

“Soap and water and common sense are the best disinfectants.”

- Sir William Osler

Hi Everyone,

This week's Oslerism (see above) was an easy find given that the week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to **Dorothy Moore** for her longstanding contributions to hospital infection control.

An infectious disease specialist, Dorothy joined the Department of Pediatrics in 1984. Dorothy had completed post-graduate degrees in Microbiology and Immunology at McGill and undertaken research and university work in West Africa before completing her medical studies at Memorial University in Newfoundland. This was followed by pediatric residency and sub-specialty training here at the MCH. Dorothy is presently an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

For longer than I am sure Dorothy would like me to mention she has carried the bulwark of efforts at nosocomial infection control efforts here. She has worked diligently and in a sustained way over many years to identify hospital-acquired infections and implement protocols to prevent either their acquisition or spread. This is certainly not glamorous work and Dorothy's character is such that she is not one to call attention to neither to herself nor her efforts. However her tenacity and perseverance has enabled us to maintain an enviable record in this regard. She has educated a constantly changing nursing and medical staff in what can be done to prevent disease spread and lessen the potential for harm that a stay in a germ-filled hospital can be for a vulnerable population of children. Her efforts in this regard should remind us of Osler's great 19th century colleague Joseph Lister who encountered much initial resistance to his efforts which was overcome also through much personal perseverance. While for much of her time on staff here, Dorothy's efforts in this domain has been a solitary one, **Caroline Quach** has clearly taken up the torch with an equal measure of professionalism and passion.

If Dorothy's work locally was not enough to merit our acknowledgement, review of her personnel file reveals almost yearly letters from the Canadian Pediatric Society acknowledging her valuable contributions to national efforts for immunization, infection control, and infectious disease management. Dorothy has clearly contributed much to the health of children that she will never encounter which is but one mark of the successful academic pediatric staff.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael