

Hi Everyone

If you hang around me long enough you will hear me say that "medicine is a team sport.... and there is no 'I' in team". This week is National Nurse's Week and this week, and any week, is a great time to acknowledge these vital partners in providing humane health care to children and their families. As a representative of our entire nursing community this week's Departmental Acknowledgment goes to **Janet Rennick**.

Janet's achievements come in a domain that has only emerged in the past generation as a part of nursing endeavours; research. Research enables nurses to ground their practice in evidence. This is particularly challenging as much of what nurses do is focused on aspects of care and outcomes that often cannot be easily numerically quantified. Beginning with Celeste Johnston who did pioneering work in pain in infants, the MCH has been the scene of the efforts of innovative nursing researchers. Janet is part of this tradition and indeed Celeste was her PhD supervisor. I am proud to note that Janet has a Medical Scientist appointment in the Department of Pediatrics.

Originally from Big Nickle (ie Sudbury) in Northern Ontario, Janet received her university degree in Nursing from the University of Western Ontario and progressed to a Master's degree in Nursing undertaken both at UCLA and the University of Toronto. She came to Montreal to be a Clinical Nurse Specialist in our PICU and Bone Marrow Transplant Unit in 1987. Her PhD was done at McGill and focused on the psychological responses of children to critical illness and invasive procedures. This was followed by dual roles within the Faculty of Medicine at the School of Nursing and as a Nurse Scientist at the MCH. Janet has pursued a vigorous independent investigator effort with multiple external grants and graduate students supervised that is largely devoted to exploring the care experience of children and their parents dealing with chronic disease, technology dependence and critical illness. Her findings have led to modifications in care practices and it is this knowledge translation that to me represents the true value of health related research, rather than the impact factor of the journal in which a paper is published. Especially important and noteworthy is that Janet has secured external salary support awards for her work and last month received her FRQ-S Chercheur Boursier Clinicien Award at the Junior 2 level for her ongoing work to prevent the psychological sequelae often encountered by gravely ill children. Janet has also had a remarkable impact locally in fostering a culture of enquiry and research efforts amongst MCH nursing staff. She truly is an example that 'a rising tide raises all ships'.

Please join me in congratulating Janet on her personal achievement at the FRQ-S. Also please take the time to thank your nursing staff who enable you to provide quality care every day of the year.

Have a great weekend

Michael