

February 9, 2018

Hi Everyone

Harley insisted on writing this week's Departmental Acknowledgement for the **Peds ER Core Staff**. It is timed with the innovative Open House Grand Rounds of the ER which occurred earlier this week.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael

"You can't really know where you are going until you know where you have been" - -- Maya Angelou

The trajectory of Pediatric Emergency medicine at McGill and the Montreal Children's Hospital parallels that of the development of the specialty in Canada.

Montreal Children's Hospital records make mention of a "Night Clinic" staffed by residents as far back as 1955, and hospital meeting minutes refer to an "Emergency Clinic" with volumes of 15 000 patient per year in the ensuing years. The staff and leadership were borrowed from the pediatrician (both community & hospital-based) and surgeon groups. This arrangement continued into the late 1970's when Dr. Donald Clogg, a native Montrealese who had learned acute care skill in the McGill Pediatric Project in Kenya, returned to the Children's to become the first Medical Emergency Director. Don left for Alberta in the early 80's. Don incidentally became the first Chair of the CPS Section of Pediatric Emergency in 1986. Our Medical Emergency was staffed by pediatricians, notably under the directorship of DR. Anne-Marie MacLellan for a period of time until the arrival from Peterborough of former Winter Olympian David McGillivray in 1989.

This was about the time that the "unofficial" Pediatric Emergency Medicine fellowship-training program began at the Children's. Despite only receiving Royal College Subspecialty status in 2000, the fellowship program at the MCH has graduated close to 100 fellows who are practicing and in leadership positions in almost every corner of the world.

David McGillivray laid the foundation for the "modern" Division of PEM at the MCH by developing with the growing team of full time PEM Physicians important unique competencies in care, education research and knowledge translation. David's successor, François Belanger, cemented the future success of the group by negotiating with the provincial authorities to authorize 12 of what today would be called PEMs at the MCH for the nascent division in 1995. Francois also had the foresight to allow as a fellow's project the deployment of an electronic clinic- administrative system (SIURGE) in the ER. This was a first for a dedicated pediatric emergency in Canada. Today SIURGE has accumulated data on over 1.6 million visits and is the backbone of any outcome query.

Despite the capacity to hire dedicated Pediatric Emergentologists, and the efforts of subsequent directors Drs Chalut and Eisman, staffing remained tenuous till the 2010's. Fortunately the Pediatric Emergentologists enjoyed the cooperation and support of a dedicated group of hospital and community pediatrician and pediatric surgeons to deliver care to over 80 000 patient annually. In 2013, the medical and surgical ERs, which probably existed for the better of 60 years, were reunited and a single ER staffed by the over 20 core pediatric emergentologists was put into operation. This was a pivotal step in our preparation for our move to the Glen in 2015 and a remarkable 21st century physical space for our ER..

As we look forward to 2020, the challenge has shifted from who is staffing the "Night Clinic" to delivering on our comprehensive mission of providing and promoting pediatric emergency

services to those in need, fostering clinical innovation, delivering on our educational mandates and engaging in research. **Laurel, Dominic, Laurie, Elene, Dubravka, Anne-Marie, Ilana G, Suzanne, Phil, Jessica, Eva, Sasha, Ilana B, Adam, Caroline, Raphael, Danny, Jennifer, Samir, Tammy, Audrey, Jade and Brett's** combined skill, wisdom and leadership are making this happen.

Harley

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