

FOCUS ON GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE

JUNE 2017



Here Comes the Sun

-George Harrison 1969



Ongoing Excellence – Congratulations!



Dr Todd Lee received a FRQS Chercheur Boursier Salary Award.

Dr Emily McDonald is the recipient of the 2017 CSIM New Investigator Award.

Dr Joyce Pickering received the 2017 Physician-in-Chief Award in recognition of her exemplary and outstanding service to the Dept of Medicine.

Dr Amal Bessissow received the 2017 Douglas G. Kinnear Award for Outstanding Teacher.

Dr Charith Sairam was accepted into the McGill-HEC Montreal Executive MBA Program to start in September.

Upcoming Events: Annual Dinner and a Busy Fall Season : Please put in your calendar!

Annual Dinner!
Chez Tom and Patrick
1830 Avenue Ducharme
Thurs evening 29 June



GIM Division Retreat

Manoir Saint-Sauveur

27-28 Oct 2017

A great opportunity for our group to step back from our day-to-day demands and activities for an extended period of concentrated discussion, dialogue, and strategic thinking about the division's future and specific issues.

Also featured will be a 1.5-hr CPD activity for credit that will provide metrics on how to assess self-practice.

McGill University Division Rounds

Wednesday 22 November

Drs Michelle Elizov and Patrick Willemot will present

Competence by Design in GIM: practical application of Royal College EPAs and milestones with our trainees

With Competence by Design for our GIM program slated for implementation in July 2018, we will use this opportunity to present the practical aspects of the expected "Entrustable Professional Activities" - what they mean, how we can observe and assess them, and how the program will ensure that every GIM trainee in our program will be supported to achieve the competencies expected in the program.

Medical Education Corner



First GIM Division Faculty Development Activity of the Year!

Ultrasound Course accredited by CPD McGill

Saturday 25 November: 1:00 – 5:00

Steinberg Centre for Simulation and Interactive Learning

Dr Leora Birnbaum is organizing the Ultrasound course that promises to be a great ½ day!

- Faculty facilitators to cover the following topics:
 - Lung / pleura
 - The heart
 - Deep Vein Thrombosis

Registration is still open! Register by email:

antoINETTE.sevensma@muHC.mcgill.ca



Breaking News!

A Milestone!

On behalf of GIM, **Congratulations** to the UGME, notably Associate Dean, **Dr Beth Cummings!** On Monday 12 June the CACMS confirmed that the McGill MDCM program is no longer on probation, effective immediately. Thanks to dedicated work by many and tremendous leadership, the program remains fully accredited.





Appointments

Dr Leora Birnbaum will take over from **Dr Patrizia Zanelli** as the MGH Site Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency Training Program on 1 July 2017. Many thanks to Dr Zanelli for her tremendous work on the Program over many years!

Dr Emily McDonald will take over from **Dr Leora Birnbaum** as Director of the GIMCS, RVH on 1 July 2017. Our thanks to Dr Birnbaum for leading the GIMCS over the past year!

Welcome to Our New Recruits 2018 and 2019!

Dr Sam Mamane will join the Division in July 2018. He is completing his MSc in Experimental Medicine with a focus on frailty and sarcopenia. He will then go to Boston to do a fellowship under Dr David W. Bates, Chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine and Primary Care at Brigham and Women's Hospital and the Medical Director of Clinical and Quality Analysis, Information Systems at Partners HealthCare System, Inc., and a MSc in Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health's MPH in Clinical Effectiveness.

Dr Isabelle Malhamé will join the Division in July 2019. Isabelle is completing the McGill Clinical Investigator Program with a MSc in Epidemiology. In July 2017 she is joining the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University to complete 2 years of fellowship training in obstetric and consultative medicine.

In the Media

Dr Emily McDonald was interviewed by Le Devoir on May 18 re her work on Imovane (zopiclone).
Control click: [LeDevoir](#)

GIM Research Corner

Dr Daskalopoulou recently received a Senior Clinical Research Scholar Salary Award from the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS Chercheurs-boursiers clinician – Senior) entitled, *Identification des marqueurs précoces de détérioration vasculaire et de maintien de la santé vasculaire*. The overarching theme of her clinical and fundamental program is the identification of early markers of vascular impairment and maintenance of vascular health, with a focus on cardiometabolic diseases, women's health, and vascular disease prevention.

This issue's feature

Dr Stella Daskalopoulou was recently awarded a grant from the Heart and Stroke Foundation entitled, *Modulation of the Adiponectin Receptor Pathway: a Novel Target for Carotid Atherosclerotic Plaque Stabilization* for her basic science research program. This funding will complement her recent 2 CIHR-funded projects that aim to unravel the mechanisms underlying the atherosclerotic process and contributing to plaque instability.

About the Project

Adiponectin, the most abundant adipokine, exerts its anti-inflammatory and vasculoprotective properties by interacting with its two receptors, adiponectin receptors (AdipoR) 1 and 2. Dr Daskalopoulou has recently demonstrated a decrease in AdipoR2 expression and activity in unstable versus stable carotid plaques, in parallel with an increase in adiponectin local expression. Her projects will determine whether plaque instability is a result of a defective adiponectin-AdipoR2 pathway, particularly in the monocyte-macrophage lineage, and whether restoring this defect can promote stability.

Clinical Impact

This translational research will advance the field of atherosclerosis by establishing adiponectin-AdipoR2 pathway as a novel mechanism of plaque instability. This study takes a comprehensive approach to establish whether modulation of the adiponectin receptor pathways by using current and new compounds can restore its defect, thus providing evidence for this pathway as a potential therapeutic target for plaque stabilization and ultimately, stroke prevention.

To enroll patients, please contact Ms Yessica-Haydee Gomez, Vascular Health Unit laboratory manager, at 514-934-1934, extension 42478.



Global Health Haiti Project : Update

In the March Newsletter the new research project set up by **Dr Louise Pilote, Dr Isabelle Malhamé and team** was announced: *Prevalence and outcomes of gestational hypertension and diabetes in Haiti.*

Things have been progressing rapidly since March! Enrollment started at the end of May. A local study nurse coordinator has been trained. Teaching sessions on the management of gestational diabetes and hypertension, and on the diagnosis and treatment of neonatal hypoglycaemia are now being given to multidisciplinary paediatrics, internal medicine and family medicine teams composed of nurses, residents, and staff physicians. A Haitian internist has been trained to perform echocardiograms to screen for post-partum cardiomyopathy. The involvement of Haitian faculty solidifies knowledge exchange. During the summer, a McGill grad student will work on the project as part of her practicum for her MSc of Public Health investigating barriers to research in low resource settings.

GIM Residency Training Program Corner : Update

Dr Sam Mamane was awarded the ASMIQ Scholarship 2017 to help fund his upcoming training in Boston.

Dr Jessica Thom received the Fellow of the Year Award 2017, an award given to a fellow in Internal Medicine or its sub-specialties who most significantly contributes to the training and formation of Jewish General Hospital Internal Medicine residents and inspires colleagues and juniors with his/her role-model clinical skills.



The GIM Inter-University Research Day at the CRCHUM was a great success! The McGill clinical scholars' presentations were expertly delivered and stimulated great discussion. Their projects were clinically relevant and identified important care gaps. Bravo! They should take a moment to reflect on the tremendous work they accomplished, and on their contributions to the scientific literature at large!

From left to right: Drs Jessica Thom, Zale Rosenberg, Sam Mamane, Renée Borkovich, Remy Wong, Isabelle Malhamé and Maxime Labelle.

Possible Future Recruits!

Congratulations to

Dr John Angelopoulos and his wife Andrianna on the birth of their twins, Peter and Bill, on 16 January!

Dr Charith Sairam and his wife Vrinda on the birth of their son, Krishna Hari, on 25 March!

Dr Mat Hannouche and his wife Marwah on the birth of their son, George, on 21 April!



Peter and Bill



Krishna Hari



George

Revamped McGill Division Website coming soon!

Please send your jpeg photo, CV and special interests to Antoinette

antoinette.sevensma@muhc.mcgill.ca

♪♪ See you in September ♪
See you when the summer's through

