DEVELOPMENTAL ORIGINS OF PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMORS

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Dr. Nada Jabado began her career as an independent investigator at McGill in 2003, pioneering a research program in pediatric brain tumors which is now unparalleled. Her group uncovered that pediatric high-grade astrocytomas (HGA) are molecularly and genetically distinct from adult tumors. More importantly, they identified a new molecular mechanism driving pediatric HGA, namely recurrent somatic driver mutations in the tail of histone 3 variants (H3.3 and H3.1). Dr. Jabado’s ground-breaking work has created a paradigm shift in cancer with the identification of histone mutations in human disease which has revolutionized this field, as the epigenome was a previously unsuspected hallmark of oncogenesis, thus linking development and what we now know are epigenetic-driven cancers. She has over 160 peer-reviewed publications to her credit, with an impressive number of senior-author, high-impact publications in such prominent journals as Nature Genetics, Nature, Science and Cancer Cell, to name a few. She has over 16,000 citations and an h-index of 67 and many of her publications are considered landmark papers. Nada is an international leader in the field of neuro-oncology/cancer, honored by invitations as a keynote speaker at top ranked symposia and universities. She is one of the best-funded investigators in Canada, with grants from CIHR, Genome Canada, NIH as well as philanthropic organizations. She was recently inducted as a Fellow to the Royal Society of Canada, a member of the CIHR Governing Council and a member of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: pathologysec.med@mcgill.ca