It has been just over 3 months since I started as Chair, and it can only be described as a whirlwind. In some ways it feels like a year has already passed, and in others it feels like only a few weeks. The late summer and fall saw unprecedented challenges for pediatric healthcare in Quebec, with a double cohort of infants with RSV filling our ED, wards, and PICUs. Severe shortages of nurses and RTs have challenged many areas of the hospital, especially our NICU, PICU and ORs. Critical staffing shortages in several divisions required reorganization and reprioritization. For a good month, it seemed there was a fresh crisis every day. If given the choice, I would not have chosen to start this way. However... what a great way to learn! Not only did these numerous challenges highlight the areas needing most attention, but they reminded me of all the amazing people who step up to get things done when needed. In particular, I would like to thank Robert Barnes, for his patience with me and his relentless positivity. I have never met a harder-working individual.

Between September and early November, I met with every division director individually, and with numerous individual faculty members. I have had the pleasure of learning about the projects and aspirations of some very inspiring people. The Associate Chairs have been doing a wonderful job learning their new roles and moving new ideas forward. Our newest group of pediatric residents have also been working very hard to find their place at the MCH and to adapt to CBME. Our more senior pediatric residents have also been working hard, to welcome the new R1s and to support them in their learning, while continuing to expand their own knowledge and skills. As the Program Directors can attest, this group of residents will teach us all about life-long learning.
No doubt 2022 will bring many new challenges. However, there is also much to look forward to. The implementation of the new régles de gestion des PEMs is allowing for a LOT of new hiring. The injection of new faculty, with new ideas, will help our department to evolve in exciting new ways. The integration of more nurse practitioners will also help strengthen the lucky divisions that will welcome them, and change our way of practising. We will begin a strategic planning exercise that will help set the direction of the department for the next 5 years. There is a lot to do and I’m excited to get at it. I am grateful that we have such a committed and hard-working faculty who are ready to tackle the next set of challenges -- known and as yet unknown.

I would like to thank all the people who support my office: Evangelia Ozek who manages all the details to keep things going, as well as Anna Maria Henderson, Marlene Davis, Sally Crawford, and the whole group in AEC-9 at McGill. I would be lost without them all. Of course, there are many others in UGME, PGME, and various areas of hospital administration who also deserve thanks; I cannot list them all.

I hope you all take some time to rest and recharge over the holidays. Facing a holiday season under the shadow of Omicron was not what we had in mind. But thanks to vaccinations, and a good dose of caution, this holiday season will hopefully be a time of peace and rest. Best wishes to all for a happy and, especially healthy, 2022.

Beth

Paeds Reads is our weekly e-newsletter that launched on September 6, 2019. [weblink: https://www.mcgill.ca/peds/about/newsletter] Part of our Strategic Departmental Communications Plan initiatives, this e-newsletter is a virtual collected curated space for Departmental information, engagement and networking in support of all aspects of our academic mission; clinical service, education, research, innovation, advocacy and personal development.

Please submit your content to: pedscoms.med@mcgill.ca Admissible content includes news, rounds, events in your service/Division that you would like to share with the members of the Department of Pediatrics.

Virtual Suggestion Box
Submit your constructive suggestions to our Department through our Virtual Suggestion Box at this link: http://freesuggestionbox.com/pub/yxweobj
Suggestions can include our organization and activities, any academic area in relation to our Strategic Plan and are entirely anonymous, unless an individual chooses to sign personally. Submissions will be forwarded to the Chair/Chief of Department, (Dr. Foster) for consideration.
You can find a tab linking to the Suggestion Box on our Deparmental website: https://www.mcgill.ca/peds/about
**STAFF UPDATES**

The following individual was appointed as FT-Faculty Lecturer:
> **Virginie Clavel**, Neonatology (SMH) (July 2021)

The following individuals were appointed as PT-Faculty Lecturer:
> **Valérie Lenaud**, Division (Hôp.Gatineau) (January 2021)

The following individuals were appointed as Assistant Professor:
> **Dr. Jessica Monteiro**, General Pediatrics (Sept. 2021)
> **Dr. Marta Perez-Morgui**, General Pediatrics (Nov. 2021)

The following individuals were appointed as Honorary H-KAP Fellows:
> **Daniel Faucher**, Neonatology (October 2021)
> **Emmett Francoeur**, General Pediatrics (January 2022)
> **Denis Leduc**, General Pediatrics (February 2022)

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**AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!**

- **Dr. Margaret Berry** received the National Bank Medical Award of Excellence from the Montreal Children’s Foundation.
- **The MCH Complex Care Service Team** received the Teamwork Award of Excellence from the Montreal Children’s Hospital Foundation.
- **Dr. Indra Gupta** received the Pfizer Research Award of Excellence from the Montreal Children’s Hospital Foundation.
- **Dr. Bruce Mazer** received the inaugural Donald Stark Award for Excellence in Leadership by the Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation and the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.
- **Dr. Earl Rubin** received the Mark Wainberg Legacy award by the Federation CJA (Combined Jewish Appeal).
- **Dr. Samir Shaheen-Hussein** was awarded BOTH the Concordia University First Book Prize AND the Mavis Gallant Prize for Non-Fiction at the 23rd annual Quebec Writers’ Federation Literary Awards gala on Nov. 24, 2021.
- **Dr. Mitch Shiller** received the Mark Wainberg Legacy award by the Federation CJA (Combined Jewish Appeal).

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**RESEARCH FUNDING**

Dr. Meranda Nakhla and Dr. Julia von Oettingen received a Team grant from the CIHR for their project entitled “Building CAPACITY for pediatric diabetes research and quality improvement across Canada”. ($2,000,000)

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**CLINICAL INNOVATION to note**

- **MCH PICU Glass Door Project**, Dr. Samara Zavalkoff (Pediatric Critical Care)
Recruitment Update

The Department has the following recruitment opportunities currently (i.e. open non-jumelaged PEMs).

- Critical Care 2
- Emergency Medicine 2
- Gastroenterology 1
- Hematology-Oncology (neuro-oncology) 1
- Microbiology 1
- Neurology (neonatal neurology) 1
- Nephrology (2)
- Respirology (2)

The recent implementation of the new PEM rules will allow for the following PEM openings in the next year, contingent on MSSS approval:

- Cardiology 1
- General Pediatrics 2
- Rheumatology 1

Department of Pediatrics CPD has a fresh new look, with the same commitment to maintain and advance health professionals’ competencies by providing educational activities and resources.

Learn more about Events including Conferences, Grand Rounds, Other Rounds; and visit our new Physician Resources toolbox.

Add your conferences and events today by contacting peds.cpd@muhc.mcgill.ca

Visit the CPD website: https://www.thechildren.com/health-professionals/continuing-professional-development
What a year 2021 has been for our pediatric residency program and for all of us! A year of pandemic, a year of transitions, and a year of coming together and supporting one another.

In June 2021, we started the transition process between the two of us and Dr. Rob Sternszus (as outgoing Pediatric Program Director). A huge thank you to Rob for his tenure as Pediatric Residency Program Director and for his hard work, leadership, and exceptional commitment to the program and to the residents.

The first and very important activity of the academic year was welcoming and orienting our new group of PGY-1 residents to our McGill Pediatric Residency Program and to our Department! Academic half-days, bootcamps, and social events welcoming the resident were once again done virtually. Though not the same as our usual in-person events, we still managed to get to know the residents and orient some of the out-of-town residents to our MCH Family, to Montreal and in particular that summer, to the Montreal Canadiens Stanley Cup Playoffs! 😊

A major program achievement this year was the successful launch of Competency by Design (CBD) for our PGY-1 General Pediatrics trainees. A great deal of preparation had already been done in the last 5 years with the creation of the CBD steering committee, countless faculty and residency development sessions within our Department of Pediatrics, CBD advertising campaigns, and the pre-launch and implementation of workplace-based observations, assessments, feedback and documentation. These activities aimed to help familiarize faculty and residents with the Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs), the new program of assessment and the new features of the one45 EPA/CBD system. This preparation and commitment from faculty, residents and our program helped to implement our successful launch.

I would like to highlight the leadership of Dr. Elisa Ruano (Assistant PD and CBME lead and Chair of the CBD steering committee), Dr. Rob Sternszus (PD and interim chair of the CBD steering committee last year), the CBD steering committee, and our administrative staff (in particular Ms. Alessandra Tedeschi)) for their hard work leading up to the CBD launch for our General Pediatric Residency program. In particular, I would like to recognize Dr. Ruano, who has impressively led the CBD-related assessment dossiers of our program and helped guide our Department through CBD launch via countless faculty development activities, the creation of the Department CBD website housing relevant information and resources, as well as the implementation of innovative strategies to ensure the effective launch and evaluation of competencies for our residents.

As the PGY-1 cohort was the first CBD cohort, Dr. Ruano has taken the PGY-1 cohort under her wings, to effectively guide them through their EPAs and CBD implementation as well as to support them through their first year in our program. Thus far, hundreds of direct observations, assessment and feedback have been completed for our trainees! CBD, with the direct observations within the workplace, has fostered a dialogue between staff and trainees as well as between senior and junior trainees! The quality of the documented feedback is very impressive and has allowed our Competence Committee to best monitor trainees’ progress over time. We are thankful for our Competence Committee (chaired by Dr Richard Gosselin) and Ms. Alessandra Tedeschi (our administrative program coordinator in charge of CBD). We are also appreciative of all the faculty and senior residents for their support and contributions as coaches, and congratulate the PGY-1 residents who have been proactive in seeking direct observations and open to feedback and improvement!
Outside of the integration of CBD in our program and curriculum, we have been very active this year in implementing a few novel activities in our program as well as addressing items from our strategic priorities, in spite of added challenges brought forth by the pandemic. Overall, we are impressed that so many residents have taken on leadership roles this year within our program. A few highlights and successes include:

- Showcasing our program at the inaugural McGill Online Summer Program for International Medical Students – special thanks to Dr. Bashayer Alnuaimi and Dr. Adnan Al Ali for their participation and for their wonderful video highlighting our pediatrics program;
- Enhancing our residency selection process for visa-sponsored trainees (thank you to Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Ghamdi and Dr. Bashayer Alnuaimi for their contributions);
- Enhancing our academic half-day curriculum, with simulation training and promotion of interactive teaching (thank you to Dr. Jill Ranger and Dr. Joey Mancini and faculty Dr. Michelle Ryan for the simulation training; to Dr. Melanie Babinski for overseeing the research curriculum; to Dr. Wijdan Basfar for her leadership in organizing the PGY4 Academic Half-Day Curriculum;
- Enhancing each year’s bootcamps organized by and for the residents (special thanks to Drs Annie Chabot, Melanie Babinski, Mariam Naguib, Ariel Chuckowicz and Lara Berliner), and the addition of a PGY4 Bootcamp aligning with Transition to Practice CBME stage (thanks to Dr. David D’Arienzo and faculty Dr. Mylene Dandavino). And special thanks to Dr. Ruano for overseeing the Academic Half-Day curriculum and the Bootcamps, supporting the resident leads in these important curricular activities.

This year we also expanded our community pediatric residency continuity clinic, integrated a longitudinal mindfulness and compassion curriculum, and are developing and implementing a quality improvement and patient safety curriculum. A future program innovation in the planning stage is the enhancement of our career counseling program to focus on CV preparation and mock interviews (for subspecialty residency positions and new faculty positions), as well as early career advising, counseling and planning. Our Program Leads for the various educational dossiers also make important contributions to our program – a big thanks to all of you!

We are also grateful to our faculty and resident members of all of our committees, including the Residency Program Committee (RPC), the Selection Committee (chaired by Dr Najma Ahmed), the Rotation Coordinators Committee, and the CBD Steering Committee (chaired by Dr. Elisa Ruano). We also wish to acknowledge the amazing administrative team that are a pillar to our Program functioning. In particular, a special thank you to Alessandra Tedeschi and Gabriella Rosarini who have shown incredible commitment and have gone above and beyond to ensure our many program activities run smoothly. Elisa and I would like to extend huge thanks to all of our Faculty Members and the Leaders in our Department of Pediatrics – you are a major support in many of the educational activities described above. You also help us make our program a success by supporting our residents clinically, through scholarly activity/research supervision as well as through mentorship (both formally through our resident mentorship program as well as informally!). The H-KAP fellows have also been incredible educators and mentors to our trainees – thanks to you all!

A very special recognition to our Chief Residents Dr. Lara Berliner and Dr. Florence Gagne for their hard work, incredible contributions to our program, their advocacy for the residents and the training program and for being outstanding leaders and peer supports! Elisa and I appreciate your collaboration and teamwork in helping us manage the day-to-day program issues as well as implement program innovations. We also would like to thank our Site Chief Dr. Jill Ranger and our ARM representative Dr. Kim Wong for their advocacy for our residents, as well as our Social Committee for their efforts in helping the well-being of our resident group! Last but not least, thank you to all the residents for making of our Program a family, where we all look after and support each other. Thank you for your patience and resilience in face of challenges, thank you for your positive energy and commitment to the program and to patient care, and thank you for your valuable contributions to our many Program activities. We are proud of who you are, individually and as a group, and as a famous song says (of course, I always need to include a song reference 😊), "We are family!"

On behalf of our General Pediatrics Residency Program, Elisa and I would like to wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy and safe holiday period and all the very best for 2022!

Evelyn
DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS FUNDED TRAINEES – 2022 – 2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

Montreal Children’s Hospital Foundation

Clinical Bursary Awards in Pediatrics: Edith Apondi Ogalo, Adolescent Medicine, 2020 Recipient
Jousha Feder, Pediatric Critical Care, 2020 Recipient
Madhan Kumar, Respiratory Medicine, 2021 Recipient
Catherine Sanon, Gastroenterology and Nutrition, 2021 Recipient

Alan Ross Academic Bursary Award: Tilmann Schober, Infectious Diseases

Neonatology Bursaries:
- Mohammed Dokla, Neonatology
- Beatriz Milioni, Neonatology
- Nasir Mohammed, Neonatology
- Sariya Sahussarungsi, Neonatology

Gottesman Bursaries:
- Ellery Cunan, Pediatric Critical Care
- Victoria Souza Dias, Pediatric Critical Care

Shevell Scholars – Boursiers Shevell (Medical Service Staff Association Pediatric Trainee Contribution Fund)
- Larra Alameddine, Critical Care
- Kteiy Aitenor, Nephrology
- Alon Coret, Adolescent Medicine
- Tracey Dyer, Endocrinology and Metabolism
- Aratchi (Mercy) Funso-Adebayo, General Pediatrics (Social Pediatrics)
- Carline Heiniger, General Pediatrics (Social Pediatrics)
- Ghassan Maalouf, Neonatology
- Lydia Mapala, Respiratory Medicine
- Carolina Michel Macias, Neonatology
- Victor Molina, Cardiology
- Alana Slomovic, Hematology-Oncology
- Yulia Vaisbourd, Nephrology
**Pediatric Ward Weekly Interprofessional Simulations**

We have been running simulations on the pediatric ward for the past few years and have now introduced a revised curriculum in September 2021 with weekly interprofessional simulations involving nurses, MD/residents/students, and pharmacists. We aim to improve interprofessional collaboration, enhance team communication and practice resuscitation skills. Our simulation scenarios are created based on real cases seen on the ward and using data from incident-accident reports, with the objective to improve our ward culture and day-to-day clinical practice. In the last 2 months alone, over 40 healthcare professionals have participated in the weekly simulations.

Based on our survey results, 94% of participants feel more comfortable caring for children who have an urgent medical issue after the simulation, 44% to a slight extent and 50% to a moderate or great extent. 100% of participants report this training in the clinical setting is “very” or “extremely valuable”. These quotes capture how simulation helps improve participants’ practice:
- “Case could happen in real life, very realistic”
- “Learning in a stress-free environment will definitely help us learn how to manage complex cases and know how to deal with such stressful situations.”

In the next few months, we will be using in situ simulation and debriefing to continue building high performance teams, improve clinical systems and help implement clinical care protocols.

**The Ward Simulation Team**
Dr. Catherine Rich (MD), Vanessa Wresien (pediatric nurse practitioner), Dr. Nadine Korah (MD), Andrée-Anne Matte (nursing educator) and Dr. Laila Pinto Coehlo (pediatric fellow)

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**National Truth and Reconciliation Day - September 30**

We encouraged our department members and staff at the MCH to wear an orange shirt on Sept. 30 in recognition of the intergenerational trauma caused by residential schools to Indigenous peoples in Canada and to honour the thousands of people affected. A number of events to mark this important day were planned at McGill University (www.mcgill.ca/indigenous/national-day-truth-and-reconciliation). Orange T-shirts inscribed with “Every Child Matters” from McGill campus were purchased by the Department of Pediatrics (MCH), and given to our department members.
PEDIATRIC MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS

September 2021
15 22nd Annual Alan Ross Lecture. Neonatal follow-up into adulthood: The link between preterm birth and chronic health condition. Dr. Anne-Monique Nuyt (U de Montréal)
22 34th Annual Saul Usher Lecture. Fetal Cardiology: What it offers and where we are at in Québec. Dr. Frédéric Dallaire (U de Sherbrooke), Dr. Tiscar Cavallé-Garrido (McGill U)
29 Fighting for A Hand to Hold: Confronting Medical Colonialism against Indigenous Children in Canada. Dr. Samir Shaheen-Hussain (McGill U)

October 2021
06 Robert H. Usher Lectureship. Dr. Bob Usher: Lessons from a mentor. Dr. Anne Synnes (U of British Columbia)

November 2021
03 Gene therapies: A new era in the treatment of metabolic diseases? Dr. John Mitchell (McGill U)
10 2021 Belcourt Symposium. Hepatitis C in Children: from Nobel to Cure. Dr. Karen Murray (Case Western Reserve U)
17 Department of Pediatrics’ Townhall meeting
24 Competency by Design (CBD) Launch in General Pediatrics: Mitigating implementation challenges and capitalizing on opportunities. Dr. Elisa Ruano Cea (McGill U)

December 2021
01 Preston Robb Neuroscience Lecture: Neurological problems of musical Masters (with piano). Phillip L. Pearl (Harvard Medical School)
08 Fall Joint Clinical and Basic Science Seminar Series. Two in one: Novel treatments for an asthmatic Cystic Fibrosis patient. Dr. Larry Lands (McGill U)
15 The Power of Resilience. Dr. Mamta Gautam (U of Ottawa)
Executive Associate Chair Report

Laurel Chauvin-Kimoff, MDCM, FRCPC, FAAP
Executive Associate Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Associate Professor, McGill University, Director, Child Protection Program
Chair, Renewal Day Planning Committee
Pediatrician, Montreal Children’s Hospital MUHC Glen Site

My recent introduction to this role has presented opportunities to participate and better understand the operational aspects of our Department. In doing so, my appreciation of the numerous, varied and broad contributions of its members and our interdependency for success in our work, has expanded considerably.

While uncertainty remains regarding what COVID pandemic restrictions may remain in place this spring; Tanya Di Genova, Meranda Nakhla, David Zielinski, Evangelia Ozek and I are preparing a 2022 Department of Pediatrics Renewal Day to be held on the morning of May 12th. This event will be an opportunity to explore ‘Excellence’; to reflect, discuss and propose together how we define, promote, achieve and maintain excellence in an academic health care centre and as a Department. Whether live, hybrid or virtual in format, we are excited to have invited an amazing keynote speaker who will inspire and motivate us all. So please put May 12, 2022 in your calendar, plan to attend and please reply to our survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BJGD7SF

Your responses will directly inform the planned content of this event.

Associate Chair of Finance Report

Adrian Dancea, MD, MBA, FRCPC Associate Chair, Finance, Department of Pediatrics
Associate Professor, McGill University
Division Director, Cardiology & Pediatric Cardiologist, Montreal Children’s Hospital – MUHC Glen Site

The MSSA rests on a solid financial reserve with over $1.6 million and assets, mostly in short-term investments. This represents about one year of our operating budget, a standard for a non-profit organization, such as ours. Tiscar Cavalle-Garrido and Holly Agostino have joined Nadine Korah on the Budget Subcommittee. Adrian Dancea (Associate Chair of Finance) and Beth Foster (Chair) complete the membership. The group met at the beginning of November, reviewed in detail this year’s budget and proposed a first draft of the budget for the next financial year, starting April 1st, 2022. The main change is the intention to reactivate the Innovation Fund and the Research Pilot/Seed fund for the next academic year. The final draft of next year’s budget will be generated early in 2022 and will be presented at the Departmental Leadership meeting before being submitted for general approval by the membership in late February, early March.

Melissa Acciaoli has returned to the MSSA, as the administrative assistant, on a part time basis. Melissa knows well our organization, as she first occupied the position at its creation. We thank Sylvia Markhouser for her excellent services the last few years. Sylvia has ensured a smooth transition in this role and has offered to help on an as needed basis.
In my first contribution to the semi-annual newsletter, I want to start out by saying it is my privilege to be the new Associate Chair for Research and to help support our departmental members in their research activities. I want to thank my predecessor Patricia Fontela for establishing innovative and supportive research initiatives for our department. Once again despite the challenges of the pandemic, departmental members have achieved great success in their research activities in 2021 and have proved to be exceptional leaders in many research areas. Although not exhaustive below are some highlights of our members’ outstanding research achievements and contributions.

External Operating Grants: In this increasingly competitive funding environment securing external operating grant funding is a major success for researchers in advancing child health research. Members that were successful in obtaining external operating grants in 2021 include: Gabriel Altit (Fondation des étoiles), Moshe Ben-Shoshan (MI4), Claire Leblanc (FRQS), Esli Osmanliu (Fondation des étoiles), Janusz Rak, Kolja Eppert & Nada Jabado (Canadian Foundation for Innovation grant), Meranda Nakhla, Julia von Ottengen and Patricia Li (CIHR: 100 years of Insulin Team Grant) and Aparna Suvrathan (CIHR).

Salary awards: Receiving an external salary award is an important recognition of a scientist’s work by their peers and is also critical to providing scientists the protected time needed to maintain their research programs. This year’s recipients include Marie Brossard-Racine (Canada Research Chair Tier 2), Genevieve Bernard (Pediatric Neurology, FRQS Chercheur Boursier Clinicien Sr), Maryam Oskoui (Pediatric Neurology, FRQS Chercheur Boursier Clinicien Sr) and Pia Wintermark (Neonatology FRQS Chercheur Boursier Clinicien Sr).

Research Awards: Departmental members that received research awards in 2021 include: Pia Wintermark (William Dawson Scholar Award), Jacquetta Tasler (Distinguished James McGill Professor) and Nada Jabado (Robert L Noble Award-Canadian Cancer Society)

Looking forward: Our Department will continue to foster research and support research excellence within our department through several new and existing initiatives. First, the pilot study competition will restart in 2022. The objective of the competition is to support members in obtaining pilot data that can be used towards strengthening their applications for external grant funding. To promote and foster research collaborations between clinicians and researchers, the 2022 pilot competition will call for applications in which PI roles will be shared between a researcher and a clinician. Second, epidemiology and statistical consultations provided by Dr. Emmanouil Rampakakis will continue in 2022 for all residents and fellows to help progress their scholarly activities (4 hours/trainee/academic year are paid for by the department). Please email emmanouil.rampakakis@mail.mcgill.ca for further information. Third, we are planning ways to offer research mentorship to our early- and mid-stage researchers in the department. Please stay tuned for updates as we will be reaching out to members for their input.

Congratulations to all our members on their successful research activities and we look forward to further successes in the New Year.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!
Launch of Competency by Design

The educational mandate of the Department of Pediatrics involves many aspects including undergraduate and postgraduate education, continuing medical education, simulation, educational scholarship and much more. All of these are extremely important and we have incredible individuals working hard leading these programs and in the coming months will include various updates in Paediatric Reads highlighting them.

However, for this update on education, I would like to direct our focus to our General Pediatric Residency Program and Subspeciality Residency Programs and the successful launch of Competency by Design (CBD) that has been years in planning. The General Pediatrics Residency Program, along with our subspecialty residency programs and fellowships, is really the centre of our educational offerings and touches on all members of our clinical department. Faculty from across all divisions contribute to the teaching and the success of and none of us would be able to do what we do without the hard work of the Pediatric Residents and Subspeciality Residents and Fellows!

As such, I am very happy and proud to see the successful launch of CBD with the R1 cohort in the General Pediatrics residency program since July 1st, 2021. Together in the first 6 months we, the department faculty and residents, have completed over 400Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA’s)! These are our regular daily observations and feedback that are now being more formally documented. Thank you to all the faculty and residents involved!

Our program has already started to see the benefits from increased focus on regular direct observations. Through our Competence Committee chaired by Dr. Richard Gosselin, we have seen the effectiveness in both identifying strengths of individual learners and allowing them to grow these, as well as the ability for earlier identification of areas that need ongoing efforts and focus, ultimately helping trainees achieve success. It takes work, but we are seeing the value!

CBD has not been just about more trainee assessments, it brought with it a relook at learning experiences and teaching activities to what best suits the competencies of our current residents and future Pediatricians. More simulation training and newer educational approaches including focused “bootcamps” for each year of training are now being offered.

All of you: our faculty, fellows and residents and administrative assistants deserve a round of applause!

I would, however, like to send a specific thank you to several individuals on behalf of the department:

- Dr. Elisa Ruano who has led the CBD steering committee since its inception in 2017 preparing us for the launch through teaching us all and piloting different resident evaluations and teaching methods to see what would work best in our setting. We would not be here today with this level of success without this advance preparation.
- Dr. Rob Sternszus as previous Program Director, having the foresight to start preparations with Dr. Ruano back in 2016 and has been heavily involved with (and briefly chaired) the CBD steering committee since its inception.
- Dr. Evelyn Constantin as current Program Director and previous Assistant Dean of PGME and University Lead for CBME in her role of helping support programs with launching CBD at McGill. Her expertise and ongoing guidance and leadership is invaluable to this launch and ongoing successes.
- All of the current and past members of the Pediatric Residency Program Committee, the Pediatrics Competence Committee and the CBD Steering Committee for the many hours you have spent helping the program with CBD implementation and moving it forward.
- To all the administrative support received by our programs. From evaluations, to new teaching schedules, to organizing all the new assessments in a readable manner for Competency Committees, this process would not be possible without them.

We do have to acknowledge and understand that this is early, and as more residents officially enter CBD over the next few years and more of our subspecialty programs start CBD, the demand on faculty may increase. For many smaller Programs and Divisions this may appear to be daunting. This is where we have been fortunate as a Department to always come together to face these challenges and will continue to do so. Dr. Ruano, Dr. Constantin and other educational leaders are available to help any Divisions or groups move this forward. Some practical ways to look at adjusting in our own programs and Divisions, include starting to see this as actually an extension of our current day to day encounters with residents and learners (not every EPA has to be a full witnessed history and physical examination) and finding processes in your clinical practices that allow this to occur in real time, rather than later. See our CBD tips on the department website as well (https://www.mcgill.ca/peds/education-training/pgme/programs/generaldiatrics/residencyprogram/cbd/facdev).

Again I would like to congratulate everyone in our department and all our residents in a successful start to a new era in Postgraduate Residency Education and look forward to seeing our ongoing successes and how we rise through the challenges ahead. Keep an eye in Paeds Reads in next few months for updates on our other Educational offerings and scholarship!
Despite the challenges that 2021 brought, the department of Pediatrics of the Montreal Children’s Hospital (MCH) continues to provide high quality care to our patients and continue to build on our 4 pillars: partnerships, innovation, quality, and resources.

**Partnerships.**
- During the pandemic, our pediatricians stepped up and worked alongside our adult colleagues at the Royal Victoria Hospital. To help with the overwhelming adult COVID volumes, our pediatric intensivists cared for 13 critically ill adult patients ranging from 27 to 75 years of age and our general pediatricians cared for 9 adult patients. This collaboration was reciprocated when our PICU was overwhelmed with RSV and the adult intensivist cared for 2 of our pediatric acutely ill patients. The COVID pandemic allowed us to foster these partnerships and helped strengthen MUHC relationships.
- In addition to our adult colleagues, we continue to build partnerships with our new pediatric nurse practitioners. Since 2019, we currently have a total of 8 working alongside our pediatric clinical teams; PICU, hematology/oncology, respirology, cardiology, complex care and medical ward. They bring a specific expertise to our practice and have a significant impact on the care we deliver to our patients.

**Innovation.**
Despite the pandemic, we continue to innovate. Since 2016, the MSSA has funded a total of 20 Innovation Projects. We have funded projects that cover a range of topics such as patient flow, use of antibiotics in critically ill children with bronchiolitis and application to educate on congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) to name a few. These projects have had significant impact such as improving access for our patients, decreasing unnecessary use of antimicrobials and standardizing care of patients with CDH. Our yearly MSSA Innovation Competition is coming soon – more details to follow.

**Quality.**
The department of pediatrics alongside, the Montreal Children’s Hospital executive has prioritized developing an organizational approach to safety and elimination of preventable harm. As a result, a governing structure for safety has been created with a Medical Director of Patient Safety (Dr. Samara Zavalkoff), a Safety co-lead (Alexandra Black) and an interdisciplinary Patient Safety Committee. The purpose of this committee is to oversee the quality and safety of care provided at the MCH. The committee works to identify and resolve patient and staff safety issues. More specifically, it reviews all serious safety events and ensures the implementation of recommendations, develops a safety culture and safety education, identifies safety objectives, key metrics, and action plans, and escalates unresolved or recurring safety issues.

For the upcoming year, the safety committee will:
1. Conduct a look-back exercise: review safety data and meet key stakeholders to create an organizational safety portrait that will inform future safety objectives
2. PEWS: Implement a Pediatric Early Warning Score and bundle to objectively identify patients at risk of deteriorating and escalate to appropriate resources in a timely fashion
3. DIVA: Establish a hospital wide process to identify and secure IV access for all patients in need
4. Education: Develop a safety curriculum and educational activities

**Solutions for Patient Safety:** Joining the North American pediatric safety collaborative in 2023

The Safety Committee looks forward to working with the entire MCH community to improve patient safety and safety culture.

**Resource.**
One of our upcoming priorities is to evaluate resources, our needs and identify contingency plans moving forward. The pandemic did highlight that we are only human, we do get sick and our divisions do have personnel shortages. We will ensure clear communication to the Department and the key stakeholders of the MCH when it does happen.

I am looking forward to my new role as Associate Chair of Clinical Mission. Please feel free to reach out.
Congratulations

to the delighted parents

Dr. Jessica Duby & Dr. Stanley Robert Hum welcomed son Benjamin on June 29, 2021.
Dr. Helena Evangeliou welcomed son Thomas on August 15, 2021.
Dr. Marie Astrid Lefebvre welcomed son William on November 29, 2021.
Dr. Julie Nadeau-Lessard welcomed daughter Marguerite on July 31, 2021.
Dr. Jessica Monteiro welcomed daughter Charlotte on September 9, 2021.
Dr. Surabhi Rawal welcomed daughter Leila-Kiran on December 8, 2021.

CONDOLENCES

Dr. Louis Beaumier
Please find below words from Richard Gosselin, head of the Division of Neonatology (MCH), which was the home to Louis Beaumier for so many years, that express what we all feel about his loss.
“Le choc est encore très vif et il est difficile de choisir les mots les plus appropriés pour exprimer la peine, profonde, de perdre un ami et un collègue comme Louis. Le temps viendra pour lui rendre tous les hommages qu’il mérite. Les informations devraient venir sous peu pour la suite des choses. Pour l’instant, à travers les larmes, pensons à cet être exceptionnel qui a touché nos vies, qui nous a apporté tant de lumière. Où que tu sois, reçois Louis tout l’amour que tes amis et collègues ressentent envers toi, qui étais un véritable amant de la vie.”

Our condolences also go out to:
- Dr. Lorraine Bell on the loss of her mother at the age of 100 on August 31, 2021.
- Dr. Stephen Liben on the loss of his sister Tracey on October 5, 2021.
- Dr. Terry Sigman and her family on the loss of her mother-in-law, Libby Zlotkin in October 2021.
- Dr. Saleem Razack and his family on the loss of his mother-in-law Bertha Strulovitch at the age of 95 years, on October 25, 2021.