Tripartite mission statement

The mission of McGill’s Department of Surgery is to provide high quality, patient-centered specialized surgical care, train the next generation of surgeons and surgeon-scientists and lead in the development of new knowledge and innovations for the benefit of our communities.
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The foundation of the McGill Department of Surgery is our academic mission. We have a proud history of excellence in patient care, education and research which we can trace back to the earliest days of McGill University’s teaching hospitals 200 years ago. Throughout this time, we have evolved and grown into a truly international Department, and we can be proud of our many contributions. But our most important resource remains our people. This is certainly very clear as we reflect on 2020, a pandemic year marked by uncertainty and unpredictability but also by incredible resilience, collaboration, creativity and leadership.

One of my main priorities as I assumed the Chair position in January 2020 was career development, mentorship and cultivating a sense of community. In a profession with increasing clinical and research subspecialization, one of the main purposes of the Department of Surgery is to provide the resources, guidance, support and opportunities for development that enable all of us—students, residents and faculty—to continue to grow throughout the trajectory of our careers. While the pandemic impacted every aspect of our personal and professional lives, it also created opportunities to redesign patient care processes, initiate new research collaborations and develop virtual education resources. We introduced the Early Career Investigator Mentorship Program to provide support for junior and mid-level faculty in applying for career development awards and grants. We revamped Department of Surgery Grand Rounds and saw many benefits to the virtual format with increased participation, even allowing alumni to attend, suggesting that this should remain an option as we move past the pandemic. We had the first meeting of the McGill Women in Surgery group to provide networking, support and mentorship to address opportunities for leadership and academic promotion. Our Experimental Surgery Graduate Program continues to grow with the launch of the Digital Health Innovation Concentration which will ground students in the basics of biostatistics, medical AI, clinical innovation and applied data science.

The pandemic re-emphasized the importance of transparency and communication which we will continue to optimize. We began the work to improve our website and are proud to introduce this new annual report format to communicate and celebrate our accomplishments to the wider community that we serve. The year 2020 was like no other but this report details some of the ways we have continued to develop and grow despite the challenges. This is a reflection of the strengths of our Department and all its members. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did. Thank you!

Liane S Feldman
MDCM FACS FRCS

Edward W. Archibald Professor and Chair,
Department of Surgery, McGill University

Surgeon-in-chief,
McGill University Health Centre

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Department of Surgery, McGill University

Surgeon-in-chief,
McGill University Health Centre
1824 Founding of the first Montreal General Hospital with 24 beds

1874 Successful use of chloroform anesthesia reported by Dr. Andrew Fernando Holmes

1894 Royal Victoria Hospital opens

1821 Founding of McGill University

1829 Montreal Medical Institution incorporated into McGill College to become Canada’s first university medical faculty

1877 Dr. Thomas Roddick introduced and promoted antiseptic surgery after training with Lister. Mortality rate from infection after amputation dropped from 80% to 4%.

1819 Opening of the first Montreal General Hospital

1915 Opening of the Number 3 Canadian General Hospital in Darnes-Camiers France, established by Col HS Birkett, a former surgeon and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. Staffed by McGill physicians, surgeons, nurses and medical students, by the end of the war, No. 3 CGH had admitted 81,689 medical patients and 52,389 wounded and had carried out 31,395 operations

1923 Dr. Edward Archibald appointed its chairman of the McGill Department of Surgery and established surgical research centre. Was President of the American Surgical Association in 1935

1928 Dr. Norman Bethune develops surgical techniques to treat tuberculosis at RVH.

1924 St. Mary’s Hospital founded

1934 Jewish General Hospital opens

1946 Dr. Arthur Vineberg develops procedure implanting the left mammary artery into the left ventricle, the forerunner of coronary artery bypass grafting

1958 First successful kidney transplant in commonwealth (between identical twins) performed at RVH by Dr. Joe Luke (vascular surgeon) and Dr. Karl MacKinnon (Chief of urology)

1971 Dr. Noelle Grace first woman graduate from general surgery program at the MGH. Becomes Canada’s first female Pediatric Surgeon

1990 First laparoscopic cholecystectomy usherers in the era of minimally invasive surgery

1997 Founding of the MUHC through merger of the MGH, RVH, MCI, MCH, MNH

2015 Opening of the Glen site with the move of the RVH, MCH and MCI

2020 Dr. Liane Feldman appointed Chair, Department of Surgery, McGill University and Surgeon-in-Chief, MUHC. Dr. Feldman is the first woman in this position at the MUHC and McGill
UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Simon Bergman, MD
Program Director
Undergraduate Surgical Education & Surgery Clerkship

Sebastian Demyttenaere, MD
Program Director
Transition to Clinical Practice (TCP) Surgery Course

RESIDENCY

Emmanuel Moss, MD
Program Director
Cardiac Surgery

Sender Liberman, MD
Program Director
General Surgery

Thierry Benaroch, MD
Program Director
Orthopaedic Surgery

Stephanie Thibaudeau, MD
Program Director
Plastic Surgery

Gabriela Ghitulescu, MD
Program Director
Surgical Foundations

Mohamed El Sherbiny, MD
Program Director
Urology

Jason Patrick Bayne, MD
Program Director
Vascular Surgery
McGill
Department of Surgery by the numbers

Academic Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Appointment</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical appointments:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract Academic Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tenure Track</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research appointments:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract Academic Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tenure Track</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honorary/Emerita/Emeritus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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Residents and Fellows
Academic year 2019–2020

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Residents</th>
<th>Fellows</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac Surgery</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorectal Surgery</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Surgery</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopaedic Surgery</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Surgery</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vascular Surgery</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>156</strong></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
<td><strong>200</strong></td>
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Graduating Residents and Fellows
Graduating Residents academic year 2019–2020

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Residents</th>
<th>Fellows</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac Surgery</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colorectal Surgery</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Surgery</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopaedic Surgery</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vascular Surgery</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>45</strong></td>
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24% women faculty
34% women residents and fellows

Women faculty
Experimental Surgery Program by the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Non clinical Students</th>
<th>Residents and Fellows</th>
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<tr>
<td>MSc</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>51</td>
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<td>59</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>221</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>MSc Program Concentration</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Residents and Fellows</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Core</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Surgery</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Education</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Innovation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>162</td>
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Publications*

Faculty Publications

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<th>Type of Publication</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article</td>
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<tr>
<td>Editorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Note</td>
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<td>Review</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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*source SciVal (June 16, 2021)
Number of Publications from Residents and Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Publication</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Paper</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>135</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*source SciVal (March 15, 2021)

Research Funding*

*Financial year 2019–2020

$17,741,810 in Research funding
Change in Division Directors

We had also new leadership within the Department as Dr. Paola Fata has been appointed the new Division Director of General Surgery. Dr. Fata is an Associate Professor of Surgery at McGill University whose clinical practice focuses on Trauma and Acute Care general surgery. She also currently serves as President of the Canadian Association of General Surgeons.

Academic tracks in Surgery

We have designed and implemented different academic tracks within the Department of Surgery that will be relevant and included in the letter of offer for new recruits within the faculty. Suggested frameworks for the stream description and time distributions (clinical work, teaching, research, and administration) are flexible and presented as a guideline range within which specific percentages can be designated depending on the envisioned role and expectations of the recruited faculty member. The different streams include the surgeon-teacher, surgeon-educator, surgeon-investigator, surgeon-scientist, and surgeon-administrator.

Promotion to Associate Professor

Maurice Anidjar, MD
Division of Urology

Lysanne Campeau, MD, PhD
Division of Urology

Dan Deckelbaum, MD
Division of General Surgery

Sebastian Demyttenaere, MD
Division of General Surgery

Jonathan Spicer, MD, PhD
Division of Thoracic Surgery

Carol-Ann Vasilevsky, MD
Division of General Surgery

Michal & Renata Hornstein Career Award for Surgical Excellence at MUHC

Dr. Ed Harvey has completed his full term as the inaugural holder of Michal & Renata Hornstein Career Award for Surgical Excellence. Under his leadership, the musculoskeletal axis of the MUHC Research Institute was transformed into the Injury Repair and Recovery program to integrate multiple surgical researchers and other investigators and develop a more comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach to trauma research.

A search committee was established to identify the next recipient. The committee was delighted to receive 8 outstanding submissions, each demonstrating the excellence of each applicant’s research program and highlighting the impressive quality, depth and breadth of research in our Department. Each application was considered in light of the unique terms of the award including the likelihood to enhance the career of the applicant but also the potential to contribute lasting impact on the McGill Department of Surgery.

The Department of Surgery selected Dr. George Zogopoulos to receive the Michal & Renata Hornstein Career Award for Surgical Excellence.

Dr. Zogopoulos is a hepatobiliary surgeon and clinician-scientist whose translational research program in pancreatic cancer genetics focuses on early detection and precision oncology. The award will be used to expand his research program, strengthen collaborations within the Department in precision surgical oncology, create capacity for point-of-care research interventions, support clinical trials, and expand training opportunities.

Faculty Promotions

The departmental promotions committee meets twice per year (spring and fall). Members include: Drs. Wassim Kassouf (chair), Liane Feldman, Gerald Fried, Kevin Lachapelle, Anie Philips, Jake Barralet, Reggie Hamdy, and Greg Berry. I would like to congratulate the following faculty on their promotion in 2020:

Maurice Anidjar, MD
Division of Urology

Lysanne Campeau, MD, PhD
Division of Urology

Dan Deckelbaum, MD
Division of General Surgery

Sebastian Demyttenaere, MD
Division of General Surgery

Jonathan Spicer, MD, PhD
Division of Thoracic Surgery

Carol-Ann Vasilevsky, MD
Division of General Surgery

Faculty Promotions
Research

2020 Adaptation and Evolution

When non-COVID research was shut down on March 18 2020, most people thought this was a short-term extreme measure that would be over in a few weeks and once the R value was less than 1 we would be back to normal, little did we know. Because we are a research-intensive department, this was concerning as research was becoming an increasingly steep climb even before these times. All research groups around the world except COVID researchers were paralyzed as they struggled with maintaining momentum.

However the McGill Department of Surgery is not like all research groups and we barely skipped a beat before social distanced laboratory shift work beginning on May 25th enabled us to resume training and research, and to capitalize on new opportunities in infection control and PPE.

Research council and government schemes to offset financial losses and protect salaries were rolled out rapidly and this went a long way in reducing anxiety caused by an increasingly uncertain future.

In person meetings were necessarily cancelled causing the cancellation of the 31st Fraser Gurd Research Day and Resident Graduation, the first cancellation ever! This is an important event to mark achievements of Residents and Researchers and celebrate the completion of training and many divisions managed to convene virtually.

The Hakim Family Clinical Innovation Competition managed to scramble online chaired by Dr. Lachapelle, with guest welcome from Pierre Fitzgibbon, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, it saw good representation from the Department of Surgery and we are delighted that Gyroclear from General Surgery, a student team from the Surgical Innovation Graduate program won the Marika Roy Prize.

Under the leadership of Dr. Aine Philip, Graduate Program Director (GPD) 2013-2020, our graduate program transformed from being one of the oldest at McGill to also being one of the largest and modern in the Faculty of Medicine. Having established strong administrative leadership early in her directorship, she paved the way for remarkable expansion in spite of significant restriction in our numbers of surgical residents. We thank Dr. Philip for her service and wish her well in her full time return to solving fundamental gaps in our knowledge of wound repair and cancer.

The new Graduate Program Director Dr. Jackson Mwale faced a double challenge, picking up a new and complex role whilst the University struggled with completing the academic year, wellness issues of isolated learners following a total shut down by the University campus, and furthermore, several master programs to prepare for online delivery. I am pleased to report the Department was immune to the predicted loss of applicants and indeed grew for the 8th consecutive year and thanks to the comradery of administrative staff and professors who worked tirelessly over summer we were ready in September to provide online teaching for all of our fourteen courses.

With the Department of Medicine (Drs. Pilote and Tamblyn), Surgery managed, during the shutdown, to develop Canada’s first graduate program in Digital Health Innovation, combining expertise to create what is also the first joint Experimental Medicine/Surgery training program, this program should be open for students in 2021. Clearly the pandemic has accelerated patient, clinician, professor and student comfort with tele- and digital health tools to overcome distance and timing restrictions. Early adopters as ever, Surgery continues to lead the way in defining the future of research training in the 21st century.

The downtime was also a useful time to for catching up on manuscript submission and the Department had outstanding performance in terms of quantity and quality of publications.

5% of the entire research output of McGill University was generated by the Department last year and of these 6% were in journals with an impact factor > 10, representing the handful of top 0.6% of journals in the world including JAMA, Cell, the Nature journal family, Lancet, NEJM, BMJ and Science. This outstanding work was supported by over 17,741,810 M$ of competitive research funding won by our researchers dedicated to improved patient care and outcomes.


Graduate Program:
### List of FRQS supported scholars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Awarded in</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Labbé, PhD</td>
<td>Urology</td>
<td>FRQ-S JR 1</td>
<td>July 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elena Alice Dragomir, PhD</td>
<td>Urology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garzia Livia, PhD</td>
<td>Orthopaedic Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather Gill, MD, MSc.</td>
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<td>FRQ-S JR 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Lee, MD, PhD</td>
<td>General Surgery</td>
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<td>Lysanne Campeau, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Marylise Boutros, MD</td>
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<td>Swenke Bailey, PhD</td>
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<td>Wassim Kassouf, MD</td>
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<td>Carmen Mueller, MD, MEd</td>
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<td>Derek Rosenzweig, PhD</td>
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<td>George Zogopoulos, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Jonathan Spicer, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Julio Flavio Fiore, PhD</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>FRQ-S JR 2</td>
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<td>Stephanie Wong, MD, MPH</td>
<td>General Surgery</td>
<td>FRQ-S JR 1</td>
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Education

Surgical Education during the first wave of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Leadership, Innovation, and Solidarity

On March 16, 2020 the regular operating room activities of the Department were essentially shut down only to reopen slowly eight weeks later. The OR is the life blood of Surgery for Students, Residents, Fellows and Staff. It is the source of our learning and defines our professional identity. It cannot be replaced. But the lack of OR and the COVID crisis did provide a grudging opportunity to develop unique educational strategies (ZOOM!), to lead and to learn from our colleagues, and to become more cohesive as a Department. I would like to highlight four pillars which supported the educational mission of the Department during this crisis and which enabled positive educational change which I believe will be long-lasting.

The driver and one of the essential educational components which allowed the Department to maintain itself and focus on priorities has been the Surgical Mission Town Hall under the leadership of our Department Chair, Dr. Liane Feldman. These weekly sessions provided timely, accurate information while also providing a forum for questions and concerns. Delivered online, these sessions were able to reach an audience which would have left our usual venue—the Osler Amphitheatre—overflowing. No doubt staff were more available but suddenly all programs were able to attend Colorectal Rounds as well as Surgical Oncology teaching. This has never been done before. The increase in teaching activities has also helped create libraries of cases and shared resources. Program Directors have noted a better cohesion and collegiality among residents and staff. Dr. Meterissian suggests that “the program’s unity has never been better”.

Given the reduction in clinical activity, it has been no easy task to keep residents busy and ensure they progress with limited surgical cases. Alternating Teams were created to work in spurts of clinical activity followed by “REST” days dedicated to case preparation and ZOOM teaching. This division of labour also minimized unnecessary exposure of resident staff to potential COVID patients and keep a pool of residents available in case members did contract COVID. Although the number of surgical cases dropped, each individual case became a blessed opportunity for teaching and learning. Making the most out of every case should be our mantra during and after the COVID crisis.

The second pillar of the Department has been the Divisional Program Directors. Dr. Thierry Benaroch, Orthopaedics PD, summed up accurately three major challenges presented by COVID-19: “During this time we had to continue education for all residents, keep resident and staff morale, and most importantly keep our residents safe”. It is safe to say that COVID brought about an immediate and major change in the delivery of formal surgical education and the use of Zoom has gone viral. In fact, for many programs, the number of hours dedicated to teaching dramatically increased. No doubt staff were more available but suddenly all teaching activities became available. As Dr. Meterissian, interim PD for General Surgery, pointed out “residents have been able to attend Colorectal Rounds as well as Surgical Oncology teaching. This has never been done in the past and we may continue after”. The increase in teaching activities has also helped create libraries of cases and shared resources. Program Directors have noted a better cohesion and collegiality among residents and staff. Dr. Meterissian suggests that “the program’s unity has never been better”.

The third pillar of the Department have been the surgical residents. Despite the obvious significant impact on surgical exposure and hands-on training (even simulation was shut down), the residents have approached this crisis with leadership, a sense of duty and the highest standard of professionalism. From the beginning of the crisis residents, such as Marco Mascarella from ENT, were involved with the creation and implementation of unique training material on the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Residents from all programs participated in and led teaching rounds. Surgical residents were part of an important contingent of Residents from the entire Faculty who were redeployed during the Crisis. For 11 weeks, resident staff would provide coverage on the COVID wards and in the ICU ensuring 24-hour care and support. Some had three “Tours of Duty”. In all my discussions with residents and staff, not once did I hear a complaint or derogatory remark. The residents recognized the nature of the problem and responded with a sense of duty and work ethic. The work and care the residents provide is what allows the McGill teaching hospitals to be centres of excellence. We are lucky to have them.

The fourth pillar of the Department during the early parts of the crisis have been all those who have worked and stuck together. Dr. Jason Harley, Assistant Professor, Surgical Education providing community outreach for emotion regulation and anxiety. Sonia Nardini, Associate Director of AEC & providing the much-needed Zoom support and organization. Terry Ng Wan providing the technical support and cataloging all which we have done as a Department during the crisis. All the administrators, surgeons, and nurses who pulled as one and got things done which were thought to be once unimaginable. Now, all that is left is to get more OR Time!
Experimental Surgery Graduate Program

Experimental Surgery highlights:
Experimental Surgery’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic is testament to the adaptability, resilience, passion and commitment of our students, faculty, and staff. We smoothly transitioned from doing everything on campus to working remotely, including important milestones such as meetings and doctoral thesis defenses. Zoom classrooms, breakout rooms, and simulations helped us recreate an interactive and collaborative environment.

We continued to offer a PhD program and a master’s degree (MSc). At the master’s level, in addition to the core program, those who are interested have an opportunity to choose a concentration in Surgical Innovation, Surgical Education and Global Surgery. New in 2020 was the Medical Technology Internship and coming soon are Surgical Outcomes and Digital Health. In Surgical Innovation, we had 6 teams this year for a total of 36 students. These were multidisciplinary, interuniversity teams with 2 students from ÉTS, 6 from Concordia and 1 from Polytechnique, including 3 PhD students and 1 undergrad (the others were master’s students).

A Non-Thesis option offers a graduate-level training program in fundamentals of modern surgical research. The program is based primarily on academic course work and short projects. The Clinical Innovation activity also offers a 15 credit Certificate and 30 credit Diploma intended for candidates seeking focused training in innovation.

We currently have one indigenous student in our Department. Our goal is to support and increase the number of indigenous students in the department. We are committed to creating an environment in which the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion are integral to research and innovation.

The Early-Career Investigator Mentorship (eCIM) was launched in January 2021, which comprises a series of workshops for Junior 1 level faculty submitting to FRQS on preparation and application process providing support throughout the year leading to the Fall application deadline. The unique aspect of this program is the opportunity for early-career investigators to work with experienced researchers and maintain a relationship with a mentor until their application is funded. This is based on the successful Bone and Joint Initiative USA program.

We also launched the Experimental Surgery and Injury Repair Recovery Program (IRR) virtual seminar series with speakers such a Dr. Ahmed Aoude, Dr. Elizabeth Habermann, Dr. Carl-Eric Aubin, Dr. Robin Poole and Dr. James Latrìdis to mention just a few.

Experimental Surgery also found moments to celebrate some notable accomplishments, including REMOTE OPTICAL, GYNOSNS and VOPE as the winners of the Clinical Innovation classes and Dr. Robin Poole appointed to the Order of Canada.
# Education Awards 2019-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awards to Faculty</th>
<th>Awards to Residents and Fellows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harvey H. Sigman Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching</td>
<td>Ross Adair Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Albers, MD</td>
<td>Tyler Safran, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Stepherson, MD</td>
<td>Julien Montreuil, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saba Balvardi, MD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Teacher Award, Post-Graduate Education</td>
<td>The EDDY: Edmond D. Monaghan Principles of Surgery Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Grushka, MD</td>
<td>Araz Kouyoumdjian, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Hart, MD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent MacKenzie Award for Educational Leadership and Excellence in Surgery</td>
<td>Marco Mascarella, MD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clinical Divisions: The year 2020 in review

CARDIAC SURGERY

The Division of Cardiac Surgery conducts its clinical, teaching, and research activities over three McGill University hospitals: the Royal Victoria Hospital, the Montreal Children’s Hospital, and the Jewish General Hospital. The full spectrum of cardiac surgical procedures are performed on our sites, with dedicated teams and programs in Coronary Revascularization; Valvular and Structural Procedures; Advanced Heart Failure therapies including Heart Transplantation; Combined Heart-Multiorgan Transplantation; and Mechanical Cardiac Assist for Acute and Chronic heart failure; Aortic Surgery; Catheter-Based treatments; Surgery for Adult Congenital Heart Disease; Neonatal and Pediatric Heart Surgery; including Heart Transplantation and Mechanical Cardiac Support.
**Notable Publications**


4. Catherine Deshaies, Helen Trottier, Paul Khairy, Mohammed Al-Aklabi, Luc Beauchesne, Pierre-Luc Bernier, Santokh Dhillon, Sanjiv K Gandhi, Christoph Haller, Camille L Hancsok Friesen, Edward J Hickey, David Horne, Frédéric Jacques, Marla C Kiess, Jean Perron, Maria Rodriguez, Nancy C Poirier, Canadian Congenital Cardiac Collaborative (4C) (2020)

**Graduated Residents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Connell, MD</td>
<td>Master in Space Studies at the International Space University in Strasbourg, France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aly Ghoneim, MD</td>
<td>Cardiac Surgeon at the Hospital Fleurimont, Sherbrooke, QC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qasim Alabri, MD</td>
<td>Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery and Structural Fellowship at the Houston Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Division of General Surgery is recognized internationally for our advancements in surgery, education, research, and leadership. The largest surgical division at McGill, our areas of excellence include acute care, minimally invasive, hepatobiliary and pancreatic, endocrine, bariatric, trauma and colorectal surgery, as well as multivisceral transplantation and surgical oncology. Our Division is composed of over 50 Faculty treating complex surgical diseases across five McGill University hospitals: the Montreal General Hospital, the Royal Victoria Hospital, the Lachine Hospital, the Jewish General Hospital and St. Mary’s Hospital.

Despite challenges, most prominently those related to COVID-19 this year, General Surgery has excelled in its mission: to redefine surgery by humanizing the way we deliver innovative care for our patients, by offering an exceptional education with accessibility to leading surgeons, investigators, and techniques to foster our next generation of surgical leaders, and by continuing to push the boundaries of research, while cultivating a strong community spirit and respecting diversity.

The Division’s mindset has been to turn challenges into opportunities. Among them has been improving access for patients during the pandemic. We responded with upstream thinking such as creating subspecialty rapid-access clinics, enhancing communication across our network, and piloting ambulatory colectomy and patient apps. Our Faculty’s commitment to education has also fostered the development of new teaching strategies for our residents, these include disruptive thinking and visionary rounds, and increased the use of simulation as a response to changes imposed by the pandemic.

Several members of our Division leadership changed this year. Dr. Paola Fata was named Division Director for General Surgery. Dr. Sender Liberman was appointed Program Director in General Surgery. Dr. Marylise Boutros assumed program directorship of the Colorectal Residency Program, and Dr. Simon Bergman was appointed Assistant Dean of Accreditation for Undergraduate Medical Education, maintaining a strong surgical presence at the higher levels of leadership within McGill University’s Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

This past year alone, despite the challenges of COVID, our Faculty published over 132 articles in refereed journals, with significant publications in JAMA Surgery, Nature Genetics, Journal of Clinical Oncology, Clinical Cancer Research, New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet and British Journal of Surgery. Our Division Faculty received over 5 million dollars in research money including funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec (FRQS).

Our members continue to hold prominent leadership roles across Canada and around the world, including at the Canadian Association of General Surgeons, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Canadian Red Cross, the World Health Organization, and the American Colleges of Surgeons. Most notably, Dr. Tarek Razek is the current President of the Trauma Association of Canada, Dr. Gerald Fried is the Chair of the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgery. Dr. Sarkis Meterissian serves on the Royal College Council. Dr. Prosanto Chaudhury is the past President of Canadian Transplant Network, the current President of the Canadian Association of Hepatobiliary Surgery, and the 2020 recipient of the prestigious James IV Travelling Fellowship. Dr. Liane Feldman, our Surgeon-in-Chief, and member of our Division is the in-coming President of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) and our Division Director, Dr. Paola Fata, is now past President of the Canadian Association of General Surgeons (CAGS) and current President of the Canadian General Surgery Foundation.
Dr. Allison Pang has joined the JGH Division of Colorectal Surgery, having completed her General Surgery residency at the University of Toronto, followed by her residency in colorectal surgery at McGill University, which she concluded this past June.

With a Master of Science degree in biochemistry from the University of Toronto, Dr. Pang has expertise in open and minimally invasive surgery, including transanal endoscopic surgery and colonoscopy. She is recognized as an excellent teacher and will play a significant role in the hospital’s academic program in colorectal surgery.

Dr. Pang also plans to spearhead the launch of a prehabilitation program at the JGH for patients in colorectal and general surgery. Prehabilitation is a form of pre-surgical care that strengthens patients physically, nutritionally, medically and mentally. This improves their outcomes and can also serve as a foundation for a research program.

The JGH Division of General Surgery has welcomed Dr. Ipshita Prakash, a breast oncologist. Dr. Prakash graduated from the General Surgery residency program at McGill University, and went on to complete her fellowship in breast oncology at Duke University this past July.

She has also earned a Master of Science degree in health policy, planning and financing from the London School of Health and Tropical Medicine, and a degree in political science from the London School of Economics.

In her research, Dr. Prakash studies the impact of health-related social inequities on patients’ outcomes. She plans to continue to identify Quebec’s current inequities in diagnosing and delivering care for breast cancer, as well as providing solutions to address gaps in managing breast cancer.
Graduating Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alamri Hussam, MD</td>
<td>Minimally Invasive Bariatric Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almuhanna Yousef, MD</td>
<td>Minimally Invasive Bariatric Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yousif Alabboudi, MD</td>
<td>General Surgery Trauma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghader Jamjoum, MD</td>
<td>Hepato-Pancreatico-Biliary Surgery Advanced Minimally Invasive Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohsen Alhasshemi, MD</td>
<td>Minimally Invasive Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Pang, MD</td>
<td>Colorectal Surgery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduating General Surgery Residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faisal Al-Rashid, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in Colorectal Surgery at McGill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nawaf AlShahwan, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in ICU, Trauma at McGill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safiya Al-Masroui, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in Bariatric Surgery at McGill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdulaziz Al Numay, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in minimal invasive surgery at the University of Western in London, Ontario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juan Mata-Gutierrez, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in minimal invasive surgery at the University of British Columbia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notable Publications


ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

The year saw ongoing productivity in basic, translational, clinical and educational research. The Division garnered millions in peer-reviewed funding and research awards and produced 139 scientific publications. In 2020 we established a novel research program in conjunction with a pan-divisional clinical unit that will focus on musculoskeletal infection, which continue to be a bane for orthopaedic patients worldwide. The Orthopaedic Research Laboratory saw a transition to a new leadership team; after years of devotion, Dr. Thomas Steffen stepped down and was replaced by Dr. Ahmed Aoude (Director), Dr. Lisbet Haglund (Co-director, Basic Science), Dr. Mark Driscoll (Co-Director, Biomechanical Engineering), and Dr. Rolando Del Maestro (Co-Director, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning). In response to Covid-19, Telehealth became an integral part of the health care paradigm and a team composed of Ms. Amy Lorincz, Dr. Suzanne Morin, Dr. Tamara Mijovic, and Dr. Greg Berry were awarded a TD Bank Award ($350K) to explore patient care and education facets of this mode of care provision.
Leadership Team

- **Thierry Benaroch, MD**
  Program Director
  Orthopaedic Surgery

- **Greg Berry, MD**
  Division Director
  Orthopaedic Surgery

- **Ahmed Aoude, MD, MEng**
  Oncology and Spine Surgery

- **Jake Barralet, MD, PhD**
  Research Director
  Orthopaedic Surgery

- **John Antoniou, MD, PhD**
  Research Director
  Orthopaedic Surgery

- **Rahul Gawri, PhD**
  Scientist in Injury, Repair Recovery Program

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

New Recruitments

- **Ahmed Aoude, MD, MEng**
  Oncology and Spine Surgery
  After completing his residency training at McGill, Dr. Aoude furthered his expertise in clinical fellowships in Calgary (Spine) and Toronto (Oncology). He will combine these two areas to care for patients with complex sarcomas of the axial skeleton. He has also assumed the directorship of the Orthopaedic Research Laboratory where he will carry out research on implant development and intra-operative VR/AR imaging.

- **Rahul Gawri, PhD**
  Scientist in Injury, Repair Recovery Program
  Dr. Gawri returned to the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery following post-doctoral fellowships in Toronto and Philadelphia. He will collaborate with numerous surgeons and scientists to drive forward his expertise in the basic science of fracture repair.
Notable Publications


Graduating Residents

The Division was privileged to have 27 hard-working and dedicated residents in 2020. The five graduates went on to prestigious clinical and research fellowships across North America. We welcomed thirteen Clinical and Research Fellows from around the world, reflecting McGill Orthopaedic Surgery’s global reputation. The future of surgical training lies in large part with Surgical Simulation using Virtual and Augmented Reality platforms and the Division was an integral partner, with academic and industry collaborators, in the development of simulators for training residents in spine and trauma techniques.

Graduating Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abdullah Addar, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nizar Algarni, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youssef Marwan, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Schupbach, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena Tarchala, MD</td>
</tr>
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</table>
PLASTIC SURGERY

The McGill University Health Centre Division of Plastic Surgery strives to provide state-of-the-art surgical care to our patients, combined with cutting edge research and innovation that continues to keep McGill Plastic Surgery as a leader in the field. We have a diverse faculty and provide Plastic Surgery expertise in all of the subspecialty areas including breast and oncologic reconstruction, burn surgery, pediatric and craniofacial surgery, hand and microsurgery, maxillofacial surgery and facial trauma, general plastic surgery and aesthetic surgery. As a leader in surgical education, our residency training program attracts the finest trainees from across the country that participate in the complex, tertiary cases referred to our centre. Our division is proud to graduate three to four highly trained Plastic Surgeons per year along with one Craniofacial Surgery subspecialty fellow. Combined with a highly productive and dedicated full-time research team and infrastructure, McGill Plastic Surgery oversees numerous MSc and PhD students annually and continues to produce a high volume of peer-reviewed publications and book chapters. Taken as a whole, McGill Plastic Surgery embodies the true nature of a high-level academic surgery program, encompassing innovative patient care, surgical education and training of future plastic surgeons and pioneering research.

Leadership Team

Mirko Gilardino, MD
Division Director
Plastic Surgery

Stephanie Thibaudeau, MD
Program Director
Plastic Surgery

Anie Philip, PhD
Research Director
Plastic Surgery

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

The Division of Plastic Surgery has had a productive year from a research perspective with over 40 peer-reviewed publications and two book chapters. Dr. Anie Philip, our dedicated Plastic Surgery basic scientist and research director, was recently awarded a coveted 5-yr CIHR Project Grant in 2021 and successfully graduated Drs. Shufeng Zhou (PhD) and Yasser Almadani (MSc). Our Division has graduated an additional 4 MSc and 2 PhD’s in 2020 in various specialty areas of Plastic Surgery. Our division prides itself on being one of the most productive academic and research Plastic Surgery programs in North America.

New Recruitment

Joshua Vorstenbosch, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery, MUHC. Junior Scientist, MUHC-RI In his clinical practice, Dr. Vorstenbosch provides oncologic reconstructive care, primarily following breast cancer, and is launching a cutting-edge surgical lymphedema program. His basic science research studies biocompatibility and pathophysiology at the tissue-implant interface using breast implants as a model while his clinical research looks at surgical outcomes and quality improvement following breast reconstruction.
The Division of Thoracic and Upper Gastrointestinal Surgery is a busy clinical program based at the Montreal General Hospital which provides state-of-the-art patient care for a wide range of malignant and non-malignant lung, chest, esophageal and gastric diseases, and is a North American and international leader in many of these fields.

With its supra-regional mandate, the Division’s program provides comprehensive care to Lung, Esophagus and Stomach Cancer patients residing on the McGill RUIS (Réseau universitaire intégré de santé) territory and is home to the largest and most comprehensive esophageal and gastric cancer program in Canada.

This Division has been privileged to develop an internationally recognized expertise in Thoracic and Upper G.I. Surgery but is first and foremost an academic surgical unit, with half of the attending surgeons holding PhDs and all trainees involved in research with approximately 15-20 publications annually.

As an affiliate of the McGill University School of Medicine, the service functions as an active clinical teaching unit for residents, fellows and medical students, and is widely regarded for its robust clinical and basic science research productivity.

It is the only program in the province to receive the Minister of Health’s Level 4 designation for Lung Cancer, and as a result it offers the highest level of integrated patient care, research, and education in Quebec.

**NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS**


**GRADUATING RESIDENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fanyi Meng, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in Microvascular &amp; Oncologic Reconstruction at University of Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Viezel-Mathieu, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in Breast Reconstruction at University of Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antoine Lessard, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in Hand, Wrist &amp; peripheral Nerve Surgery at University of Calgary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becher Alhalabi, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in Hand Surgery at Birmingham Woman &amp; Children Hospital, England</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADUATING FELLOWS**

Fanan Mohammed Alhussainan, MD
We are delighted to announce that Dr. Sara Najmeh joined the staff of the Division of Thoracic and Upper GI Surgery at the McGill University Health Center in July 2020. Dr. Najmeh has both clinical and surgical duties based at the Montreal General Hospital and will be part of the Gatineau, Hull Hospital Thoracic clinic group.

Dr. Najmeh completed her residency in General Surgery as well as a successful Masters in Experimental Surgery here at McGill University. Dr. Najmeh completed a traditional Cardiothoracic Residency at Duke University under the guidance and mentorship of Thomas A. D’Amico MD, a leader in the field of lung and esophageal cancer. This research and clinical background are incredibly in sync with the work that we do here at the MUHC and she will indeed be an excellent addition to our surgical and cancer missions.

Dr. Najmeh’s particular focus is on treatment of lung cancer as well as complex resections of chest including those requiring extracorporeal oxygenation approaches.

Graduating Fellows

Yehonatan Nevo, MD (Israel - Spring 2020) completed the clinical component of this fellowship in August 2020 and began a year of research in the Thoracic Lab based out of the RI-MUHC. His research is focusing on modeling gastroesophageal adenocarcinoma chemoresistance in patient derived organoids.

Upon completion of his research year (this coming August 2021) Yoni will return home to work at the Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer, Israel as an Upper GI surgeon and member of staff in the department of General and Surgical Oncology Surgery “C” where he will be able to share with his colleagues his new expertise in managing and operating malignant and benign upper GI surgeries.

Feras Abu-Reida, MD completed his clinical fellowship with the Division on December 31st 2019 and is currently studying Clinical Research in an academic manner at Oxford College. He began his Advanced Oncological Thoracic Surgery and Lung Transplant Fellowship at the CHUM with Dr. Moishe Liberman in July 2020.

Important Grants

2019-2024
Co-Principal Investigator – Lead Investigator (Work Package 1): Lorenzo Ferri

“STrOmal ReprograMing (STORMing) Provides New Directions to Prevent and Revert Chronic Inflammation-Associated Cancers” Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Grand Challenge - £20,000,000

Researchers from the Division of Thoracic surgery are part of a multinational team led by the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), whose project was recently selected for funding through Cancer Research UK’s (CRUK) Grand Challenge competition—an international funding initiative that aims to address some of the biggest global challenges in cancer research. The multidisciplinary team will receive 20 million British pounds (nearly 34 million Canadian dollars) over four years to explore the links between chronic inflammation and cancer. The project aims to find novel ways of treating cancer caused by inflammation and to develop new options to prevent cancer from developing in high-risk patients with chronic inflammatory diseases.

The team, which includes scientists, clinicians and patient advocates from the United States, Canada, Israel and the United Kingdom, will focus its efforts on understanding how chronic inflammation drives some of the most aggressive forms of cancer.

2020-2023
Co-Investigator: Swnecke Bailey, Veena Sangwan, and Lorenzo Ferri

“Investigating the Molecular Determinants of Peritoneal Metastasis from Gastro-Esophageal Adenocarcinomas”

Canadian Institutes of Health Research Grant - $753,525

Directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic: 2020-2021
Principal Investigator: Jonathan Spicer

DISmantling COvid Induced Neutrophil ExtraCellular Traps (DISCONNECT-1)

CQDM – Consortium de Recherche Biopharmaceutique $117,871 (CAD)

Montreal General Hospital Foundation $218,000 (CAD)

Roche Canada Inc $250,000 (CAD)

2020-2020
Principal Investigator: Jonathan Spicer

“Evaluating Neutrophil Extracellular Traps as a therapeutic target in COVID-19 patients”

M4 Emergency COVID-19 Research Funding (ECRF) $100,000(CAD), 6 months
The Division of Urology had a very productive academic year with 98 publications and 9 book chapters. Our urologic research team is composed of clinician scientists supported by 7 full-time academic researchers who have once again secured many large operating grants. The team continues to be productive despite many restrictions brought about by the COVID-19 outbreaks. Two of our faculty were promoted this year. Dr. Maurice Anidjar and Dr. Lysanne Campeau were promoted to Associate Professor. Our Division continues to care, and be a referral center, for complex tertiary urological pathology in oncology, reconstructive urology and BPH, stone disease, functional urology, infertility and pediatrics. Our Division continues to be at the forefront of clinical and research innovation and promote interdisciplinary integrated care. Many of our members hold important leadership positions at the local, national and international level.

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS


Faculty Achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position/Association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serge Carrier, MD</td>
<td>President, Sexual Medicine Society of North America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armen Aprikian, MD</td>
<td>Vice President Canadian Urological Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wassim Kassouf, MD</td>
<td>Treasurer Canadian Urological Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Tanguay, MD</td>
<td>Past President Société Internationale d’Urologie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohamed El Sherbiny, MD</td>
<td>Won the Program Director of the Year Award</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduating Residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ahmad Almarzouq, MD</td>
<td>Fellowship in Urologic Sciences at University of British Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexis R.-Brodeur, MD</td>
<td>Clinical and Research Fellowship at the Urologic Oncology Branch at the National Cancer Institute - National Institutes of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fadl Hamouche, MD</td>
<td>Clinical and Research Fellowship in Endo-Urology at University of California San Francisco</td>
</tr>
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Graduating Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ali Alsulihem, MD</td>
<td>Neuro Urology, Bladder Dysfunction, Pelvic Reconstruction and Female Urology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gautier Marcq, MD</td>
<td>Urologic Oncology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visiting Professors of International Repute

October 22nd - Pr Mark Emberton, University College London, UK
November 18th - Tobia Kohler, MD, Mayo Clinic, USA
December 11th - Kurt McCammon, MD, Eastern Virginia Medical School, USA

Department of Surgery ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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The McGill Division of Vascular Surgery is comprised of 10 vascular surgeons. Drs. Kent MacKenzie, Oren Steinmetz, Heather Gill and Marc-Michel Corriveau, all based at the MUHC Glen Site, provide Vascular Surgery services for all pavilions of the MUHC while Drs. Daniel Obrand, Jason Bayne and Elie Girsowicz practice primarily at the Jewish General Hospital. All 7 of these surgeons work in a collaborative manner across the two hospital systems and provide on-call consultancy service and back-up to both sites. Drs. Stephen Hanley and Patrice Nault each provide Vascular Surgical care for a large patient population at the Hôpital de Hull, CISSS de l’Outaouais, Gatineau, Québec and Dr. Carl Emond provides Vascular Surgical care at St. Mary’s Hospital in Montreal. All surgeons participate in the education of medical students, surgery residents and vascular surgery trainees.

All our sites currently offer comprehensive vascular surgical care with the MUHC being the primary site for open thoracic and thoracoabdominal aneurysm surgery and we collaborate with cardiac surgery to provide complex hybrid endo, open repair of select aortic arch pathology. The surgeons at the MUHC and the JGH have an extensive endovascular aortic and peripheral practice including the treatment of PVD, aortic aneurysm, aortic dissection andortic trauma. The JGH site has a concentrated practice for advanced endovascular aortic repair with a large institutional experience in branched (BEVAR) and fenestrated (FEVAR) endovascular aneurysm repair.

The Division supports a well-respected Vascular Surgery Residency and internally funds an Advanced Aortic and Peripheral Endovascular Fellowship. Graduates from both training programs have become leaders in Vascular Surgery in Canada and internationally.

In the past 5-7 years the Division has been proactive in advancing our research mission. We’ve allocated internal Division funds for a full-time research coordinator and have directed and supported specific recruitment strategies to enhance our research productivity. This has resulted in a step-wise increase in annual peer-reviewed publications, awards and grant success. Our current focus in research centers on clinical outcomes in aortic surgery, peripheral endovascular intervention as well as the assessment of Frailty and the use of Prehabilitation in the vascular surgery population. All our residents and fellows are involved in investigator-initiated research under the supervision of our Faculty members.

A new Endovascular Simulation Center has been developed at the JGH led by Vascular Surgery in collaboration with cardiac surgery and cardiology. This will become a key unit for educational and research activity in simulation for the Division. Dr. Elie Girsowicz is currently supervising a M.Sc. student who is conducting a simulation research protocol within the simulation unit.

In 2020, in response to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Division of Vascular Surgery established a new on line visiting speaker program and thus far have hosted 5 exceptional speakers from around the world. This speaker series has garnered interest within the broader McGill community as well as internationally and we have utilized Social Media to advertise and offer attendance to a broader group of vascular surgeons from other sites in both North America and Internationally. This new initiative will continue moving forward and we expect to welcome many more of our trusted colleagues from around the world.

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Leadership Team

Kent MacKenzie, MD
Division Director
Vascular Surgery

Jason Bayne, MD
Program Director
Vascular Surgery

Heather Gill, MD, MPH
Research Director
Vascular Surgery

Division Achievements

Heather Gill, MD, MPH: Chair CVSs Research Committee and member of the Royal College Vascular Surgery Specialty Committee

Jason Bayne, MD: Member of Royal College Vascular Surgery Specialty Committee; Successful Royal College Accreditation of the Vascular Surgery residency; Developed the framework for migration of the Vascular Surgery residency to CBD;

Elie Girsowicz, MD, MSc: Secured funding for AngioMentor Suite 2 – 3dsystems Simulator with Acquisition for the JGH Endovascular Simulation Unit (Simulator value $380,000.00 CDN)

Kent MacKenzie MD: Worked with McGill University and the Faculty of Medicine to establish a new McGill Medical Student Award for the Best Vascular Surgery Rotation Performance. Total value $3000.00, year

Stephen Hanley, MD, PhD: Appointed Course Director for the Research Fundamentals course for the Outaouais campus of the McGill University Faculty of Medicine

Patrice Nault, MD: Appointed Chair of the ‘Comite de Pertinence’ of the ACVEQ; Member of the Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery Clinical Guidelines Committee for PAD;
New Recruitment

The Division of Vascular Surgery welcomes Dr. Elie Girsowicz, who will be based at the Jewish General Hospital. His clinical practice incorporates advanced endovascular treatment of aortic pathology, open and endovascular management of peripheral, carotid and mesenteric vascular disease as well as vascular access creation and maintenance. Dr. Girsowicz has a special interest in vascular surgical education with a focus on simulation in surgical residency training. He also has a strong interest in technology acquisition and surgical innovation and has been designated our Division lead for Simulation.

Notable Publications


Visiting Professors of International Repute

Shipra Arya, MD, Stanford University. “The Importance of Frailty Evaluation in Surgical Practice”


Adam Power, MD, Western University. “Medical Device Innovation: Developing a new REBOA Technology”

Fabian Thaveau, MD, Universite Strasbourg. “Robotic Aortic Surgery”

Venita Chandra, MD, Stanford University. “Lessons learned from new program development: How even wound care, one of the more ‘unexciting’ topics, can significantly impact a vascular surgery practice”

Graduating Residents

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<td>Laura Drudi, MD, M.Sc.</td>
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Elie Girsowicz, MD, MSc
Assistant Professor of Surgery
McGill University