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and sits on a several national committees. His international expertise in airway and CPD has led to a number of keynotes and international invitations. He had 11 publications in 2023 and is the co-recipient of a CIHR grant with **Dr. Robert Funnell** on "Modelling and machine learning for newborn hearing screening", awarded in October 2023.

2023-2028

Modelling and machine learning for newborn hearing screening

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:

Robert W. Funnell, Sam J. Daniel

CO-INVESTIGATORS:

Beatriz Ferras Dos Santos, Hamid Motallebzadeh

FUNDING SOURCE:

Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR)

AMOUNT:

\$876 690

CLINICAL INITIATIVES

Dr. Tobial McHugh has developed a pediatric skull base program, and demonstrated very successful outcomes for these patients. The goal is to further develop the program and make it a known centre for treating these kinds of pathologies. He is also currently completing a Master's degree in statistics.

Dr. Lily Nguyen is a leader in inter-professional team training for faculty (MUHC-wide). She has also been instrumental in improving clinical care and patient safety through team training. She continues to innovate through teaching and simulation-based training.

Dr. Melanie Duval is leading and growing the Cochlear Implant Program.

Dr. Sam Daniel leads the multi-disciplinary bone anchored implant program and the complex dysphagia clinic. He pioneers in endoscopic TEF fistula closure, endoscopic cricoid splits, and bone anchored implant techniques.

Dr. Joshua Gurberg is leading the eustachian tube dysfunction and the pediatric vertigo programs. His talents have put the MCH on the map for vestibular testing and tubal pathology. Dr. Gurberg will be integrated surgically into the cochlear implant team.

Dr. Jeffrey Yeung has started a new complex apnea clinic, and is our division lead for vascular anomalies.

MEDIA



Dr. Duval was featured on CTV News:

Montreal Children's Hospital performs first cochlear implant surgery on young 'super hear-o'.

www.montreal.ctvnews.ca/montreal-children-s-hospital-performs-first-cochlear-implant-surgery-on-young-super-hear-o-1.6259447



Dr. Daniel was featured for treating dysphagia through laser cricomyotomy.

www.thechildren.com/news-and-events/latest-news/sam-takes-bite-out-life-thanks-mch

www.tvanouvelles.ca/2023/12/19/a-13-ans-il-risquait-le-gavage-a-vie-mais-une-operation-a-tout-change



Dr. Jeffrey Yeung was featured by the MCH Foundation for National Physicians' Day.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Dr. Melanie Duval organizes pediatric otolaryngology teaching block for residents, and the annual resident's temporal bone drilling course. Dr. Duval is also an examiner for the Canadian in-training annual otolaryngology exam.

Dr. Lily Nguyen is an examiner at the Royal College, holds key positions on several national and university committees, including executive member of the Royal College otolaryngology examination board and core member of McGill's admissions committee.

Dr. Sam Daniel is a teacher in the graduate program and sits on the research advisory committee of the MCHRI. Dr. Daniel is also interested in philanthropy for children's causes

and sits on the Board of Directors of the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation, as well as the MUSCO Foundation Board.

Dr. Jeffrey Yeung is a member of the MDPEC at the MCH, member of the ERAS committee as well as a Leader in QI and patient safety initiatives.

Dr. Joshua Gurberg is a member of the trauma committee at the MCH and co-director of undergraduate medical education for the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at McGill University. Dr. Gurberg is also the medical director of the pediatric nurse practitioner program, for the Ingram School of Nursing, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, McGill University.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING & LEADERSHIP

All pediatric otolaryngologists are active members of the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery and several international societies.

The MCH otolaryngologists are reviewers for over 20 peer-reviewed journals.

We would like to acknowledge the unwavering support and mentorship provided by Dr. Nader Sadeghi, Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery



EDUCATION

UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL

This past academic year we welcomed 93 medical students to rotate with us across our academic sites: 44 at the Jewish General Hospital, 29 at the Royal Victoria hospital, and 20 at the Montreal Children's Hospital. In addition, we continued our strong tradition of didactic teaching in the McGill Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences by participating in the Fundamentals of Medicine and Dentistry course, leading small group sessions, facilitating simulation, and running surgical skills practice sessions.

Otolaryngology was once again a featured module at the annual McGill summer program for international medical students. The goal of this course is to attract the best and brightest medical students from around the world to

complete their residency training at McGill. This year, with the help of Dr. Lily Nguyen and one of our own medical students, we offered an exciting afternoon of simulation on surgical airway management.

Finally, we are very excited to announce that no less than six of our medical students matched to Otolaryngology – Head & Neck surgery residency training programs across the country. Thanks to all of your teaching efforts, interest in our specialty remains strong at McGill!



RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM



Teaching curriculum and academic excellence

McGill Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery is a leader in medical education, with multiple simulation courses devised to improve our residents' comfort level with various surgical procedures. Among others, a temporal bone drilling course is offered to residents every winter. We host the annual Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Master Class led by Dr. Marc Tewfik. Residents have weekly protected half days on Friday mornings, covering a broad range of otolaryngology topics. Additionally, we hold weekly Grand Rounds, featuring visiting professors, subspecialty panels and journal club discussions on ground-breaking research. Our program follows the CBME (competency based medical education) approach. An additional strength of our program is the rich informal teaching we benefit from throughout our clinical rotations, working alongside dynamic and highly knowledgeable staff who love to teach and are actively involved in our learning.

Surgical volume and exposure

Ours is a well-balanced surgical program, with great exposure across all otolaryngology subspecialties. We serve a broad patient population with complex and challenging pathologies, allowing ample hands-on experience to train highly skilled surgeons comfortable with a wide range of surgical procedures, ranging from simple “bread-and-butter” procedures to intricate subspecialty otolaryngology surgeries.

This year, we expanded our ties with other centres and added to our 3-month community rotation, to include Hôpital du Sacré-Cœur, Hôpital Notre-Dame, Hôpital de Verdun, Hôpital Fleury, Lakeshore General Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital to provide a community rotation that exposes residents to four days a week of hands on surgical exposure to these types of community based cases. Feedback from this new rotation has been outstanding.

We also continue to provide community electives to PGY4 residents by one extra month, as well as surgical exposure to northern Quebec's indigenous community where many tympanoplasties are performed.

Since the first cochlear implant surgery performed on January 13, 2023 at the Royal Victoria Hospital on an adult patient with profound hearing loss, the Cochlear Implant Program has grown very quickly and now provides not only an exceptional learning opportunity for our residents, but more recently, a collaboration with residents from the Université de Montréal as well.

Research

Our program is highly supportive of residents wishing to lead or be involved in impactful research endeavors. The residents benefit from both formal and informal mentorship from well-respected academic leaders in our field. There is also three months of dedicated research rotations and newly increased funding for presentations at national and international conferences. Additionally, a basic science and research methodology course has been implemented in the junior year to further strengthen foundational knowledge. Residents are encouraged to present their research projects at our Annual Resident Research Day.

Our team

Perhaps the greatest strength of our program is the supportive and welcoming learning environment our team has created. We are a diverse, yet tight-knit community of trainees and faculty, who share a strong culture of mentorship both inside and outside of the hospital. We host frequent departmental events, including an annual outdoor gathering to welcome our junior residents and a weekend retreat in Mont-Tremblant featuring enriching talks on the latest updates in our field.

Our training sites

We are fortunate to train in brand new, state-of-the-art facilities in and around downtown Montreal. Most of our rotations are completed at the McGill University Health Centre (Royal Victoria Hospital and Montreal Children's Hospital), and the Jewish General Hospital. We additionally have three months of community rotations at peripheral sites, and we are given the opportunity to participate in community outreach in our Northern Territories.







ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

Congratulations to our residents and fellows who graduated in 2023!

Residents

Dr. Yousif Alammar

Advanced Rhinology and
Skull Base Surgery Fellowship
McMaster University
Hamilton, Ontario

Dr. Monirah Albathi

Pediatric Otolaryngology
Nationwide Children's
Hospital/Ohio State University
Columbus, OH

Dr. Deema Almutawa

Pediatric Fellowship
Rady Children's Hospital
San Diego, CA

Dr. Thomas Hudson

Otology and Hearing
Implantation
Cambridge University,
Cambridge, UK

Fellows

Dr. Mawaddah Abdulhaleen

Thyroid and Parathyroid
Surgery

Dr. Bshair Aldriweesh

Pediatric Otolaryngology

Dr. Mohammed AlNoury

Pediatric Otolaryngology

Dr. Mahmoud Alreefi

Skull Base Advanced Rhinology

Dr. Antonia Lagos

Laryngology

Dr. Eli Layous

Laryngology





McGill

Department of
Otolaryngology -
Head and Neck Surgery