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Upcoming:

Melzack Lecture, 08
 June 2022

1) Special Update

AEPMU Leadership Change

As some might have heard already, after many years providing sterling service and leadership to the Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit, Yoram is stepping down as its Director. He is not retiring, and will continue his teaching, research and clinical duties as normal. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Yoram for all of his efforts over the years, building the AEPMU into an organization of which we are all proud.

We are also pleased to announce that Jordi has been appointed to the Edwards Chair in Clinical Pain and as interim director of the AEPMU. Our best wishes for success in this new position, Jordi!

Congratulations to our members!

It has been a busy week. The AECRP would like to acknowledge and congratulate our members on the awards which they received:

Gabriella Gobbi, Tier 1 CRC in Therapeutics for Mental Health.

Arkady Khoutorsky, renewal, FRQ Chercheurs-Boursiers

<u>Jean Ouellet</u>. Together with Evan Dimentberg (MD/MSc candidate, Laval) Jean has won the Hakim Family Innovation Prize from the FMHS. The project, SeeSpine, is a telehealth application leveraging 3D imaging and artificial intelligence for scoliosis.

Alice Bruneau, Taryn Berman, Sophie Desjardins: FRQ doctoral fellowships.

NSERC Discovery Grants Program.

OSR will be hosting a Zoom information session on the NSERC <u>Discovery Grant Program</u>. The session will focus on tips to improve your applications chances of success. The call will be on Wed, June 15th, from 10am to 12 noon. You will need to register to obtain the link and meeting password.

To reserve a spot for yourself in this call, complete this form before Monday, 13 June.

Pain Centre YouTube Video program

We are constantly striving to raise our public profile, and one spoke of this effort is our YouTube channel. This is an open call to all trainees in the Centre. Science communication is an important skill, one that will only become increasingly important in the years to come. We would like to "host" short (5-6 minute) videos describing your research findings. Not only does this add to your "CV-able" skills, but also we will pay you \$100 for the video.

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Marc Parisien: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SAyHIMEZFo

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3) Frontiers in Pain Research

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4) Other Lectures of Interest

AEPMU Melzack Lecture Series:

Update on Military Medicine Projects – Gaurav Gupta, Kira Burton, Latifah Kamal. June 08, 2022, 16:00-17:00

For more information, visit their website.

To register, click on this Zoom link.

Contact: Rebecca Binik

Organization: The Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit

Email: rebecca.binik@mcgill.ca

Website: https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/

5) **Upcoming Student Seminars**

Intro to Unix and HPC workshop

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To register, complete the form on their <u>Google Docs platform</u>.

PAINtalks 2022

PAINtalks 2022 is happening on Nov 3rd, 2022. This year it will be held here in Montreal. Space is limited, so you need to apply to make the show! The application <u>portal</u> is open. *The deadline to apply is June 13th!*

6) **Upcoming Events**

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This meeting takes place Sept 19-23, 2022, in Toronto. Registration is now open via their website.

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8) AECRP in the News

An interesting article that links the recent papers by Arkady (Science 2022) and one by Rohini Kuner in Nature (2022).

<u>BioWorld</u>, Annette Breindl, 31 May 2022, "Studies identify chronic pain mechanisms in skin and spinal cord".

More coverage of the Science Translational Medicine paper from Audrey, Carol, Jeff & Luda. With 179 news stories from 141 media outlets in all languages world-wide.

<u>Fortune</u>, Kendall K. Morgan, 31 May 2022, "Could over-the-counter pain relievers be making your back pain worse?"

<u>WishtTV.com</u>, Mary Gillis, 03 June 2022, "Common over-the-counter medication linked to chronic back pain" (includes TV broadcast clip)

Coverage of Jeff's paper in Science Advances.

<u>IFLScience.com</u>, James Felton, 30 May 2022, "Researchers Accidentally Discover Why Male Mice Are Scared Of Bananas"

<u>ZME Science</u>. Mihai Andrei, 31 May 2022, "Mice are terrified by something unexpectec. It's bananas".

Metro, Anugraha Sundaravelu, 31 May 2022, "Mice are terrified by bananas and scientists just found out why".

<u>Inverse</u>, Elana Spivack, 31 May 2022, "This fruit makes mice go bananas, and psychologists have a reason why"

Newser, John Johnson, 31 May 2022, "Want to Scare a Male Mouse? Try a Banana"

Nature World News, Miguel Brown, 01 June 2022, "Why Are Male Mice Afraid of Bananas?"

<u>Galaxy Reporters</u>, Alice Jane, 01 June 2022, "Researchers Accidentally Stumble Upon the Release Why Male Mice Are Scared of Bananas"

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9) Recent Publications

Oral health in America 2021: Making a case for curricular change.

Niessen LC, Fontana M, Weyant RJ, Casamassimo PS, **Feine J**, Karimbux N. J Dent Educ. 2022 May 25. doi: 10.1002/jdd.12929.

A graph-embedded topic model enables characterization of diverse pain phenotypes among UK biobank individuals.

Wang Y, Benavides R, **Diatchenko L, Grant AV**, Li Y. iScience. 2022 May 12;25(6):104390.

Biomedical Research and Informatics Living Laboratory for Innovative Advances of New Technologies in Community Mobility Rehabilitation: Protocol for Evaluation and Rehabilitation of Mobility Across Continuums of Care.

Ahmed S, Archambault P, Auger C, Durand A, Fung J, Kehayia E, Lamontagne A, Majnemer A, Nadeau S, Pineau J, Ptito A, Swaine B. JMIR Res Protoc. 2022 Jun 1;11(6):e12506.

Identification of the intraoperative antinociceptive effect of intravenous fentanyl using the Nociception Level (NOL) index versus clinical parameters in patients undergoing gynecological laparoscopic surgery: A secondary analysis of the NOLGYN study.

Ghiyasinasab M, Morisson L, Laferrière-Langlois P, Geraldo-Demers MA, **Gélinas C**, Nadeau-Vallée M, Verdonck O, Lahrichi N, Richebé P.

Anaesth Crit Care Pain Med. 2022 May 25:101102.

The neural signature of the decision value of future pain.

Coll MP, Slimani H, Woo CW, Wager TD, Rainville P, Vachon-Presseau É, Roy M. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2022 Jun 7;119(23):e2119931119.

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Coverage of Arkady's recent Science (2022) paper.

McGill Health e-News, Gillian Woodford, 06 June 2022, "McGill team uncovers root causes of neuropathic pain"

<u>The Scientist</u>, Patience Asanga, 09 June 2022, "Mouse Immune Cells Destroy Nerves' Coating, Causing Chronic Pain"

<u>Medical Xpress.com</u>, Bob Yirka, 10 June 2022, "Activation of microglia in the spinal cord after nerve injury found to contribute to pain hypersensitivity"

More coverage of the Science Translational Medicine paper from Audrey, Carol, Jeff & Luda. With 179 news stories from 141 media outlets in all languages world-wide.

<u>Star Advertiser</u>, Gina Kolata (reprint from NY Times), 07 June 2022, "Some medicine can prolong back pain, study finds"

<u>SciTechDaily.com</u>, McGill University, 08 June 2022, "New Side Effects of Popular Medicines Discovered: Anti-Inflammatory Drugs Could Cause Chronic Pain"

<u>AWSFORWP.com</u>, Mary Gillis (reprint from WishTV.com), 05 June 2022, "Common overthe-counter medication linked to chronic back pain – WISH-TV | Indianapolis News | Indiana Weather"

<u>Futurity.com</u>, Shirley Cardenas-McGill, 07 June 2022, "Blocking inflammation may lead to chronic pain"

<u>Nature Reviews Neurology</u>, Heather Wood, 24 May 2022, "Anti-inflammatory drugs could cause chronic pain"

Daytonews.com, 09 June 2022, "Anti-Inflammatory Drugs Could Cause Chronic Pain"

Newsmonkey.com. 09 June 2022, "Anti-Inflammatory Drugs Could Cause Chronic Pain"

Coverage of Jeff's paper in Science Advances.

<u>USA Today</u>, Saleen Martin, 07 June 2022, "Scientists found bananas stress out male mice. A compound inside the fruit could be why."

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9) Recent Publications

Individual variability in brain representations of pain.

Kohoutová L, Atlas LY, Büchel C, Buhle JT, Geuter S, Jepma M, Koban L, Krishnan A, Lee DH, Lee S, **Roy M**, Schafer SM, Schmidt L, Wager TD, Woo CW. Nat Neurosci. 2022 May 30.

The impact of bowel dysfunction on health-related quality of life after rectal cancer surgery: a systematic review.

Al Rashid F, Liberman AS, Charlebois P, Stein B, Feldman LS, **Fiore JF Jr**, Lee L. Tech Coloproctol. 2022 Jul;26(7):515-527

Book chapter

Developing Patient-Centered Outcomes Metrics for Abdominal Surgery.

JF Fiore, Jr. F Rajabiyazdi, LS Feldman,

Chapter 14 in:

The Sages Manual of Quality, Outcomes & Patient Safety, (2nd Ed)

JR Romanelli, JM Dort, RB Kowalski, P Sinha (eds) Springer, 2022.

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Edwards PhD Studentships in Pain Research:

- Elnaz Alikarami, supervised by Dr. Carol Meloto, 1st year
- Nichole Brown, supervised by Dr. Arkady Khoutorsky, 1st year
- Rachael Osagie, supervised by Dr. Carol Meloto, 1st year
- Haoyi Qiu, supervised by Dr. Reza Sharif-Naeini, 1st year
- Arthur Woznowski-Vu, supervised by Dr. Timothy Wideman, 1st year
- Wen Bo (Sam) Zhou, supervised by Dr. Ji Zhang, 1st year
- **Shajenth Premachandran**, supervised by Dr. Reza Sharif, 2nd year.
- Nathan Augeard, supervised by Dr. Timothy Wideman, 2nd year.
- Matthew Mannario, supervised by Dr. Jean Ouellet, 3rd year.
- Erika Gentile, supervised by Dr. Mathieu Roy, 3rd year.

Catherine Bushnell Fellowship in Chronic Pain Research:

- Faez Al-Hamed, supervised by Dr. Carol Meloto
- Ronrick Da-ano, supervised by Dr. Etienne Vachon-Presseau.

Ronald Melzack Fellowship in Chronic Pain Research:

• **Zhongyu (Julie) Shi**, supervised by Dr. Reza Sharif-Naeini.

Louse & Alan Edwards Foundation Grants in Chronic Pain Research

- Carolyn J. Baglole, Does vaporized cannabis alleviate pain in a mouse model
- **Julio Flavio Fiore, Jr.**, Opioid versus opioid-free analgesia after colorectal surgery: A pilot randomized controlled trial
- Gabriella Gobbi, Psilocybin for neuropathic pain and comorbid depression
- Alfredo Ribeiro-da-Silva, The contribution of structural synapse plasticity on dorsal horn projection neurons to the maintenance of neuropathic pain
- Yoram Shir, Laying the Foundations for a Biobank of Gut Microbiome and Metabolome of Chronic Pain Patients

Introducing Terry Coderre, Novelist.

What did you accomplish during the lockdown? We did many things – learning new skills, catching up on our reading pile (one which never seems to grow smaller) – but one of us decided to write a work of science fiction. Writing under the penname of Terry Birdgenaw, Terry wrote a trilogy, *The Autunite Chronicles*, the first of which, *Autuna's Story*, came out on May 16th (the final two are due out on July 4th and Sept 21st). The project started with his helping his wife, Ann Birdgenaw, with her children's Sci-Fi series, *Black Hole Radio*, and spun off on its own.

To read more of the story, check out the <u>profile</u> in the current McGill Reporter. If you want to read the books, they are available on Amazon.ca in both paper and Kindle format (FYI, if you subscribe to Kindle Unlimited, they are part of the program).

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WebMD, Emily Shiffer, 17 June 2022, "How we treat acute pain could be wrong"

9) Recent Publications

The development of a stakeholder-endorsed national strategic plan for advancing pain education across Canadian physiotherapy programs.

Wideman TH, Bostick G, Miller J, Thomas A, Bussières A, Walton D, Tousignant-Laflamme Y, Carlesso L, Hunter J, Perreault K, Shay B. Can J Pain. 2022 Jun 3; 6(1):21-32.

Concerns about the taxonomy, definition and coding of fibromyalgia syndrome in ICD-11: the potential for negative consequences for patient care and research.

Häuser W, Clauw DJ, Wolfe F, Sarzi-Puttini P, Ablin JN, Usui C, Littlejohn GO, Morlion B, Kosek E, Fors EA, Øien Forseth KM, **Fitzcharles MA**. Clin Exp Rheumatol. 2022 Jun 9. (Editorial)

<u>Sodium-calcium exchanger-3 regulates pain "wind-up": From human psychophysics to spinal mechanisms.</u>

Trendafilova T, Adhikari K, Schmid AB, Patel R, Polgár E, Chisholm KI, Middleton SJ, Boyle K, Dickie AC, Semizoglou E, Perez-Sanchez J, Bell AM, Ramirez-Aristeguieta LM, Khoury S, Ivanov A, Wildner H, Ferris E, Chacón-Duque JC, Sokolow S, Saad Boghdady MA, Herchuelz A, Faux P, Poletti G, Gallo C, Rothhammer F, Bedoya G, Zeilhofer HU, **Diatchenko L,** McMahon SB, Todd AJ, Dickenson AH, Ruiz-Linares A, Bennett DL. Neuron. 2022 Jun 10:S0896-6273(22)00458-5.

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1) Special Update

Pain Centre YouTube Video program

We are constantly striving to raise our public profile, and one spoke of this effort is our YouTube channel. This is an open call to all trainees in the Centre. Science communication is an important skill, one that will only become increasingly important in the years to come. We would like to "host" short (5-6 minute) videos describing your research findings. Not only does this add to your "CV-able" skills, but also we will pay you \$100 for the video.

Sound interesting? It is not as hard as you think. While there are a number of software solutions to select from, we recommend that you do this using PowerPoint, a program that you are undoubtedly familiar with. Create a PPTX file with an integrated audio file (of you narrating the slides). Once this finished, you save the presentation as a video (select File > Export > Create a Video > Select Video Quality > Use Recorded Timings and Narrations> Create Video), giving you an MP4 file that we can upload to YouTube.

The channel's main page is <u>here</u>.

The latest video was made by Don Daniel Ocay and describes the results of a recent paper in J. Pain Res. Which describes the phenotyping of MSK pain in male and female adolescents.

The video made be watched here.

2) Journal Club

The Journal Club has completed its scheduled activities for the year. Keep watch here for news about the new schedule.

3) Frontiers in Pain Research

The Frontiers in Pain has completed its scheduled activities for the year. Keep watch here for news about the new schedule.

4) Other Lectures of Interest

AEPMU Melzack Lecture Series:

Experimental Models of Pain for Research



Sahel Jahangiri Esfahani June 29, 2022, 16:00-17:00

I did my bachelors in cellular and molecular biology with a specialization in genetics then I started my graduate studies in Human Pain Genetics Lab under Luda Diatchenko's supervision as a master's student in January 2021, continuing as a Ph.D. student in January 2023 at McGill University in Human Genetics Department, Faculty of Medicine. My first project was to make a database for pain transcriptomics (https://transcriptomicspainsignaturesdb.ca/) and for that, I used publicly available datasets (RNA-seq and Microarray data) on GEO (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/). These datasets were from various species (Human, mouse, rat, and pig), different tissues (DRG, spinal cord, blood), and coming from multiple pain conditions in both human and animal models (SNI, CCI, Arthritis, CFA). My Ph.D. project focuses on acute to chronic pain transition in mice model of post-surgical pain looking into gene expression dynamics of pain resolution and chronification in different time points and sexes after the surgery.

REGISTER HERE

Contact: Rebecca Binik

Organization: The Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit

Email: rebecca.binik@mcgill.ca

Website: https://www.mcgill.ca/paincentre/

5) **Upcoming Student Seminars**

MiCM Summer Workshop Series

The McGill initiative in Computational Medicine (MiCM) will be conducting a series of computational skills in bioinformatics workshops over the summer. They include:

June 30th, NGS data formats and pre-processing

July 8th, Introduction to machine language

July 12th, Introduction to dimensionality reduction

July 21st -22nd, Introduction to R Programming

July 26th, Data visualization in R

July 27th, Polygenic risk scores

July 28th–29th, Introduction to R programming

Registration details are not posted online as of today, but, if interested, you should check their website for updates or contact the program coordinator for details.

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

6) Upcoming Events

2022 Gairdner Early Career Investigator Competition.

Initiated last year, this competition is intended to raise the profile of ECRs in Canada during Gairdner Science Week (October) and to raise awareness of the Foundation amongst this group. Five investigators will be chosen to give 10 minute talks in association with the Laureate Lectures on October 27, 2022, to participate in a networking session with 2022 laureates and to attend the 2022 Awards Gala on October 27, 2022 (travel and hotel provided). The talks will be broadcast live and recorded for YouTube distribution globally. This is a competitive process, with the finalists being selected by the laureates themselves.

Applications are due 01 Aug 2022. For more information, consult their <u>website</u>.

World Congress on Pain Registration

This meeting takes place Sept 19-23, 2022, in Toronto. Registration is now open via their website.

7) Career/Job Opportunities

Zhang Lab openings

The Zhang lab at the Alan Edwards Centre for Research on Pain (McGill) is looking for a postdoctoral fellow or a PhD student who is interested in understanding how inflammation is involved in different types of chronic pain.

The candidate is expected to have experience and expertise in neuroinflammation related research projects, able to lead and conduct experiments, able to write manuscript and present research findings. Previous technical background in immunohistochemistry and cellular imaging, molecular/cellular biology approach (qPCR, Western Blot, ELISA), and cell culture will be preferred. Knowledge of proteomics and bioinformatic analysis will be a bonus. Teamwork spirit and enthusiasm in learning are essential.

Interested candidates should send their CV and cover letter to Ji.Zhang@mcgill.ca

CRIUGM PDF & PhD opportunities

The Monchi/Rainville labs at the Centre de Recherche de l'Institut Universitaire de Gériatrie de Montréal (CRIUGM) are looking for postdocs and/or PhD candidates interested in a project to characterize pain processing in Parkinson's disease patients. The candidate should have a prior background in neuroimaging and/or human affective neuroscience. For more information, visit our website

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.

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.

Shir/Khoutorsky Labs - PDF Opening

Yoram & Arkady are looking for an independent and motivated researcher to work on multiple projects related to the role of the gut microbiome in different chronic pain conditions. The projects involve both clinical and basic science approaches, with the goal to characterize changes in the gut microbiome in chronic pain in humans, investigate the role of these changes in mediating pain and related co-morbidities, and develop strategies targeting the microbiome to alleviate pain. More details can be found on our <u>website</u> or in this listing from NeuroJobs

8) AECRP in the News

Coverage of The Lancet paper by Julio and Marco.

<u>MUHC News</u>, 20 June 2022, "Taking opioids at home after surgery: more harm than benefits".

<u>CTV News</u>, CP Staff, 20 June 2022, "Opioids less effective, higher risk for post-surgery pain treatment, Montreal study says"

<u>Pain News Network</u>, Pat Anson, 20 June 2022, "Ice Packs and Tylenol: Why a New Study on Post-Operative Pain Falls Flat"

Montreal Gazette, Jesse Feith, 24 June 2022, "Post-surgery opioids at home can do more harm than good, study says"

More coverage of the Science Translational Medicine paper from Audrey, Carol, Jeff & Luda. With 189 news stories from 146 media outlets in all languages world-wide.

MDedge, Emily Shiffer, 20 June 2022, "How we treat acute pain could be wrong"

SwiftTelecast, Jhon Ray, 18 June 2022, "How we treat acute pain could be wrong"

Medscape, Emily Shiffer, 20 June 2022, "How we treat acute pain could be wrong"

9) Recent Publications

Opioid versus opioid-free analgesia after surgical discharge: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised trials.

Fiore JF Jr, El-Kefraoui C, Chay MA, Nguyen-Powanda P, Do U, Olleik G, Rajabiyazdi F, Kouyoumdjian A, Derksen A, Landry T, Amar-Zifkin A, Bergeron A, Ramanakumar AV, **Martel M**, Lee L, Baldini G, Feldman LS.

Lancet. 2022 Jun 18;399(10343):2280-2293.

Transitional Pain Care in Quebec: Did We Forget Our Youths? A Brief Research Report.

Kudrina I, Bartlett G, **Pagé MG, Shir Y, Tourian L, Choinière M**, Vedel I. Front Pain Res (Lausanne). 2022 May 27; 3:885570.

<u>Unbiased immune profiling reveals a natural killer cell-peripheral nerve axis in fibromyalgia.</u>

Verma V, Drury GL, Parisien M, Özdağ Acarli AN, Al-Aubodah TA, Nijnik A, Wen X, Tugarinov N, Verner M, Klares R 3rd, Linton A, Krock E, Morado Urbina CE, Winsvold B, Fritsche LG, Fors EA, Piccirillo C, **Khoutorsky A**, Svensson CI, **Fitzcharles MA, Ingelmo PM**, Bernard NF, Dupuy FP, Üçeyler N, Sommer C, King IL, **Meloto CB, Diatchenko L**; HUNT-All In Pain.

Pain. 2022 Jul 1;163(7):e821-e836.