

## **Focus on Faculty #37**

### **Petr Kavan**



[Dr. Petr Kavan](#) is an Associate Professor in the Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology as well as in the Departments of Medicine and Neurology & Neurosurgery. He is also an oncologist at the Jewish General Hospital and the McGill University Health Centre. He was born in the Czech Republic and graduated from medical school at Charles University in 1986. Subsequently, he trained in hematology and oncology, specializing in bone-marrow transplantation and later pediatric oncology. He spent time in Houston at the Baylor College of Medicine as a research fellow. In 2001 he obtained a PhD from Charles University.

Originally Dr. Kavan came to McGill as a pediatric-hematology oncologist and served as Director of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at the Montreal Children's Hospital. In 2003, he switched his focus to adolescent and young adult (AYA) oncology and was appointed the Program Director of the Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology Program at McGill. Dr. Kavan started a specialized clinic for adolescents and young adults with cancer at the Royal Victoria Hospital in 2003 and later at the Jewish General Hospital in 2007. This clinic is still active and is helping AYAs fight their cancer by not only giving them the medical attention they need, but also providing them with the extra supportive care services young individuals benefit from. Young people are close to Dr. Kavan's heart, and after being a pediatric oncologist for many years, he is aware of the extra support young individuals need when diagnosed with cancer. He is also highly involved with ongoing research concerning AYAs and is trying to improve their quality and model of care.

As a medical oncologist, Dr. Kavan initially worked at the Royal Victoria Hospital and the Montreal Neurological Institute, however, he is now working primarily at the Jewish General Hospital. Currently, Dr. Kavan's main areas of interest are gastrointestinal (GI) cancers and neuroendocrine tumors (NETs). He is highly involved in clinical research studies and clinical trials

and is an active member and Director of research groups such as CCTG-NCIC. He has also become Director of the Clinical Research Program at the Jewish General Hospital and has been overseeing the transfer of oncology clinical trials during the phase-out period of the Clinical Research Program of the Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology.

Dr. Kavan is involved in teaching and training at McGill University. He also teaches visiting international students, residents, clinical research students and fellows, particularly in gastrointestinal cancers, AYA oncology and neuroendocrine tumours.

Dr. Kavan's interests in addition to Medicine, include tennis, running, biking and swimming. He is quite the triathlon athlete! For many years he swam for the McGill Masters swim team, excelling in all strokes; his favorite being free-style. Dr. Kavan leads a very active lifestyle in general; however, he also makes time to relax at his summer cabin. There he enjoys going on nature walks and hikes with his dogs (he LOVES dogs), and working on his property with friends and family. Dr. Kavan also loves to travel and meet new people along the way. His favorite place he has visited so far is sunny California!

We also asked Dr. Kavan to list a few of his articles whose work he is particularly proud of or enjoyed the most. This is what he provided:

Gilabert M, Chanez B, Rho YS, Giovanini M, Turrini O, Batist G, **Kavan P**, Raoul JL. Evaluation of gemcitabine efficacy after the FOLFIRINOX regimen in patients with advanced pancreatic adenocarcinoma. *Medicine (Baltimore)*. 2017 April; 96(16): e6544.

Gilabert M, Polom K, Aladashvili A, Kopeckova K, Megdanova V, Coleman N, Grealley M, Marrelli D, Roviello F, McDermott R, Petrova V, Mihaylova Z, Bortliceck Z, Prausova J, Batist G, Azoulay L, **Kavan P**; Comparing Clinical Characteristics and Outcomes of Young-onset and Late-onset Colorectal Cancer: An International Collaborative Study. *Rho YS, Clinical Colorectal Cancer*. 2017, March 21.

A. Mamo, PhD, A. Baig, MD, M. Azam, Y.S. Rho, MD, S. Sahebjam, MD, T. Muanza, MD, S. Owen, MD, K. Petrecca, MD, M.C. Guiot, MD, J. Al-Shami, R. Sharma, MD, and **P. Kavan**, MD, PhD. Progression pattern and adverse events with bevacizumab in glioblastoma. *Current Oncology*. 2016, October; 23(5): e468-e471.

Gilabert, M; Rho, YS; **Kavan, P**. Targeted Therapies Provide Treatment Options for Poorly Differentiated Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Carcinomas. *Oncology*. 2016, November 12.