If you have something you’d like to submit to our future newsletter, please send your request to Ana Maria at sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca by Mondays at noon.

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1. Special Updates
2. Journal Club
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5. Upcoming Student Seminars
6. Upcoming Events
7. Career/Job Opportunities
8. Pain in the News
9. Recent Publications

Upcoming:

- Journal Club: Jan 6th.
- McGill Pain Day: Jan 20th.

1) Special Update

McGill Pain Day – Trainee Poster Competition

The registration for Pain Day's trainee poster competition has now opened. To participate you need to send your abstract in Word format to: paindaymcgill@gmail.com by January 10, 2022. Please make sure to include the following information:

- The title of the poster
- Authors and affiliations
- A 250-words (max) abstract
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FRQS funding opportunity – AI and Health

The FRQS has announced a new funding opportunity – Programme de regroupement en intelligence artificielle et santé – intended to create new research groups interested in the use of AI in health research. The goals include:

- Create an AI and health community and promote networking between members of the AI community (students, postdoctoral fellows, and researchers) and those in the life sciences;
- Facilitate mentorship by allowing the integration of students, postdoctoral fellows and early-career researchers in large-scale initiatives;
- Foster the development of basic research in AI in areas that will have an impact on improving health;
- Encourage scientific animation by creating, for example, summer / winter schools in AI / health or any other activity that may create interest;
- Develop structuring and joint initiatives;
- Create a dynamic and inclusive collaborative space;
- Support the co-financing of student scholarships (including awards for post-doctoral fellows) with partners in target areas.

Those interested should consult their website for more information and to apply. The deadline is Mar 15th, 2022, at 16:00 Eastern.

Note: Sylvain Baillet (Assoc Dean, Research, FMHS) has asked that those interested reach out to him by Jan 7th. He states: In order to look at possible regroupments between FMHS McGill initiatives in response to this call, I would please ask that those interested in applying contact me before Jan 07, 2022 with a short description of their project, including brief descriptions of how they intend to meet the objectives listed in the call below. Please be mindful that the cluster will have no chances of getting funded if it does not reach out to PI members from multiple QC institutions.
QPRN Pilot Project Competition

In QPRN’s most recent newsletter, they announced that their Pilot Project Competition would open on Jan 4th, 2022, with applications due on Feb 6th. Details will be posted on their website.

If you have anything of interest, please send it in! sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca

2) Journal Club

ZOOM

Thursdays 9:30-11:00

Presenters should send their article to sec.paincenter@mcgill.ca the Monday before presenting

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New schedule for Frontiers in Pain, Basic Science Lectures and Pain Day Events 2021-2022: save the dates!!
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| Mar - 16     | **Jennifer Laird, PhD**  
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12:00 PM |
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University of Heidelberg  
Mannheim | TBA | Arkady Khoutorsky | ZOOM  
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**Jan 20** - **PAIN DAY**
For information, contact
Ana Maria Alvarez – ana.avarez@mcgill.ca (514-398-8975)

4) **Other Lectures of Interest**

The next **AEPMU Melzack** lecture will be in Jan 12, 2022. We will update when we have the details.

The next **INTERVENTIONAL ROUND** will be in January 31, 2022:

**Dr. Chakthip Suttinarakorn**
will present
"Things to Know About Epidurals"

In the meantime, they have a video archive of previous talks available [here](https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/).
5) **Upcoming Student Seminars**

**Brain Star Awards**

The Canadian Association for Neuroscience, in partnership with CIHR-INMHA, has launched the 2021 edition of the Brain Star Awards, a program which recognizes the excellence of research done in Canada by students and trainees in all fields and disciplines covered by CIHR-INMHA.

The specific objectives of the Brain Star program are to:

- Promote research careers in neuroscience, mental health and addiction in Canada.
- Stimulate the involvement of students and trainees in the Institute and increase awareness of INMHA activities among students and trainees.

Applicants need to be the first author of a peer-reviewed article *published* between Jan 1st and Dec 31st, 2021. Advanced online publication dates are not eligible.

Fifteen awards of $1,500 each are awarded annually. For more information, or to apply, visit the CAN [website](#). **Note: the deadline to apply is January 7th, so do not put this off!**

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6) **Upcoming Events**

**CPS webinar series on person-centred care – Session 2**

The second webinar in this series – entitled “*How I care for the person in pain: Unpacking how health practitioners approach person-centred pain management*” – will take place on Monday, January 24th, starting at 2pm Eastern. Registration is free to CPS members, or $50 to non-members. For more information or to register, visit their [website](#).

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**Faculty position now open – Dentistry/Pain Centre**

The Faculty of Dentistry of McGill University is inviting applications for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor or Associate Professor and in the field of Pain Research and its interaction with two strategic research themes of the Faculty: osseous tissue and Artificial Intelligence. Faculty of Dentistry has 4 research clusters including (1) Population Oral Health (2) Pain and Neuroscience (3) Biomaterials, Nanobiotechnology and Tissue Engineering and (4) Mineralized Tissues and Extracellular Matrix Biology (https://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/research).

We seek to recruit an outstanding researcher who has shown leadership in the field of Pain Research. It is mandatory that the candidate conduct animal research. The candidate should champion the Faculty’s vision, mission, and shared values (https://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/faculty).

For more information and to apply visit the [McGill Workday platform](https://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/faculty).

**Séguéla lab- PDF openings**

The Séguéla lab at the Montreal Neurological Institute is looking for two postdocs in molecular neuroscience to investigate the role of acid-sensing ion channels (ASICs) in chronic pain, in close collaboration with the biotech company Neurasic Therapeutics.

Under Pr. Séguéla's supervision, they will be expected to design and conduct experiments on the properties of novel ASIC ligands using single-cell patch clamp recording and calcium imaging, analyze the data and will be expected to present their results through oral presentations and preparations of written reports on a weekly basis.

For more information, consult the posting on our [website](https://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/faculty).

**Research Associate Needed – Kania Lab, IRCM.**

The Neural Circuit Development Research Unit headed by Artur Kania is seeking a Research Associate to fill a 2 year contract. This person should expect to:

- Formulate scientific hypotheses, conceive, develop, and perform the experiments to verify these hypotheses;
- Collaborate on the writing of grant applications for the research unit’s projects;
- Write scientific manuscripts reporting the results of the research;
- Develop new scientific projects in collaboration with the Research Unit Director.

For more information, consult the posting on our [website](https://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/faculty).
Terry is currently looking for a Post-doc willing to work on a project on the role of intracelluar metabotropic glutamate receptors in persistent nociception. This is a CIHR-funded project. For more information, consult the posting on our website.

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8) AECRP in the News

If you have anything of interest, please send it in! sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca

9) Recent Publications

Multimodal Interventions Including Rehabilitation Exercise for Older Adults With Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain: A Systematic Review and Meta-analyses of Randomized Controlled Trials.

Effect sizes and test-retest reliability of the fMRI-based Neurologic Pain Signature.

Ippersiel P, Teoli A, Wideman TH, Preuss RA, Robbins SM.

Uncovering memory-related gene expression in contextual fear conditioning using ribosome profiling.
Prog Neurobiol. 2021 Feb;197:101903.

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Upcoming:

- McGill Pain Day: Jan 20th.
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Registration for McGill Pain Day is now open. This will be a completely virtual event, but people will need to register to be kept update on program issues, receive the Zoom links, and the like.

To register, go here: [https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/26th-annual-mcgill-pain-day-registration-238646396797](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/26th-annual-mcgill-pain-day-registration-238646396797)

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Contact: Rebecca Binik  
Organization: The Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit  
Email: rebecca.binik@mcgill.ca  
Website: https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/  

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For more information, consult the posting on our website.

If you have anything of interest, please send it in! sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca

8) AECRP in the News

Celine’s work on NOL is highlighted in a newswire story.

Newswires. 04 Jan 2022, “Study explores the ability of NOL technology to detect pain in the ICU.”

And interesting discussion on the placebo effect and American society. It references Jeff’s study from some years back on the subject, but then riffs on it.

Big Think. 01 Jan 2022, “Why is the placebo effect getting worse, but only in America?”

If you have anything of interest, please send it in! sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca
9) Recent Publications

Implementation of an electronic patient-reported measure of barriers to antiretroviral therapy adherence with the Opal patient portal: Protocol for a mixed method type 3 hybrid pilot study at a large Montreal HIV clinic. 

Play the Pain: A Digital Strategy for Play-Oriented Research and Action.


Development of a formative feedback tool for transanal total mesorectal excision
Alen Antoun, Faisal Al Rashid, Noura Alhassan, Carlos Gomez-Garibello, Julio F Fiore Jr, Liane S Feldman, Lawrence Lee, Carmen L Mueller

Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on rates of emergency department utilization and hospital admission due to general surgery conditions
Saba Balvardi, Josie Cipolla, Nawar Touma, Tharaniya Vallipuram, Natasha Barone, Reginold Sivarajan, Pepa Kaneva, Sebastian Demyttenaere, Marylise Boutros, Lawrence Lee, Liane S Feldman, Julio F Fiore Jr

The impact of the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic on the exposure of general surgery trainees to operative procedures
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### 1) Special Update

**Congratulations to Celeste Johnston**

Congratulations are sent out to Celeste on her appointment as an Officer in the Order of Canada, one of the highest civilian honours the federal government can award. “Created in 1967, the Order of Canada recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation.” Celeste received her appointment in recognition of “her foundational research in neonatal pain and for further advancing the field as a beloved mentor.” For more information, consult the [Governor General’s website](http://www.gg.ca).
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CIHR Project Grants

The deadline to register your intent to apply to the Project Grant competition is Feb 9th.

For those who are in the FMHS, they strongly recommend that you submit your proposal to their internal peer review mechanism. They claim it will increase your funding odds by 2X-3X. To do so, you need to email Nancy (riac.med@mcgill.ca) with your provisional title and key words to start the process.

If you need professional assistance (not secretarial) the Pain Centre has a small amount of funding available to engage the services of a “Grant whisperer”. Applications must be received by Monday, Jan 31st. Details were included in a recent email, or email Sid if you have questions.

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<td><strong>PAIN DAY:</strong> <a href="mailto:mark.ware@canopygrowth.com">Mark Ware, MBBS, MSc</a>, Chief Medical Officer, Canopy Growth Corporation</td>
<td>“Navigating the worlds of pain and cannabis: a journey from academia to industry… and beyond…”</td>
<td>Arkady Khoutorsky and Reza Sharif-Naeini</td>
<td>ONLINE EVENT</td>
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<td>Feb 16</td>
<td><strong>Tor Wager, PhD</strong> Director of Brain Imaging Center, Dartmouth College</td>
<td>&quot;Cerebral mechanisms of pain: From circuits to psychosocial interventions&quot;</td>
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<td>Vice-President, Search &amp; Evaluation – Pain &amp; Neurodegeneration</td>
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- Formulate scientific hypotheses, conceive, develop, and perform the experiments to verify these hypotheses;
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**Coderre lab – PDF opening**

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### 8) AECRP in the News

**Celeste appointed an Officer in the Order of Canada.**

[McGill Reporter](#), 11 Jan 2022, “15 McGillians appointed to Order of Canada”

[Toronto Star](#), Kevin McBain, 12 Jan 2022 “Hunt’s Point woman earns Order of Canada”

*Philippe is leading a project on ASICs as a target for pain treatment, involving a mix of private and public funding partners, including LAEF.*

[CQDM website](#), 12 Jan 2022, “CQDM partners with Neurasic Therapeutics, HBHL and the Louise and Alan Edwards Foundation to fund a non-opioid pain treatment discovery.”

*If you have anything of interest, please send it in! [sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca](mailto:sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca)*
9) **Recent Publications**

**Role of Human Antigen R (HuR) in the Regulation of Pulmonary ACE2 Expression.**
Aloufi N, Haidar Z, Ding J, Nair P, Benedetti A, Eidelman DH, Gallouzi IE, Di Marco S, Hussain SN, **Baglole CJ**.

**Investigating the effect of pretreatment with azithromycin on inflammatory mediators in bronchial epithelial cells exposed to cigarette smoke.**

**Mechanical Consequence of Induced Intervertebral Disc Degeneration in the SPARC-Null Mouse**
Mitchel C Whittal, Sara Molladavoodi, Derek P Zwambag, **Magali Millecamps**, Laura S **Stone**, Diane E Gregory

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If you are alumni and would no longer like to receive AECRP emails, please email Ana Maria at sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca from the subscribed email account with the subject line
To be included in this newsletter, please send announcements to sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca by Monday 12PM.
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Upcoming:
- AEPMU Rounds: Jan 31st
- Journal Club: Feb 3rd.

1) **Special Update**

**CPS Early Career Investigator Research Grant**

The CPS, in partnership with Pfizer, has launched its annual research grant program for ECRs. It provides $50K in operating funds to help them launch their research labs, obtain pilot data, etc., necessary to obtain major Tri-Council funding. Two grants are available, one in basic and one in clinical/translational research. For more information or to apply, consult their [website](#). **The deadline to apply has been extended to Jan 31st, 2022.**

**CIHR Project Grants**

The deadline to register your intent to apply to the Project Grant competition is Feb 9th.

For those who are in the FMHS, they strongly recommend that you submit your proposal to their internal peer review mechanism. They claim it will increase your funding odds by
2X-3X. To do so, you need to email Nancy (riac.med@mcgill.ca) with your provisional title and key words to start the process.

If you need professional assistance (not secretarial) the Pain Centre has a small amount of funding available to engage the services of a “Grant whisperer”. **Applications must be received by Monday, Jan 31st.** Details were included in a recent email, or email Sid if you have questions.

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### 2) Journal Club

**ZOOM**

**Thursdays 9:30-11:00**

**Presenters should send their article to sec.paincenter@mcgill.ca** the Monday before presenting

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8) **AECRP in the News**

*Reza was selected as 1 of 9 funded programs by the MIF, a new program intended to accelerate the commercialization of research.*

*The Reporter, Junji Nishihata, 19 Jan 2022, “Nine teams chosen as 1st recipients of McGill Innovation Fund”*

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9) **Recent Publications**

*Development of a National Pain Management Competency Profile to Guide Entry-level Physiotherapy Education in Canada,*

Nathan Augeard, Geoff Bostick, Jordan Miller, David Walton, Yannick Tousignant-Laflamme, Anne Hudon, André Bussières, Lynn Cooper, Nicol McNiven, Aliki Thomas, Lesley Singer, Scott M. Fishman, Marie H. Bement, Julia M. Hush, Kathleen A. Sluka, Judy Watt-Watson, Lisa C. Carlesso, Sinead Dufour, Roland Fletcher, Katherine Harman, Judith Hunter, Suzy Ngomo, Neil Pearson, Kadija Perreault, Barbara Shay, Peter Stilwell, Susan Tupper & **Timothy H. Wideman.**


*Chronic widespread pain and the diagnosis of fibromyalgia*

**Mary-Ann Fitzcharles**

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1) **Special Update**

Congratulations, Jeff!

Our congratulations go out to Jeff on being selected Outstanding Pain Mentor for 2022 by the CPS. A very well-deserved note of recognition.

Pain Research Forum recognition

Congratulations go out to the Seguela lab on having one of their publications selected as one of the Top 5 “PRF Papers of the Week” for 2021. The paper which received this distinction was by Kevin Lancon et al:

*Decreased dopaminergic inhibition of pyramidal neurons in anterior cingulate cortex maintains chronic neuropathic pain*

Lançon K, Qu C, Navratilova E, Porreca F, Séguéla P  

Considering the competition for this, all we can say is “Way to go, folks!”
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Website: [https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/](https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/)

5) **Upcoming Student Seminars**

*If you have anything of interest, please send it in!* [sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca](mailto:sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca)

6) **Upcoming Events**

**CIHR Reviewer in Training program**

Once again, CIHR is offering its RiT program to ECRs for them to gain a better understanding of the peer review process through direct participation in the Project Grant competition with the support of a Mentor. RiT participants will be assigned up to three applications to conduct practice reviews, attend the peer review meeting, present one of their reviews, and participate in the committee meeting. Following completion of the RiT program, participants will be promoted within CIHR’s [Reviewer Pathway](https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/) and are expected to participate in peer review when requested and available to do so.

The application period for the RiT program opens on January 10th, 2022 and **closes on February 4th, 2022**. For more information or to apply, visit their [website](https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/).

**Canadian Arthritis Research Conference: Research with Impact**

This year’s CARC will be held virtually on Feb 7th and 8th, 2021. **There will be a day for oral presentations on Jan 31st, 2022** and posters during the meeting itself. For more information, visit their [website](https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/).
QPRN Pilot Project Competition

QPRN’s Pilot Project Competition is now open, with applications due on Feb 6th. Details will be posted on their website.

FRQS funding opportunity – AI and Health

The FRQS has announced a new funding opportunity – Programme de regroupement en intelligence artificielle et santé – intended to create new research groups interested in the use of AI in health research. The goals include:

- Create an AI and health community and promote networking between members of the AI community (students, postdoctoral fellows, and researchers) and those in the life sciences;
- Facilitate mentorship by allowing the integration of students, postdoctoral fellows and early-career researchers in large-scale initiatives;
- Foster the development of basic research in AI in areas that will have an impact on improving health;
- Encourage scientific animation by creating, for example, summer / winter schools in AI / health or any other activity that may create interest;
- Develop structuring and joint initiatives;
- Create a dynamic and inclusive collaborative space;
- Support the co-financing of student scholarships (including awards for post-doctoral fellows) with partners in target areas.

Those interested should consult their website for more information and to apply. The deadline is Mar 15th, 2022, at 16:00 Eastern.

If you have anything of interest, please send it in! sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca

7) Career/Job Opportunities

Faculty position now open – Dentistry/Pain Centre

The Faculty of Dentistry of McGill University is inviting applications for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor or Associate Professor and in the field of Pain Research and its interaction with two strategic research themes of the Faculty: osseous tissue and Artificial Intelligence. Faculty of Dentistry has 4 research clusters including (1) Population Oral Health (2) Pain and Neuroscience (3) Biomaterials, Nanobiotechnology and Tissue Engineering and (4) Mineralized Tissues and Extracellular Matrix Biology (https://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/research).
We seek to recruit an outstanding researcher who has shown leadership in the field of Pain Research. It is mandatory that the candidate conduct animal research. The candidate should champion the Faculty’s vision, mission, and shared values (https://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/faculty).

For more information and to apply visit the McGill Workday platform.

Séguéla lab - PDF openings

The Séguéla lab at the Montreal Neurological Institute is looking for two postdocs in molecular neuroscience to investigate the role of acid-sensing ion channels (ASICs) in chronic pain, in close collaboration with the biotech company Neurasic Therapeutics. Under Pr. Séguéla’s supervision, they will be expected to design and conduct experiments on the properties of novel ASIC ligands using single-cell patch clamp recording and calcium imaging, analyze the data and will be expected to present their results through oral presentations and preparations of written reports on a weekly basis.

For more information, consult the posting on our website.

Research Associate Needed – Kania Lab, IRCM.

The Neural Circuit Development Research Unit headed by Artur Kania is seeking a Research Associate to fill a 2 year contract. This person should expect to:

- Formulate scientific hypotheses, conceive, develop, and perform the experiments to verify these hypotheses;
- Collaborate on the writing of grant applications for the research unit’s projects;
- Write scientific manuscripts reporting the results of the research;
- Develop new scientific projects in collaboration with the Research Unit Director.

For more information, consult the posting on our website.

Coderre lab – PDF opening

Terry is currently looking for a Post-doc willing to work on a project on the role of intracellular metabotropic glutamate receptors in persistent nociception. This is a CIHR-funded project.

For more information, consult the posting on our website.

If you have anything of interest, please send it in! sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca
8) **AECRP in the News**

*Reza was selected as 1 of 9 funded programs by the MIF, a new program intended to accelerate the commercialization of research.*

*The Reporter*, Junji Nishihata, 19 Jan 2022, “Nine teams chosen as 1st recipients of McGill Innovation Fund”

*If you have anything of interest, please send it in!* [sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca](mailto:sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca)

9) **Recent Publications**

**Digital Biomarkers for Supporting Transitional Care Decisions: Protocol for a Transnational Feasibility Study.**

**Promoting the use of a self-management strategy among novice chiropractors treating individuals with spine pain: A mixed methods pilot clustered-clinical trial.**

**Understanding the Meaning of Recovery to Patients Undergoing Abdominal Surgery.**
*JAMA Surg.* 2021 Aug 1;156(8):758-765.

**Endogenous regulation of the Akt pathway by the aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AhR) in lung fibroblasts.**
Shi F, Aloufi N, Traboulsi H, Trempe JF, Eidelman DH, **Baglole CJ.**

**Role of Human Antigen R (HuR) in the Regulation of Pulmonary ACE2 Expression.**
Aloufi N, Haidar Z, Ding J, Nair P, Benedetti A, Eidelman DH, Gallouzi IE, Di Marco S, Hussain SN, **Baglole CJ.**

**Distinct Effects of Antidepressants in Association With Mood Stabilizers and/or Antipsychotics in Unipolar and Bipolar Depression**
Christophe Moderie, Nicolas Nuñez, Stefano Comai, Marie Saint-Laurent, Allan Fielding, Nancy Low, **Gabriella Gobbi**
**Trajectory of change of low anterior resection syndrome over time after restorative proctectomy for rectal adenocarcinoma.**  
Tech Coloproctol. 2022 Jan 18.

**Association Between Patient Activation and Health Care Utilization After Thoracic and Abdominal Surgery.**  

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If you are alumni and would no longer like to receive AECRP emails, please email Ana Maria at sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca from the subscribed email account with the subject line

To be included in this newsletter, please send announcements to sec.paincentre@mcgill.ca by Monday 12PM.