Focus on Faculty #6 Susie K.S. Lau





<u>Dr. Susie Lau</u> is an Assistant Professor at McGill University, appointed jointly in the Departments of Oncology since 2006 and Obstetrics and Gynecology since 2003.

She completed her medical degree at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. She then went on to complete her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at McGill University and became Royal College Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology. Following this, she completed a Royal College Approved Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship Program at the Université de Montréal.

Upon completion of her clinical training in 2003, she joined the McGill University Health Centre as an attending gynecologic oncologist. In 2005, she moved to the Gynecologic Oncology Division at the Segal Cancer Centre of the Jewish General Hospital. In addition to her clinical duties, she also pursued a Master of Science degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McGill University under the supervision of Dr. Eduardo Franco. She completed her research on Epidemiology and Correlates of Acquisition and Clearance of ASC-US Cytological Abnormalities and obtained her degree in 2008.

She is currently President of the Régroupement des Gynécologues Oncologues du Québec (RGOQ) where she was Vice President from 2012 to 2014. The RGOQ is a society of individuals whose goal is the improvement of gynecologic cancer care in Quebec through education, research, and advocacy.

Dr. Lau's interest in training the next generation of gynecologic oncologists led her, in 2012, to take on the task of Program Director of the Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship Program at McGill. She is an active member of the Royal College Training Committee shaping the future face of training programs in her subspecialty, and is also on the Royal College Subspecialty Examination Committee.

Her research interests are diverse and include new investigational treatments and clinical trials in gynecologic cancer, as well as the application of robotic-assisted minimally invasive surgery in gynecologic oncology. Dr. Lau is currently Chair of the Rossy Cancer Network (RCN) Gynecologic Oncology Disease Site Committee and was Chair of the Women's Cancer Committee of the McGill Department of Oncology's Clinical Research Program (CRP) from 2010 to 2015.

She has received RQRV-FRSQ grants to study the benefit of robotic surgery for endometrial cancer in elderly women as well as robotic surgery for ovarian cancer. Most recently her team won the Prix Québecois de Cancérologie for the project entitled *Améliorons la trajectoire des soins pour les patientes souffrant du cancer de l'ovaire*.

When she has vacation time, Dr. Lau ensures that she engages in her favourite pastime, traveling with her husband and three children to different lands tasting different types of cuisine.

We asked Dr. Lau to list a few of her articles whose work she is particularly proud or enjoyed the most. This is what she provided.

- **S. Lau**, S. Aubin, Z. Rosberger, I. Gourdji, J. How, R. Gotlieb, N. Drummond, I. Eniu, J. Abitbol, W. Gotlieb. Health-related quality of life following robotic surgery: a pilot study. J Obstet Gynaecol Can. 2014 Dec; 36(12):1071-8.
- J. How, **S. Lau,** J. Press, A. Ferenczy, M. Pelmus, J. Stern, S. Probst, S. Brin, N. Drummond, W.H. Gotlieb. Accuracy of sentinel lymph node detection following intra-operative cervical injection for endometrial cancer: A prospective study. Gynecol Oncol. 2012; online August 19.
- **S. Lau**, Z. Vaknin, A.V. Ramana-Kumar, D. Halliday, E.L. Franco, W.H. Gotlieb. Outcomes and cost comparisons after introducing a robotics program for endometrial cancer surgery._Obstet Gynecol. 2012 Apr; 119(4):717-24.
- **S. Lau**, K Buzaglo, Z Vaknin, S Brin, R Kaufer, N Drummond, I Gourdji, S Aubin, Z Rosberger, W.H. Gotlieb. Relationship between body mass index and robotic surgery outcomes of women diagnosed with endometrial cancer. IJGC 2011; 21(4):722-729.