

June 9, 2017

**“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”
Henry Ford**

Hi Everyone

How often have you heard me say or write: "medicine is a team sport"?

The following Acknowledgement was suggested and written by **Robert Sternszus** and is just one such example amongst many that take place every week at the MCH. Each of those mentioned gets a DA, as does Rob.

"At approximately 2:30pm on Friday afternoon June 2nd, a decision was made to open the centre pod (8 beds) on B9 as of 5pm because there were 12 pending admissions in the ER and all of the yellow and red ER beds were occupied, leaving them with no room to accept new patients. This, after our nursing colleagues managed to scrape together coverage for the additional 8 beds.

From a medical coverage point of view, this left us in a difficult situation. There was only 1 resident scheduled to be the 'late senior' as of 5pm, with nobody scheduled to be late junior and only 2 medical students scheduled to be on service in the evening. This was obviously not a tenable or safe situation with anywhere from 7-12 new patients expected to arrive on the floor between 17h00 and when the night floats were scheduled to arrive at 8pm.

*Without hesitation, residents and staff worked together to form a plan. Both daytime ward seniors, **Alexandre Deragon** and **Vanessa Gadoury-Levesque**, agreed that they would stay until what turned out to be after 9pm. The daytime ward junior, **Rilla Schneider**, also volunteered to stay past her shift to help get things done. The chief residents called the 2 night floats, **Tania Gianonne** and **Noah Marzook** who volunteered to start their shifts at 5:30pm instead of 8pm to help ensure patients were safely admitted. The 2 daytime ward staff, **Holly Agostino** and **Gillian Morantz**, stayed well after handover to help review admissions despite being at the end of an extremely busy and understaffed 2 weeks of service. And finally, **Steve Liben**, who was coming on service for the weekend, stayed in-house with the resident team late into the night helping to oversee the safe admissions of all of these new patients.*

Each of the above residents and ward attendings went above and beyond the call of duty on extremely short notice. I walked around the wards in the early evening to see how things were going, and what I saw was a group of nurses, students, residents, and attendings working together collaboratively and efficiently to get the job done. I could not have been prouder to be the new PD of this amazing resident group and a member of this ward attending team than I was in that moment.

I truly believe that this group deserves to be publicly acknowledged for the commitment to our hospital, patients, and each other that they demonstrated this last Friday."

I could not agree more!

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael Shevell, MDCM, FRCPC, FCAHS
Chairman, Department of Pediatrics
Professor (with Tenure), Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology/Neurosurgery
McGill University

Guyda Chair in Pediatrics

Pediatrician-in-Chief, Montreal Children's Hospital/McGill University Health Centre (MUHC)