



**McGill**

Faculty of  
Medicine and  
Health Sciences

Faculté de  
médecine et des  
sciences de la santé

DEPARTMENT OF  
**EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

MARCH 3, 2021

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

Although the novel coronavirus pandemic revealed and compounded deep underlying problems in our health care system, it also pointed the way towards reforms that are necessary to improve the delivery of care and to ensure the sustainability of the system.

One of the things motivating me through this unprecedented difficult time has been our collective capacity to learn, adapt and adjust our practices.

We need to continue to be ingenious. Instead of being in “survival” mode, we need to be in “re-invention/transformation” mode. We must seize the opportunity to assess what we’ve learned and implement change. Going back to the way things were before the pandemic is not an option.

**Message from Dr Joel Turner - Associate Chair, Clinical Practice**

The seven sub-committees that make up the Clinical Practice pillar of the Department of Emergency Medicine are: Prehospital Care and Disaster Planning, ED Overcrowding and Operations, Point-of-care Ultrasound, Resuscitation, Trauma, Toxicology and Protocols and Guidelines.

Following consultation with the site chiefs, I am pleased to announce the following site representatives to each committee. They are:

- **Prehospital Care and Disaster Planning:**
  - CODIM: Heather Coombs
  - JGH: Eli Segal, Errol Stern

- MUHC: Francois de Champlain, Valerie Homier
- **ED Overcrowding and Operations:**
  - CODIM: Tamer Waly
  - JGH: Alex Guttman, Bernie Unger
  - MUHC: Fred Dankoff
- **Point-of-care Ultrasound:**
  - CODIM: John Lewis
  - JGH: Laurie Robichaud, Joel Turner
  - MUHC: Nick Schirmer
- **Resuscitation:**
  - CODIM: Adrian Florea, Steven Herskovitz
  - JGH: Kamy Apkarian
  - MUHC: Pat Melanson
- **Trauma:**
  - CODIM: Phyllis Vetere
  - JGH: Jonathan Cooperman
  - MUHC: Francois de Champlain
- **Toxicology:**
  - CODIM: Andrew Reid
  - JGH: Katya Ghannoum, Tan Le
  - MUHC: Josh Wang
- **Guidelines and Protocols:**
  - CODIM: Sue Cecere
  - JGH: Willis Grad, Joel Turner
  - MUHC: Sanjeet Singh-Saluja

I would like to welcome each member to this important next chapter of the departmental mandate!

These groups will have the responsibility of shaping the future of clinical practice in our emergency departments, to optimize care for our patients, harmonize care within the department, and improve general workflow, and ED operations.

These sub-committees will soon begin meeting to elaborate upon their goals, objectives and priorities for the coming year(s).

I invite anyone who may be interested in engaging in these discussions to contact me or the site representative of the specific sub-committee.

### **Choosing Wisely**

One of the many goals put forth during my tenure as Associate Chair of clinical practice is the recognition and implementation of the Choosing Wisely campaign. *Choosing Wisely Canada* is part of a worldwide campaign with the goal of reducing unnecessary tests and treatments.

With the knowledge that up to 30% of tests, treatments and procedures in Canada are considered unnecessary (they do not contribute to the assessment of a patient's health, or pathology), the Choosing Wisely campaign aims to impart evidence based knowledge in a variety of clinical fields and specialties to improve medical care. Specifically, the recommendations aim to "identify tests and treatments commonly used in each specialty that are not supported by evidence, and could expose patients to harm".

I invite all of you to become familiar with the Choosing Wisely Canada website (<https://choosingwiselycanada.org/recommendations/>) and in particular the recommendations that are specific to Emergency medicine. There are currently 10 recommendations in the Emergency Medicine section, which were published by CAEP within the past 5 years.

There are also many relevant recommendations in other specialties that are posted on this site. In addition, links to CME events related to the Choosing Wisely campaign are detailed on the site.

## McGill24 is back!

In 2020, despite the challenging times we faced, the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) came together and made a difference, contributing over \$200,000 in support of students, researchers, student-athletes and future leaders. This could not have been possible without YOU, our faculty and staff, leading the way.

On **March 10**, the global McGill community will celebrate McGill24, the University's annual day of giving. If your circumstances allow, I invite you to make a [#McGill24](#) gift to a McGill cause of your choice.

If you have any questions about what your gift can achieve, contact Mina Park, Advancement Officer, FMHS University Advancement Office, at [mina.park2@mcgill.ca](mailto:mina.park2@mcgill.ca) or 514-838-3128.

## Reminder about Annual Performance Evaluation for Contract Academic Staff (CAS)

Please remember to complete using your McGill e-mail ID.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=cZYxzedSaEqvqfz4-J8J6nx2KnLxCRNFpo5-s9Mc1GZUME5MMjZIRjhaM0NFWkNIVkJMQ1lySjEySC4u>

## March Break Activities

March break is a welcome respite from work and school routines for families, but COVID-19 concerns still mean precautions are necessary when choosing how to make this time of year fun and bright, while keeping ourselves, our loved ones and our community safe.

Keeping the above in mind, here are some spring break ideas for families.

Explore the City. <https://montreal.ca/en/articles/march-break-things-to-do-montreal-4006>

Need more inspiration, check out <https://www.montrealfamilies.ca/calendar/>

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Be safe, be well, and be kind,  
Marc

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