

Focus on Faculty #51

Sender Liberman



[Dr. Sender Liberman](#) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery and the Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology at McGill. He is a colorectal surgeon who has been practicing at the MUHC since 2006. Dr. Liberman earned his medical degree and completed residency in General Surgery at McGill University. His subspecialty training in Colon & Rectal Surgery was obtained in Chicago, Illinois at the Cook County, University of Illinois in Chicago and Lutheran General Hospital Program. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada, the American College of Surgeons and the American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgery. He sits on the Medical Advisory Board of the Colorectal Cancer Association of Canada and is Member at Large of the Canadian Society of Colon & Rectal Surgery.

Dr. Liberman's specialty interests include surgical and endoscopic treatment of colorectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease and anorectal surgery. His practice focuses on minimally invasive techniques used to treat these surgical conditions. His research interests are mainly in the field of modern management of rectal cancer, Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS), Minimally Invasive Surgery and Multimodal Prehabilitation. Important recent findings include the ability to better select patients for neoadjuvant treatment using high resolution MRI. Although colorectal surgery is not uniquely focused on cancer care, oncology is one of the main areas of clinical care and research.

With an interest in education, Dr. Liberman enrolled in the Teaching Scholar Program at McGill, and later became Program Director for the newly created Colorectal Surgery Residency Program. He also developed a program together with colleagues in Rwanda to assist in the surgical residency training in that country for several years.

Dr. Liberman has a significant level of 'job satisfaction'. "I feel that I have the best job on earth, and couldn't imagine having taken another path". He looks forward to continued innovation in surgical care, and to providing the best care for his patients.

Outside of work, Dr. Liberman is the proud father of two young children. He also enjoys travelling, and discovering tasty food and great wine.

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

Hesselager C, Vuong T, Pahlman L, Richard C, **Liberman AS**, Letellier F, Folkesson J, Short Term Outcome after Neoadjuvant High Dose Rate Endorectal Brachytherapy or Short Course External Beam Radiotherapy in Resectable Rectal Cancer. *Colorectal Disease*, June 2013, 15(6), 662-6.

Gillis C, Li C, Lee L, Awasthi R, Augustin B, Gamsa A, **Liberman AS**, Stein B, Charlebois P, Feldman LS, Carli F, Prehabilitation versus Rehabilitation: A Randomized Control Trial in Patients Undergoing Colorectal Resection for Cancer, *Anesthesiology*, November 2014 - Volume 121 - Issue 5 - p 937-947.

Kennedy ED, Simunovic M, Jhaveri K, Kirsch R, Brierley J, Drolet S, Brown C, Vos PM, Xiong W, MacLean T, Kanthan S, Stotland P, Raphael S, Chow G, O'Brien CA, Cho C, Streutker C, Wong R, Schmocker S, **Liberman S**, Reinhold C, Kopek N, Marcus V, Bouchard A, Lavoie C, Morin S, Périgny M, Wright A, Neumann K, Clarke S, Patil NG, Arnason T, Williams L, McLeod R, Brown G, Mathieson A, Pooni A, Baxter NN Safety and Feasibility of Using Magnetic Resonance Imaging Criteria to Identify Patients With "Good Prognosis" Rectal Cancer Eligible for Primary Surgery: The Phase 2 Nonrandomized QuickSilver Clinical Trial. *JAMA Oncol*. Published online April 11, 2019. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2019.0186.