

FOCUS ON GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE

July 2020



Stay Safe!

Ongoing Excellence in the Division Congratulations!



APPOINTMENTS

Dr Michelle Elizov was appointed Associate Dean, Faculty Development, Faculty of Medicine, McGill University, effective July 1. Michelle replaces Dr Miriam Boillat, who held the role for the past nine years.

Dr Ning-Zi Sun was appointed Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency Training Program, effective July 2020, for a 4-year term.

AWARDS

Drs Amal Bessisow was awarded a FRQS clinician scientist junior 1 career award.

Dr Suzanne Morin was awarded a FRQS clinician scientist senior career award.

Dr Maral Koolian received a JGH Department of Medicine Research Award for her QI research in venous thromboembolism and anticoagulant use.

Dr Kaberi Dasgupta won the MUHC Department of Medicine Mid-Career Staff Research Award 2020 in recognition of sustained excellence by a Department of Medicine staff member of more than 10 years up to 20 years.

Dr Emily McDonald won the MUHC Department of Medicine Early Career Staff Research Award 2020 in recognition of excellence in research by a Department of Medicine staff member within 10 years of completion of training.

Dr Natalie Dayan won the CSIM New Investigator Award 2020 in recognition of excellence in research in general internal medicine.

Dr Amal Bessisow was awarded the Douglas G. Kinnear Award 2020, nominated by the MGH residents for exceptional skill in teaching clinical medicine.

Dr Khue Ly won the Department of Medicine Phil Hill Award 2020 in recognition of excellence in teaching clinical medicine.

Dr Mathew Hannouche was named the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) Champion for his contribution to a positive learning environment at McGill. He made a meaningful difference in the life of a medical student and he was recognized as part of the CFMS Mistreatment Task Force 1st Annual Advocacy Campaign to promote positive change in medical education.

Clinical Innovation Competition Winners and Finalists

Winners of the Marika Zelenka Roy Innovation Prize! This year, two teams tied for this prestigious prize, **MedSafer** and GyroClear.

Winners: Dr Emily McDonald and Dr Todd Lee, Division of Infectious Diseases, lead the MedSafer team.

Many older adults are now taking 5, 10 or 15 medications. MedSafer is an app that helps guide a “medication check-up” by providing scientific information on the harms and benefits, and instructions for safe deprescribing.

Finalists: Dr Stella Daskalopoulou and her PLAKK team were finalists for the M14 Innovation Prize.

PLAKK uses artificial intelligence to improve the characterization of dangerous plaques, leading to better prediction, treatment, and prevention of heart attacks and strokes.





In the News

Dr Blair Schwartz showcased the Jewish General Hospital ICU on CBC!

Inside the battle to keep COVID-19 patients alive at Montreal's Jewish General Hospital.

After 3 months of experiments and ad-hoc consultations, ICU team now has a grip on what works, what does not.

[CBC News Report](#)

Dr Natalie Dayan et al's paper named by CMAJ as one of top 25 articles of the year.

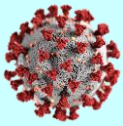
[Infertility treatment and risk of severe maternal morbidity: a propensity score-matched cohort study.](#)

Dr David Hornstein's ICU Diaries Project appeared in La Presse in December 2019. [Humanizing Patient Care.](#)

Dr Hornstein was on The Sunday Edition on CBC Radio to explain The Bridge Program, which he initiated in Intensive Care Units. [Full story here.](#)

Dr Emily McDonald was featured on Global news for her study published in the NEJM ([NEJM paper](#)) that determined hydroxychloroquine was ineffective in preventing COVID-19 when used as postexposure prophylaxis

[See her interview here.](#)



COVID-19 Research in our Division

Congratulations to members who were successful at the CIHR grant competition for COVID-related research. *Nice to see members across McGill sites working together!*

Drs Susan Kahn, Emily McDonald and Vicky Tagalakis (co-investigators): *ATTACC (Anti Thrombotic Therapy to Ameliorate complications of COVID-19: A randomized international, multi-centre, adaptive, controlled clinical trial.* The goal of this study is to establish whether anticoagulants called heparins can improve outcomes in patients with COVID-19.

Dr Maral Koolian (co-investigator): *Venous Thrombosis Virtual Surveillance in COVID (VIRTUOSO).* This study will determine the rate of venous thrombosis after hospital discharge in patients with COVID-19 using a virtual monitoring program at 12 sites in Canada and the United States.

Drs Suzanne Morin, Amal Bessissow, Jed Lipes, and Vicky Tagalakis (co-investigators) *Canadian COVID-19 Prospective Cohort Study (CanCOV).* This will be the first Canadian study to provide a comprehensive evaluation of early to 1-year outcomes in 2000 patients with COVID-19 infection and their family caregivers across Canada.



GIM Residency Training Program Corner

Welcome to 12 new residents July 2020!

Saman Ahmad, Mohammad Akhtar, Firass Georgie, Marc-Alexandre Gingras, Sandrine Hamel, Patrick Iannattone, Marie-Maude Joly, Xiaoshuang Kou, Ted McConnell, Nour Rashed-D' Astous, Harmony Tsui, Jennifer Wright

The Chief GIM Residents for 2020-2021 will be Drs Tanya Girard and Jesse Popov.

The R5 representatives will be Drs Jonathan Houle and Penny Toliopoulos.

The R4 representatives will be Drs Saman Ahmad, Marc-Alexandre Gingras, Xiaoxshuang Kou, Patrick Iannattone and Jennifer Wright.

From Dr Patrick Willemot

I want to thank Drs Xing Liu and Natasha Nathoo for all their dedication, work and advocacy as GIM CMRs in 2019-2020, as well as Drs Laurence Bellemare, Tanya Girard, Jesse Popov and Penny Toliopoulos as resident representatives. You will note that the three R4 representatives are coming back for more in their R5 year! I couldn't be happier!

Recognizing our faculty

Special thank you to the faculty who serve on the GIM residency training program, selection and competency committees. Your time and expertise is very much appreciated!

Amal Bessissow, Bruce Campbell, Natalie Dayan, Michelle Elizov (Chair, Competency Committee), Jacynthe Harvey, David Hornstein, Dev Jayaraman, Maral Koolian (Chair, Selection Committee), Jed Lipes, Khue Ly, Isabelle Malhamé, Samuel Mamane, Emily McDonald, Suzanne Morin, Jeff Segal, Vicky Tagalakis, Patrick Willemot (Chair, RTC), and Patrizia Zanelli.



Faculty Development

The Faculty Development office has put together timely workshops to help us adapt to our new working environment post COVID-19. Some useful workshops, include

The Basics of Telehealth for the Busy Clinician

Tuesday August 11 from 12:00-1:00 (In French)

Thursday August 13 from 12:00-1:00

Supervising Learners Providing Virtual Care

Monday July 13 from 12:00-1:00

Wednesday August 26 from 12:00-1:00

Thursday August 27 from 12:00-1:00 (In French)

Teaching with Zoom for the Occasional Teacher/Busy Clinician

Tuesday August 4 from 12:00-1:30

Friday September 11 from 12:00-1:30 (In French)

Friday September 25 from 12:00-1:30

To register visit the McGill Faculty Development Office website [Programs](#) and [Upcoming Workshops](#).



A few things



- **Thank you** for everyone who participated in the **external review**. We expect the reviewers' report this week. In the meantime, please visit our website here [Division Report 2020](#) to access the **Division Report** that was prepared for the review and provides a detailed overview of our Division from 2016-2020
- We will be updating our **website** during the summer. Please take a moment in the coming weeks to visit and let us know of any changes or additions.
- **Safe Learning Environment:** The DoM has challenged its Divisions to complete the online RCPSC module “*Little things make BIG differences: Recognizing and Managing Disruptive Behaviour in the Clinical Environment.*” Our Division is leading with the most members having already completed the session. If you have not yet completed the module, please do so here [Little things Big differences](#) and then forward your certificate to the DoM at medicine.reception@muhc.mcgill.ca.
- Our **McGill GIM rounds** will resume in the fall! Look out for a survey seeking your input on adapting these rounds virtually.

Interested in sharing news with our Division? Please email Antoinette or Vicky

