

## Focus on Faculty #77

### Shireen Sirhan



Shireen Sirhan is an Assistant Professor in the Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology. Her clinical work involves both solid and hematologic malignancies at St Mary's hospital. She also is a member of the Hematology division at the Jewish General Hospital.

Shireen was born in Amman, Jordan. She studied microbiology and immunology with a minor in management, followed by medical school at McGill University, before pursuing residency in hematology and medical oncology. She completed her training in myeloproliferative neoplasms with Dr Ayalew Tefferi at the Mayo Clinic, and also holds an MSc degree in clinical trials from the University of London.

Dr. Sirhan co-established the first myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN) clinic in Canada at the Jewish General Hospital, where specialized multidisciplinary care and access to molecular testing and clinical trials are offered to patients. She also is an active researcher and is the principal investigator on several phase 1, 2 and 3 clinical trials investigating JAK inhibitors as single agents or in combination with novel agents for the treatment of myelofibrosis. Most recent studies include:

- **MANIFEST-2:** Global, Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Active-Control Study of CPI-0610 and Ruxolitinib Vs. Placebo and Ruxolitinib in JAK-Inhibitor-Naive Myelofibrosis Patients
- **PACIFICA:** A Phase 3 Study of Pacritinib in Patients with Primary Myelofibrosis, Post PV Myelofibrosis, or Post-ET Myelofibrosis with severe thrombocytopenia
- **INDEPENDENCE:** An Efficacy and Safety Study of Luspatercept (ACE-536) Versus Placebo in Subjects with Myeloproliferative Neoplasm-Associated Myelofibrosis on Concomitant JAK2 Inhibitor Therapy and Who Require Red Blood Cell Transfusions
- **REFINE:** A Phase 2 Open-Label Study Evaluating Tolerability and Efficacy of Navitoclax Alone or in Combination with Ruxolitinib in Subjects with Myelofibrosis

Dr. Sirhan is a founding member and the current President of the Canadian MPN group and Vice-President for Research in myeloproliferative neoplasms of the Groupe Québécois de recherche en LMC-NMP. She also serves as member of the advisory board for the Canadian MPN Research Foundation, and as member of the Board of Directors of the International MPN Research Foundation. She was actively involved in the development of provincial and national guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of myeloproliferative neoplasms.

Dr Sirhan also enjoys teaching residents during their academic half days and their rotation through the MPN clinic where they get exposed to this rare group of malignancies in a concentrated time period. Her passion for teaching extends to patients where she is actively involved with the Canadian MPN patient support group and organises a yearly patient education day.

To unwind, Dr. Sirhan enjoys playing tennis and travelling, especially to places where she can pursue her other passion: surfing.