



McGill



DEPARTMENT OF

SURGERY

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 OUR MISSION, VISION, & VALUES	5	10 SURGICAL & INTERVENTIONAL SCIENCES GRADUATE PROGRAM	40
2 THE MCGILL DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY ECOSYSTEM	8	11 DIVISION REPORTS	50
3 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR	10	DIVISION OF CARDIAC SURGERY	52
4 DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP	14	DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY	60
5 DEPARTMENT BY NUMBERS	18	DIVISION OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY	72
6 RESEARCH	22	DIVISION OF PLASTIC, RECONSTRUCTIVE AND AESTHETIC SURGERY	84
7 FACULTY LIFE	28	DIVISION OF THORACIC AND UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL SURGERY	92
8 MENTORSHIP	32	DIVISION OF UROLOGY	100
9 EDUCATION	36	DIVISION OF VASCULAR SURGERY	108



OUR MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

Mission

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

Vision

To be Canada's leading academic surgical department, improving outcomes and quality of care through impactful research, innovation and training.

Values

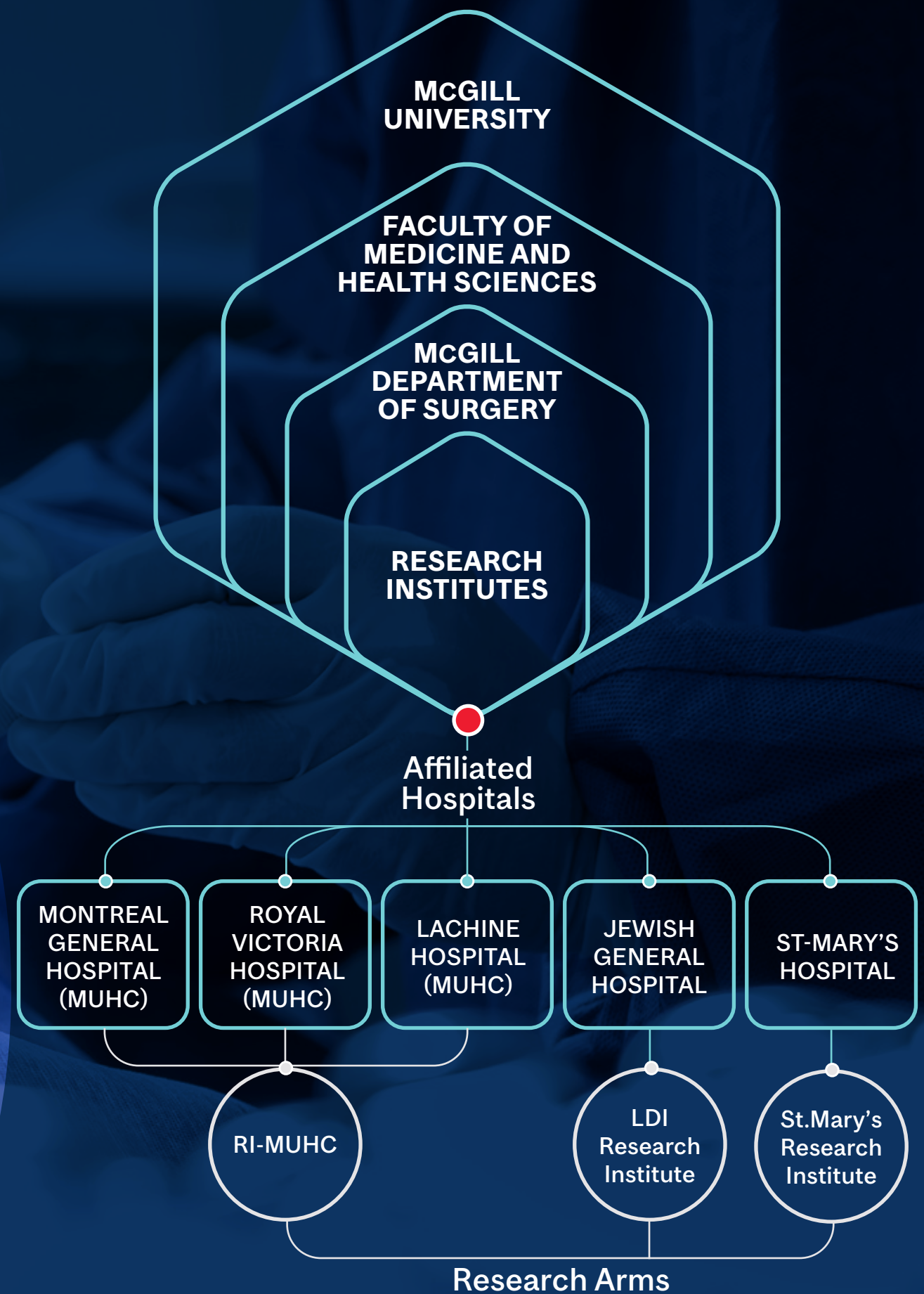
- Creativity to drive meaningful innovation and discovery
- Excellence to produce world-class results
- Collaboration to yield interdisciplinary breakthroughs
- Empathy for patients, learners, faculty and staff
- Inclusivity for a supportive, welcoming and productive environment



In 2025 the
Department of Surgery
attracted over
22M\$
in research funding

THE MCGILL DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY ECOSYSTEM

2



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

LIANE S FELDMAN, MDCM FACS FRCS

Edward W. Archibald Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery, McGill University
Surgeon-in-chief, McGill University Health Centre



3

In 2025 the McGill Department of Surgery continues to demonstrate remarkable resilience, commitment and shared purpose required to meet the challenges of an evolving health care system while building on our legacy of clinical and academic excellence and innovation.

The Department of Surgery now includes **324 faculty members** training **178 residents and fellows** and providing clinical care at three main teaching hospitals in Montreal and 21 affiliated sites across the province. In 2025 we contributed **>760 publications** and attracted **over 22M\$ in research funding**, both increased from the previous year. Two of our researchers received extremely competitive awards: **Prof. Fackson Mwale** received a James McGill Professor Award, recognizing a senior scholar's status as an international leader in their field, while **Prof. Julio Fiore Jr** received a CIHR Canada Research Chair in Surgical Outcomes, awarded to exceptional emerging researchers. I believe these are the first such awards held by full-time members of our Department. We have new leadership in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery with **Dr. Josh Vorstenbosch** appointed as McGill and MUHC Division director. We also welcomed new Program Directors in General Surgery (**Drs. JS Pelletier** and **Mathieu Rousseau**), Plastic Surgery (**Dr. Dino Zammit**) and Surgical Foundations (**Dr. Allison Pang**).

In 2025 we were excited to welcome **13 fulltime recruits** (11 clinical and 2 research) to the Department of Surgery family, one of our largest numbers ever. This cohort of talented surgeons brings subspecialty expertise honed at world-class institutions in

transplantation, surgical oncology, orthopaedic oncology, arthroplasty, breast reconstruction, peripheral nerve and hand surgery and others, with a wide range of academic interests including innovation, education, quality improvement, outcomes and translational science. We also welcomed 2 full-time translational researchers, one in urology with a focus on molecular and immunological determinants of bladder cancer outcomes, and one in orthopaedic surgery with a focus on gait analysis in youth with musculoskeletal disorder. The Young Surgeon's Endowment Fund (Tomlison Fund) is a vital resource supporting the recruitment and retention of outstanding young surgeons and surgical scientists to develop their programs in support of our academic mission. The fund provides start-up salary support, which is matched by the recruiting hospital to serve as vital operating capital. In 2025 we disbursed **≥\$350 000** to our outstanding recruits.

Our students, residents, and fellows continue to impress with their dedication to patient care, learning, and research. The **Surgical Scientist Program (SSP)** had 9 residents pursuing full-time research training in 2025, all receiving extramural competitive funding. We were privileged to welcome internationally renowned fetal and neonatal surgeon **Dr. Diana Farmer**,

Distinguished Professor, Pearl Stamps Stewart Endowed Chair, and Chair of the Department of Surgery, University of California, Davis, as our 35th Fraser Gurd visiting professor. Dr. Farmer spoke about her work developing fetal therapy interventions for myelomeningocele (spina bifida). At our lunch symposium, *“From idea to changing patient care- innovating in surgical and interventional sciences”*, we were inspired by speakers who described their experiences addressing clinical problems through procedural innovations.

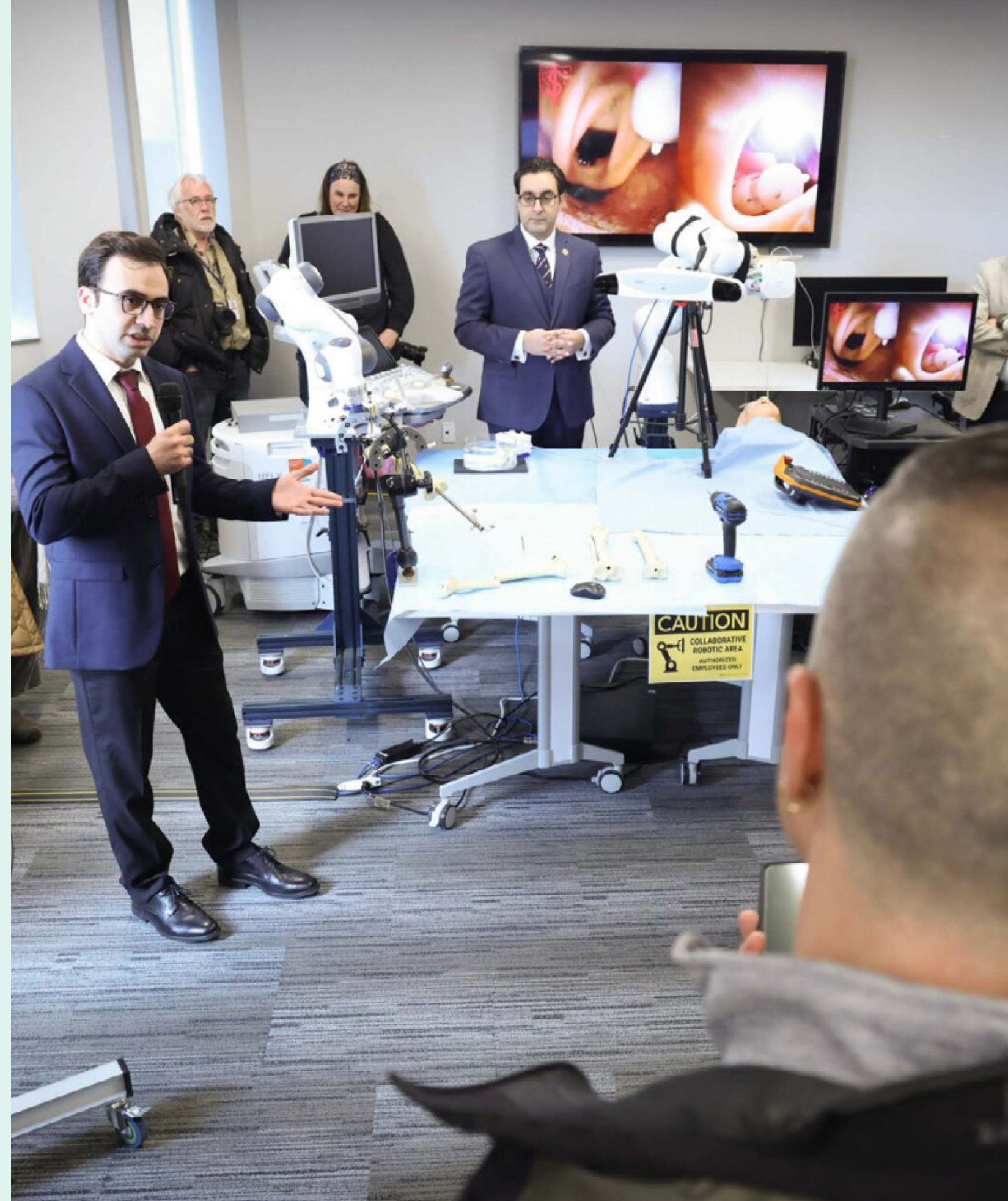
A key priority continues to be professional growth, community building and mentorship. Established to foster engagement, belonging, leadership development, wellness, and career satisfaction across all stages of academic surgical practice, our Faculty Life initiative, led by Associate Chair **Dr. Shannon Fraser**, marked its first full year of activity. A needs assessment survey and interviews were completed, the website was established, and the foundational structure for programming was created. Our Department and Division leadership group participated in the **Pulse 360 Assessment Program**, receiving individualized reports and coaching resources to support their continued development. **The Department celebrated five faculty promotions in 2025.** Our inaugural **Trainee Leadership Course**, designed to strengthen leadership and communication skills among residents and fellows, was fully subscribed and received outstanding evaluations.

Prof. Lisbet Haglund, our vice chair for mentorship, also completed a needs assessment survey, and is designing a more individualized approach to meet the mentorship needs of early, mid and late career faculty members. **Five of our clinician-scientists and scientists in received prestigious FRQS salary awards.** After a competitive search, **Dr. Lawrence Lee** will receive the next Hornstein Career Award for

Surgical Excellence (2026-30), taking over from **Dr. George Zogopoulos**. A task force, chaired by **Prof. David Labbé**, tabled their recommendations for improving mentorship for CAS scientists. Under the leadership of **Dr. Melina Vassiliou**, the newly launched **Division of Surgical Education (DOSE)** is set to become a community that transforms how surgeons learn and lead.

Our **Surgical and Interventional Sciences (SIS)** graduate program continued to flourish in 2025. Under the leadership of **Prof. Fackson Mwale** (Program Director) and **Prof. Jake Barralet** (Associate Chair - Research) we had our first SIS Open House event attracting >100 undergraduate students in March 2025. We think this contributed to the Fall 2025 cycle drawing the program’s strongest applicant interest to date. Together with the Winter 2026 intake, the program crossed a milestone of 100 new students. We invite you to visit our new YouTube channel to explore the breadth of projects led by our SIS faculty and students (www.youtube.com/@mcgillsisdigitalhub). We expanded support opportunities for SIS graduate students through the Surgical Scientist Program, under the leadership of **Prof. Julio Fiore** and **Dr. Richard Garfinkle**. To advance the [Department of Surgery Research Strategic Plan](#), we prioritized supporting new PhD students, especially those supervised by new faculty, and awarded four new competitive \$30 000 scholarships for trainees with exceptional potential.

These are just a few examples of our accomplishments from 2025. I have enormous pride in the members of the McGill Department of Surgery who do so much despite many constraints, reflecting the core values and culture developed over a long legacy of academic surgery at McGill. In the pages that follow I invite you to learn more about our faculty, trainees, students and staff who continue to advance care for patients locally, nationally and internationally at a remarkable level.



DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP

4

Executive Committee



LIANE FELDMAN, MD
Chair



JAKE BARRALET, PHD
*Associate Chair
Research*



SHANNON FRASER, MD
*Associate Chair
Faculty Life*



LISBET HAGLUND, PHD
*Associate Chair
Mentorship*



MELINA VASSILIOU, MD
*Associate Chair
Education*



MICHAEL TANZER, MD
*Associate Chair
Clinical*



KEVIN LACHAPELLE, MD
*Division Director
Cardiac Surgery*



PAOLA FATA, MD
*Division Director
General Surgery*



GREG BERRY, MD
*Division Director
Orthopaedic Surgery*

Postgraduate Medical Education - Residency



JOSHUA VORSTENBOSCH, MD
*Division Director
Plastic Surgery*



LORENZO E. FERRI, MD, PHD
*Division Director
Thoracic Surgery*



SIMON TANGUAY, MD
*Division Director
Urology*



EMMANUEL MOSS, MD
*Program Director
Cardiac Surgery*



JEAN-SÉBASTIEN PELLETIER, MD
*Program Director
General Surgery*



MITCHELL BERNSTEIN, MD
*Program Director
Orthopaedic Surgery*



KENT MACKENZIE, MD
*Division Director
Vascular Surgery*



RUTH CHAYTOR, MD
*Chief of Surgical Services
Jewish General Hospital*



RON DIMENTBERG, MD
*Chief of Surgical Services
St. Mary's Hospital*



DOMINICK ZAMMIT, MD
*Program Director
Plastic Surgery*



DR. ALLISON PANG, MD
*Program Director
Surgical Foundations*



MELANIE AUBÉ-PETERKIN, MD
*Program Director
Urology*

Undergraduate Medical Education



PHIL VOURTZOUMIS, MD
*Director
Undergraduate Surgical
Education & Surgery Clerkship*



SEBASTIEN DEMYTTENAERE, MD
*TCP Director
Undergraduate Surgical
Education & Surgery*



ELIE GIRSOWICZ, MD
*Program Director
Vascular Surgery*

DEPARTMENT BY NUMBERS

5

Academic Appointments

TYPE OF APPOINTMENTS

CLINICAL APPOINTMENTS	251
Contract Academic Staff - McGill teaching hospital	147
Contract Academic Staff - Affiliated site	86
Tenure Stream (Clinical)	18
RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS	26
Contract Academic Staff (CAS)	11
Tenure Stream	15
ASSOCIATE /ADJUNCTS/AFFILIATES	37
EMERITUS	10
TOTAL	324

Total appointments
in the
Department of Surgery

324

Residents & Fellows

(Academic Year 2025-2026)

PROGRAM	RESIDENTS	FELLOWS	TOTAL
Cardiac Surgery	14	1	15
Colorectal Surgery		5	5
General Surgery	47	9	56
Orthopedic Surgery	27	19	46
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery	18	1	19
Urology	21	6	27
Vascular Surgery	9	1	10
TOTAL	136	42	178

Number of Graduating Residents & Fellows

(June 2025)

PROGRAM	RESIDENTS	FELLOWS	TOTAL
Cardiac Surgery	2	-	2
Colorectal Surgery	-	3	3
General Surgery	8	6	14
Orthopedic Surgery	9	4	13
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery	5	1	6
Urology	3	2	5
Vascular Surgery	3	1	4
TOTAL	30	17	47

2025 Research Funding



Publications

PUBLICATION TYPE	NUMBER
Article	574
Review	80
Letter	23
Chapter	34
Editorial	21
Note	14
Conference Paper	15
Short Survey	2
Book	4
GRAND TOTAL	767

SciVal March 2026 - [Full scholarly output listing](#).

RESEARCH

SURGICAL AND INTERVENTIONAL SCIENCES

JAKE BARRALET, PHD
Associate Chair - Research



6

2025 marked another year of sustained growth and strategic advancement for research within the Department of Surgery.



Building on the successful launch of the Surgical and Interventional Sciences (SIS) identity in the previous year, the Department continued to strengthen its position as one of Canada's leading academic surgery programs through excellence in research, graduate education, innovation, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Investments made over recent years in strategic research initiatives are now translating into measurable gains in scientific productivity, competitive funding success, and trainee development.

Research activity expanded across all divisions, supported by strong provincial funding results and continued growth in the SIS graduate

program. During the year, the Department welcomed two new investigators, celebrated five faculty promotions and five prestigious FRQS salary awards, and surpassed 750 publications. Simultaneously, major initiatives, including the launch of the Surgical Performance Enhancement and Robotics (SuPER) lab, planning for the comprehensive SIS Program Review, the launch of the SIS digital hub and its associated YouTube ([@McGillSISDigitalHub](#)) and Instagram ([@sisdigitalhub](#)) channels, and large-scale grant applications, have positioned the Department to meet the rapidly evolving needs of modern surgical science.

PRODUCTIVITY

In 2025, the Department of Surgery produced 767 publications, a 17.3% increase over 2024 and representing 6.4% of McGill University's total research output (12,025 publications). We published in many of the world's most influential journals, including *Nature*, *Nature Genetics*, *Nature Medicine*, *NEJM*, *BMJ*, *JAMA Surgery*, *Circulation*, *Science Immunology*, *Science Advances* and *The Lancet Oncology*, placing our work within the top 0.6% of journals globally.

This exceptional research output was underpinned by **\$22.65 million in research funding**, representing an **11.2% increase from 2024**, secured by our researchers to advance

surgical science, innovation, and patient outcomes. The funding portfolio in 2025 reflected a balanced and diversified mix:

- **FRQS – 14.8%**
- **Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC) – 22.1%**
- **Other sources – 63.1%** (including other competitive funding agencies, foundation grants, industry partnerships, philanthropic contributions and hospital foundations)

This strong base of provincial, federal, and diversified support not only sustains our current research excellence but also positions the Department for continued growth in high-impact, interdisciplinary, and translational initiatives.

FRQS AWARDEES

Congratulations to the following faculty who secured salary awards in the highly competitive FRQS chercheurs boursiers competition.

Dr Anthony Bozzo
(Orthopaedic Surgery)

- Clinician-Scientist Junior 1 “*IA multimodale dans le sarcoma*”

Dr Lysanne Campeau
(Urology)

- Clinician-Scientist Senior «*Ciblage thérapeutique de l’axe des neurotrophines dans les maladies de la prostate*»

Dr Ipshita Prakash
(General Surgery)

- Clinician-Scientist Junior 1 “*La toxicité financière associée au cancer du sein au stade précoce dans notre système de santé universel*”

Prof Joanna Przybyl
(Orthopaedic Surgery)

- Scientist Junior 2 “*Études multi-omiques et métaboliques pour résoudre les défis diagnostique et thérapeutique dans la gestion du sarcoma*”

Dr Jonathan Spicer
(Thoracic Surgery)

- Clinician-Scientist Senior “*À la recherche des réponses pathologiques complètes sur le spectre biologique du CPNPC résécable*”

TOMLINSON AWARD

The Department of Surgery Tomlinson Awards are a cornerstone of our commitment to retaining exceptional early-career researchers and surgical scientists. Through the Department providing protected salary support, matched by start-up funding provided by the Divisions, the awards enable new faculty members to establish innovative clinical, research and academic programs, accelerating their development into the next generation of leaders in surgery.

INNOVATION

The Hakim Family Clinical Innovation Competition entered its eighth year with no apparent drop in appetite for innovation. As in previous years, the Department of Surgery was well represented among the finalists. The Pediatric Clinical Innovation Prize was awarded to **Drs. Pnina Brodt** and **Livia Garzia** for their team’s development of a novel IGF-Trip capable of inhibiting the IGF axis and tumor growth. The team will evaluate its efficacy in clinically relevant, human-derived

Congratulations to the 2025 recipients:

Dr. Bardia Barimani
(Orthopaedic surgery)

Dr. Tyler Safran
(Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery)

Dr. David Drullinsky
(Cardiac Surgery)

Dr. Côme Tholomier
(Urology)

Dr. Teodora Dumitra
(General Surgery)

Ewing sarcoma models to optimize a clinical-grade candidate for future trials.

The Hakim Family Innovation Prize was awarded to **Qalam Health**, led by Haitham Shoman and **Dr. Ahmed Aoude**, for **Osteoprobe**—a real-time, label-free intraoperative diagnostic tool that uses advanced imaging spectroscopy to differentiate cancerous from healthy bone tissue.

RESEARCH STRATEGY PROGRESS - 2025

The Department of Surgery Research Strategic Plan enters its concluding phase and prepares for a five-year review in 2026. 2025 saw the creation of the Graduate Executive committee as a formal reporting structure to the Surgery Executive committee, the launch of the **SUPER lab**, and the initiation of a curriculum review of the entire SIS graduate program.

GRADUATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chaired by Graduate Program Director Prof. Fackson Mwale, with representation from all concentrations and programs, as well as the student society and supporting administrators, this committee formalizes issue resolution and reviews policy, curriculum, admissions, and funding. Meeting every two months, it reports to the Surgery Executive Committee. It is an important mechanism for documenting program changes and securing formal approval of those changes.



Launch of the Surgical Performance Enhancement and Robotics (SuPER) Lab

Located on the top floor of the Dr. Phil Gold Pavilion at the Montreal General Hospital, the Surgical Performance Enhancement and Robotics (SuPER) Lab marked a highly successful first year in 2025, beginning with its official opening on April 30, which was covered by local and national media.

The Centre, under the leadership of **Dr. Liane Feldman** and **Prof. Amir Hooshier**, continued to strengthen the Department of Surgery’s leadership in surgical innovation, robotics and performance science, supporting a growing multidisciplinary training environment that included two postdoctoral fellows, five PhD students and nine MSc students in 2025. Notably, research conducted through the SuPER Centre contributed to two FDA approvals for products developed there: **HoloXR Health Connect** and **HoloPod**. SuPER contributed by developing the

core intellectual property underlying the products and by performing preclinical testing at the MUHC in collaboration with **Dr. Dan Deckelbaum**. The work was supported by HoloRay’s Bons d’incubation grant, which was sub-awarded to SuPER.

The impact of SuPER was recognized as the winner of the **Prix Hippocrate** on October 16, 2025, in the Transformateur category, for its leadership in advancing surgical care through robotics, artificial intelligence, and translational research. The award highlighted the Centre’s multidisciplinary model, which brings together surgeons, engineers, researchers and industry partners to develop innovative technologies and accelerate their translation from the laboratory into clinical practice.



SIS CURRICULUM REVIEW

Work began on collating information for the 2026 external curriculum review across all SIS courses. This is likely to include OTL, which is expected to close its Master’s program and merge with SIS in 2026. The goal is to examine the extent to which the SIS curriculum aligns training outcomes with the Department’s strategic research pillars

to ensure tight integration between graduate education and our research vision. The review will form the basis for any adjustments to the strategic research plan for 2027-2031 and is expected to lead to significant changes in the delivery of the taught elements of the SIS graduate program.

FACULTY LIFE

REMARKS FROM OUR FACULTY LIFE ASSOCIATE CHAIR

DR. SHANNON FRASER
Associate Chair – Faculty Life



7

The 2025 academic year marked the first full year of activity for the Department of Surgery Faculty Life Initiative.

Established to support faculty members throughout their professional journey, the program was created to foster engagement, belonging, leadership development, wellness, and career satisfaction across all stages of academic surgical practice.

Guided by our vision of creating an inclusive and supportive environment where every faculty member feels a sense of belonging, purpose, and potential, we focused our inaugural year on listening, assessment, resource development, and leadership growth.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025

DEPARTMENT-WIDE FACULTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A comprehensive needs assessment survey was distributed to Department of Surgery faculty members to better understand experiences related to mentorship, communication, professional development, leadership support, wellness, and community engagement.

The survey provided valuable insights into faculty priorities and identified opportunities to strengthen support across the career life cycle. Areas highlighted for future development included:

- Enhanced mentorship opportunities
- Leadership development resources
- Improved awareness of available supports
- Faculty wellness initiatives
- Support during career transitions and advancement

The survey findings established an evidence-based foundation for future Faculty Life programming.

LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT AND STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

To complement the survey findings, structured interviews were conducted with Departmental and Divisional leaders. These discussions provided important perspectives on faculty engagement, succession planning, leadership development, communication needs, and organizational culture.

Themes identified through these interviews are helping shape strategic priorities for future Faculty Life initiatives and ensure alignment between departmental leadership and faculty needs.

PULSE 360 LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

One of the most significant accomplishments of 2025 was the implementation of the Pulse 360 Assessment Program within the Department of Surgery.

The initiative began with Department and Division leaders participating in a confidential 360-degree feedback process designed to provide individualized insights into leadership strengths and development opportunities.

- Program objectives included:
- Enhancing self-awareness and reflective leadership practices
 - Supporting professional growth through structured feedback
 - Strengthening communication and collaboration
 - Building a culture of continuous improvement and psychological safety
 - Creating a common framework for leadership development across the Department

Participants received individualized reports and coaching resources to support ongoing professional development. The program established an important foundation for future expansion to additional faculty members and leadership cohorts.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE FACULTY
LIFE WEB RESOURCE HUB

A major milestone in 2025 was the creation and expansion of the Department of Surgery Faculty Life website.

The website serves as a centralized resource for faculty members and includes:

- Faculty Life vision and mission statements
- Information on mentorship and faculty development opportunities
- Leadership development resources
- Wellness and support resources
- Career-stage guidance and planning tools
- Links to institutional and departmental supports

The website provides a sustainable platform for communication and resource sharing and will continue to expand as new programs are developed.

BUILDING A FACULTY LIFE
FRAMEWORK

Throughout the year, work focused on establishing the foundational structure required to support faculty across the entire academic career life cycle.

- This framework includes consideration of:
- Recruitment and onboarding
 - Early-career development
 - Mid-career advancement and leadership growth
 - Late-career planning and transition support
 - Recognition of faculty contributions and achievements
 - Equity, inclusion, and belonging initiatives

The Faculty Life portfolio has become an important component of the Department’s broader commitment to faculty success and well-being.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026-27

Building on the momentum of our inaugural year, priorities for 2026 include:

- Expanding participation in the Pulse 360 program
- Implementing targeted faculty support initiatives informed by survey findings
- Enhancing onboarding resources for new faculty
- Expanding online Faculty Life resources and career-stage toolkits
- Strengthening wellness and community-building initiatives
- Developing metrics to evaluate faculty engagement and program impact over time

CLOSING REMARKS

The launch of the Faculty Life Initiative represents an important investment in the people who are the foundation of the Department of Surgery. The progress achieved during 2025 reflects the engagement, openness, and commitment of our faculty and leaders.

As we continue to build this program, our goal remains clear: to create a culture where every

faculty member is supported, connected, and empowered to thrive throughout every stage of their academic and professional journey.

Dr. Shannon Fraser
Associate Chair – Faculty Life
McGill Department of Surgery

MENTORSHIP

REMARKS FROM OUR MENTORSHIP ASSOCIATE CHAIR

LISBET HAGLUND, PHD
Associate Chair – Mentorship



The McGill Department of Surgery launched the Associate Chair for Mentorship position in 2024–2025 as part of a renewed commitment to faculty development and support across all stages of academic careers.

The overarching goals of this initiative are to support faculty in achieving academic success, foster a culture of collegiality and belonging, facilitate the sharing of experiences and resources, address challenges encountered at different career stages, and ensure that every faculty member has access to appropriate mentorship and guidance.

Over the past year, efforts have focused on building a strong foundation for a department-wide mentorship culture. Activities have included small-group peer mentoring sessions, individualized mentorship and feedback on grant applications, and the development of personalized career roadmaps tailored to diverse academic trajectories. An important objective

is to cultivate mentoring networks that provide complementary expertise across research, education, clinical practice, leadership, and career development. Looking ahead, the program will continue to expand to better support faculty at all career stages, including dedicated initiatives for mid-career and senior faculty focused on career planning, leadership development, and academic advancement. Another priority is to develop mechanisms that recognize and celebrate the achievements and contributions of Department members. Together, these initiatives aim to promote individual success while strengthening the Department of Surgery as a vibrant, supportive, and collaborative academic community.

ACTIVITIES IN 2025-2026

FRQS CHERCHEUR BOURSIER APPLICATIONS

The Early Career Investigator Mentorship Program continued to provide focused support for faculty preparing FRQS Chercheur Boursier applications. Activities included a practical workshop entitled “Practical Guidance, Essential Information, and Step-by-Step Advice on Navigating the FRQS Application Process”, followed by individualized consultations and small-group mentoring sessions tailored to applicants’ specific needs. These activities were designed to strengthen applications while fostering a supportive peer network among early-career investigators.

ONBOARDING OF NEW FACULTY

Personalized mentoring sessions were offered to newly recruited faculty members to support their transition into the Department and the broader academic environment. These sessions are focused on navigating institutional processes, identifying mentorship needs, establishing career development strategies, and facilitating integration into the Department’s research and clinical communities.

SELF-EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

A departmental self-evaluation framework was developed to enhance the annual review process across academic streams. The initiative focused on defining transparent benchmarks to promote clarity, consistency, fairness, and professional growth. Importantly, this work aims to provide faculty with clearer expectations and meaningful guidance for career planning and advancement.



FUTURE PRIORITIES

Looking ahead, several key initiatives will continue to shape the Department’s mentorship strategy:

- Launch a comprehensive onboarding program for newly recruited faculty, with structured support for research, clinical, teaching, and leadership development.
- Further expand the Early Career Investigator Mentorship Program to provide sustained support throughout the critical early stages of academic careers.
- Continue refinement and implementation of the departmental self-evaluation framework.
- Develop mentoring pathways and career development resources tailored to mid-career and senior faculty members.
- Establish mechanisms to recognize excellence in mentorship and celebrate faculty achievements and contributions.



EDUCATION

MELINA VASSILIOU, MD MEd
Associate Chair - Surgical Education

9



It is my privilege to reflect on this past year's progress in Surgical Education. 2025 was a year of building: we took the vision that emerged from our Education Retreat and turned it into concrete structures, spaces, and programs.



DIVISION
OF SURGICAL
EDUCATION

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2025

DIVISION OF SURGICAL EDUCATION (DOSE) TASK FORCE

Building on the momentum of the Department-wide Education Retreat, we established a formal task force to guide the creation of DOSE. The task force brings together key stakeholders from across the Department of Surgery and the McGill Institute of Health Sciences Education (IHSE) and meets regularly to move the DOSE vision forward. Over the past year, it has defined the Division's mission, vision, and strategic priorities, ensuring that DOSE will serve as a hub for innovation, scholarship, and excellence in surgical education.

A BRAND AND IDENTITY FOR DOSE

In 2025, we partnered with a professional branding firm to create a distinctive logo and visual identity for DOSE, grounded in our value proposition: DOSE is a community transforming how surgeons learn and lead at the highest level, blending the science of education with the real-world complexities of surgery to build clarity, presence, and decision-making under pressure. This vibrant, modern brand will be featured across all DOSE communications, events, and educational materials. We even have DOSE swag!

DOSE SPACE AT THE MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL

Planning began in 2025 for renovations to DOSE’s dedicated space at the Montreal General Hospital (Room D6-257). The redesigned space will provide a modern working and meeting environment for surgical education, serving as a collaborative workspace for faculty and trainees engaged in education research, a meeting hub for the task force and strategic planning, and a home base for a Surgery Education Clinic, workshops, and courses. It will stand as a visible symbol of the Department’s commitment to education as a scholarly priority.

TRAINEE LEADERSHIP COURSE

Our inaugural Trainee Leadership Course launched in January 2025, delivered in partnership with the McGill Executive Institute. The fully enrolled program consisted of four in-person workshops designed to strengthen leadership and communication skills among residents and fellows, and it received outstanding evaluations for both content and quality of instruction. Based on participant feedback, a refined second iteration will be offered in early 2026 and will continue in 2027.

SUPPORT FOR THE SURGICAL EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY (SEAD) PROGRAM

We were proud to support the 2025 SEAD program, a two-week immersion experience that introduces first-year medical students to 13 surgical specialties through hands-on workshops, operating room shadowing, and mentorship. This year, 22 participants completed 814 clinical hours across 7 hospitals, gained exposure to 169

operating rooms, and took part in 10 surgical simulation workshops. The 2025 program added ophthalmology and otolaryngology, expanded trauma surgery exposure through night shifts at the MGH, and contributed to the publication of a systematic review on early surgical exposure programs in North America.

LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE DOSE HUB

In 2025 we did some preliminary work for the DOSE Hub, an online space that will connect the Department’s surgical education community with resources, programs, events, and collaborators. The Hub will complement our physical space by connecting the surgical education community to resources, programs, and one another. Development of the DOSE Hub is a key project for 2026 and beyond.

COLLABORATION WITH THE MCGILL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION

Our partnership with IHSE remained strong and productive throughout 2025. IHSE expertise in educational methodology and assessment continued to inform DOSE planning, curriculum development, and scholarship in surgical education, strengthening the ties between surgical and health sciences education at McGill.

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY EDUCATION AWARDS 2025

We proudly recognize the following Education Award recipients for their outstanding contributions in 2025:

AWARD	RECIPIENT	DISCIPLINE
Outstanding Teacher Award (Surgical Foundations)	Dr. Talal Hijji	PGY-3, General Surgery
Harvey H. Sigman Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award	Dr. Anthony Albers	Orthopaedic Surgery
Ross Adair Memorial Award (Fellow)	Dr. Shamlan Al Qinaï	Fellow, Thoracic Surgery
Ross Adair Memorial Award (Resident)	Dr. Caroline Esmonde-White	PGY-2, Plastic Surgery
The EDDY: Edmond D. Monaghan Principles of Surgery Award	Dr. Carla Apostolova	PGY-1, General Surgery

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

Building on the foundations laid in 2025, our goals for the coming year include:

- Hosting the official DOSE launch event to celebrate the establishment of the Division, unveil our brand and, bring together the surgical education community.
- Completing the renovation of the DOSE space at the Montreal General Hospital.
- Designing and delivering the next iteration of the Trainee Leadership Course
- Building the DOSE Hub, our online home for surgical education, based on the priorities identified at the 2025 mini retreat.
- Expanding DOSE programming, including regular surgical education research meetings, a Surgery Education Clinic, and workshops

- on topics such as curriculum development, assessment, feedback, and simulation-based learning.
- Continuing to strengthen our collaboration with IHSE and developing the governance and sustainability plan that will allow DOSE to thrive.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Adair family for their generous support and to all DOSE task force members whose dedication made 2025 such a productive year. Your commitment to teaching, learning, and innovation inspires our collective mission. Together, we are shaping the future of surgical education at McGill.

SURGICAL & INTERVENTIONAL SCIENCES GRADUATE PROGRAM

FACKSON MWALE, PHD, FIOR
Graduate Program Director



10



2025 AT A GLANCE

New students enrolled (Fall 2025 + Winter 2026)	123
Graduates in 2025-26	48 (28 in May and 20 in October)
Doctoral graduates	14
New international partnership	Indonesian Medical & Dental Faculties
Graduate Excellence Funding (2025-26)	\$537,048

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2025 was a year of expansion and consolidation for the Surgical and Interventional Sciences (SIS) graduate program. Applicant interest reached new highs, with a Fall 2025 pool peaking at 148 applications and converting to 91 admissions and 82 registrations; together with the Winter 2026 intake, the program crossed a milestone of 100 new students. Graduate output kept pace: 48 students graduated across the two convocations in this cycle, and doctoral completions rose sharply year over year, from 9 to 14.

Beyond the numbers, the program strengthened its foundations. It launched a self-funded international collaboration with Indonesian medical and dental faculties, established dedicated curriculum leadership across both Taught (non-thesis) MSc streams, and recorded

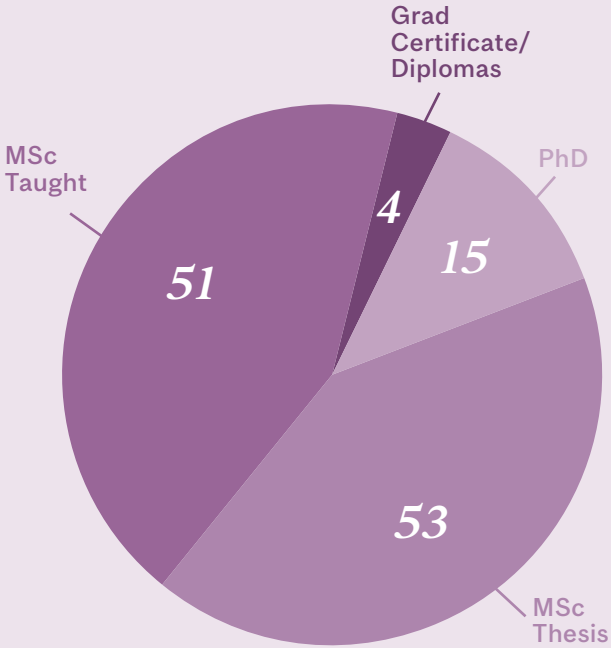
double-digit growth in core course enrolments. It also undertook deliberate structural reform, revising the Research Advisory Committee model to concentrate oversight on doctoral training, and preparing for a faculty-wide centralization of administrative support. The Graduate Excellence Fund of \$537,048 was deployed almost in full, underscoring both the program’s scale and the importance of forward funding planning for 2026–27.

This report synthesizes the program’s 2025 activity across five domains: admissions and enrolment growth; graduate success and graduation; curriculum and academic innovation; research training and the doctoral experience; and governance and program sustainability.

1.ADMISSIONS AND ENROLMENT GROWTH

A Record Applicant Pool and the 100-Student Milestone

The Fall 2025 cycle drew the program’s strongest applicant interest to date. The pool peaked at 148 applications at the beginning of July and resolved into 91 accepted offers, by September (82 registrations plus 9 deferrals). Combined with 41 accepted offers for Winter 2026, the program reached a milestone of **123 new students** across the combined intake.



1.2 THE OPEN HOUSE EVENING, A NEW SIGNATURE RECRUITMENT EVENT

The inaugural Open House Evening was attended by >100 undergraduate students and proved an immediate recruitment success, yielding 11 new non-thesis registrations directly after the event and contributing to an approximately 20% increase in application volume. On this evidence, the program is establishing the Open House Evening as a signature annual fixture.



1.3 STRATEGIC PIPELINES AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Two targeted pipelines broadened the program’s reach. Following the CaRMS match, SIS recruited Canadian applicants from the unmatched pool, effectively converting a national matching gap into a cohort of research-oriented future clinician-scientist trainees. In parallel, the program launched a self-funded collaboration with Indonesian medical and dental faculties for Winter 2026, engaging 20 SIS principal investigators toward a target of 25 students. The has now been incorporated into the Winter 2026 MSc thesis admissions.



2.GRADUATE SUCCESS AND GRADUATION

We graduated a total of 48 students across the two convocations in the 2025–26 cycle, a strong year for completions led by growth in doctoral and MSc Thesis output. The number of PhD graduates increased from 9 in the previous academic year.

CREDENTIAL	OCT 2025	MAY 2026	2025-2026 TOTAL
PhD	3	11	14
MSc Thesis	14	9	23
Taught MSc – Core	2	4	6
Taught MSc – Oncology	1	3	4
Graduate Diploma in Innovation	0	1	1
TOTAL	20	28	48

2.1 AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Students competed strongly across the major award programs throughout the year, receiving the following competitive awards:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR):

- 2 Bourses de doctorat en recherche (\$40 000/year for three years)
- 7 Bourses de maîtrise en recherche (\$27 000)

Fonds de Recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS):

- 8 Bourses de doctorat en recherche (\$20,000/year for two years)
- 2 Bourses de maîtrise en recherche. (up to \$25,000/year for four years)

Departmental: The Surgeon Scientist fund awarded

4 new competitive Graduate Scholarships (up to \$30,000/year, plus a Differential Fee Waiver for international recipients) and 7 Travel Awards.

Travel and dissemination: 14 GREAT Travel Awards supported conference participation.

2.2 AWARD RECIPIENTS

AWARD	RECIPIENT	SUPERVISOR
CIHR - Canada Graduate Scholarship Doctoral (CGS-D)	Ayla Gerk Rangel	Dr. Dan Poenaru
	Ayden Watt	Prof. Jake Barralet
CIHR - Canada Graduate Scholarship Masters (CGS-M)	Natalia Oghuansuan Ayodele	Dr. Dan Poenaru
	Pamela Brazeau-Porrello	Dr. Ipshita Prakash
	Serena Silver	Dr. Julio Fiore Jr
	Anna Blinova	Dr. Robert-James Doonan
	Victoria Hayman	Dr. Stephanie Wong
	Sara Cohen	Dr. Susie Lau
	Dongyue Xie	Prof. Jake Barralet
FRQ – Bourses de doctorat en recherche	Ludovic Moutet	Dr. Renzo Cecere
	Shreenik Kundu	Dr. Dan Poenaru
	Harry Jo	Prof. Dae Kyum Kim
	Larissa Kristi Chiu	Dr. Greg Berry
	Rahul Thareja	Dr. Joshua Vorstenbosch
	Miranda Addie Bassel	Dr. Sarkis Meterissian
	Sean Jeffries	Dr. Thomas Hemmerling
	Dunya Moghul	Dr. Maeve Trudeau
FRQ – Bourses de maîtrise en recherche	Seong Yeon Kim	Prof. Derek Rosenzweig
	Nour Kabbes	Dr. Hussein Wissanji

3. CURRICULUM AND ACADEMIC INNOVATION

3.1 TAUGHT MSC LEADERSHIP AND SURGING COURSE DEMAND

Both Taught MSc streams benefited from dedicated curriculum direction in 2025, the Core Stream under **Professor Cristian O’Flaherty**, and the Oncology Stream under **Professors Livia Garzia** and **David Labbé**. Course enrolments rose materially year-over-year across the curriculum.

3.2 NEW COURSES AND THE OTOLARYNGOLOGY INTEGRATION

The program advanced several curriculum innovations, including a new course on Advanced Topics of AI in medicine (EXSU 510), a course on CRISPR/Cas gene-editing technology, and methods courses on real-world studies and on evidence synthesis and meta-analysis in surgical research, alongside revisions to the Digital Health Innovation, Education, and Oncology curricula. The program also began integrating the MSc in Otolaryngology (OTL) as a SIS stream, including consideration of an exceptional fast-track pathway for current OTL students.

4. RESEARCH TRAINING AND THE DOCTORAL EXPERIENCE

The program deepened its commitment to research-training quality. In November, we received the results of McGill's 2024 gradSERU doctoral-experience survey, a faculty-wide instrument drawn from 1,945 respondents across all faculties that examines advising, financial support, climate, and well-being.

The program-level results were encouraging. Across the fifteen indicators, the mean satisfaction rate was 87%, and overall program quality had a 96% satisfaction rate. Satisfaction is highest precisely where the program concentrates its mission: opportunities for research and university library resources each reach 100%, while knowledge gained (96%), availability of advising (96%), quality of professional training and development (92%), and access to quality advising (92%) form a consistently high-scoring research-training core. This pattern corroborates the structural investments described above and indicates that the program's central value proposition, doctoral research training, is being delivered effectively.

Three indicators sit materially below the others and warrant attention. Course availability (63%) and opportunities for teaching (67%) are the only dimensions below 70%, and quality of IT support (78%) trails the priorities implied by the program's

focus on innovation. The course-availability signal reflects the surging enrolment and suggests that demand is, in places, outpacing scheduling capacity; the teaching-opportunity gap points to a concrete and low-cost lever, namely expanded teaching-assistantship and co-instruction pathways for doctoral students. Mid-range scores for financial support and value for money, both at 83%, are creditable given the funding pressures noted in Section 5 and reinforce the case for early attention to the 2026 to 2027 funding plan. These readings should be treated as directional rather than definitive: they derive from a single program with 23 to 24 respondents, and a combined "Satisfied or Very satisfied" measure does not distinguish contentment from enthusiasm.

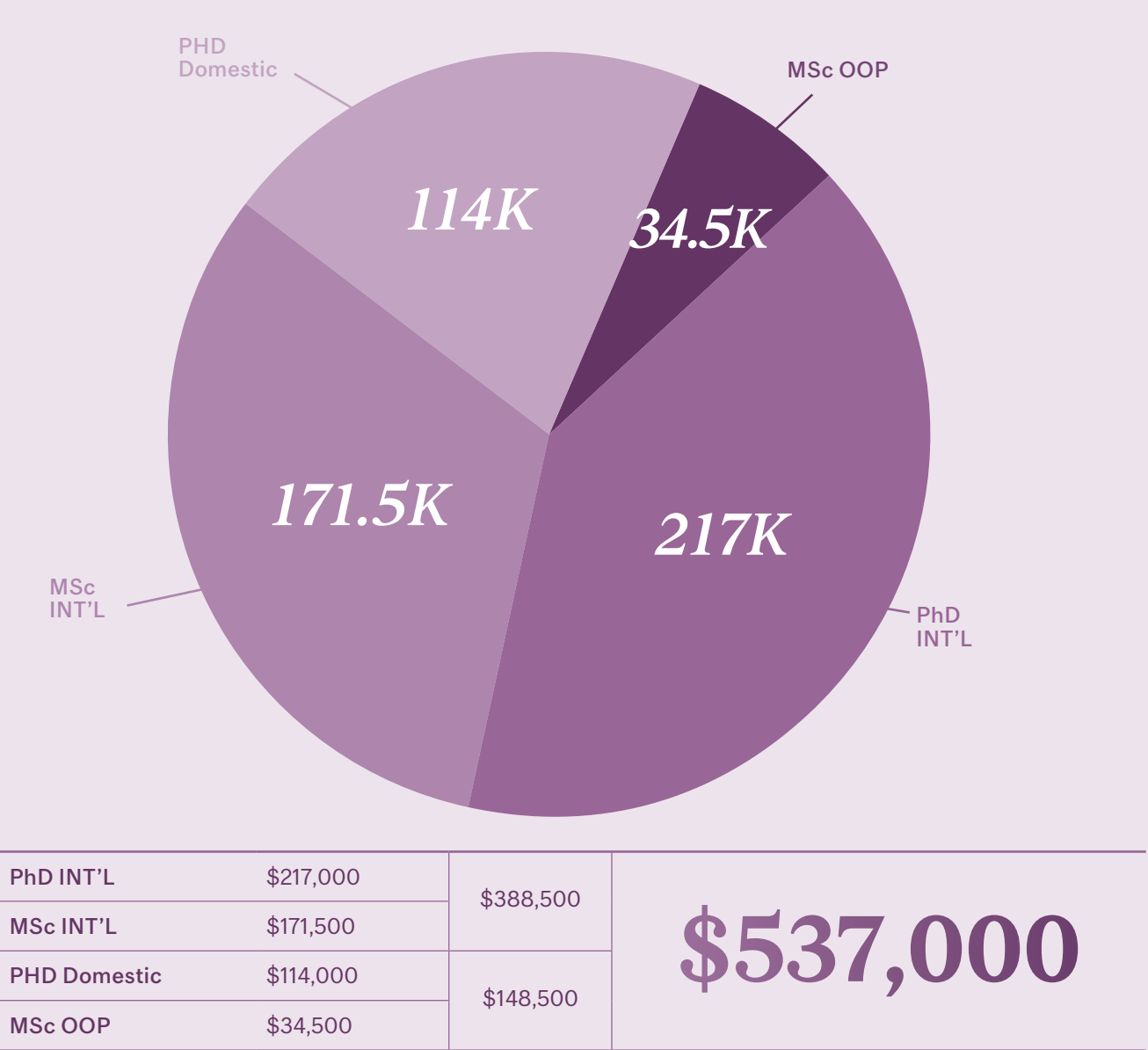
Beyond the survey, the doctoral experience advanced programmatically. The virtual seminar series recorded its strongest student-presenter turnout on record in Winter 2025, and the program moved to a monthly seminar model at the MUHC, complemented by dedicated student 'Work in Progress' sessions.

5. FUNDING, GOVERNANCE, AND PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY

5.1 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP, GRADUATE EXCELLENCE FUND

To support the financial well-being of graduate students and enhance the competitiveness of its programs, the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at McGill University has continued its commitment to equitable funding through the [Harmonized Stipend Policy](#). This policy ensures that all **thesis-based graduate students** receive

a **minimum guaranteed stipend**, fostering a stable academic environment for research-intensive training. The Graduate Excellence Fund allocation to SIS for 2025–26 was set at **\$537,048**. By year-end, following Winter-term and new-student disbursements, the fund is projected to be effectively fully committed, a clear signal that 2026–27 funding planning warrants early attention.



5.2 GOVERNANCE REFORM,
THE RAC CHAIR MODEL

Rapid cohort growth strained supervisory demand: by September, 68 new students required RAC Chairs, prompting a structured redistribution to balance faculty loads. Building on this, the committee revised the RAC model effective 2025–26 to assign RAC Chairs only to PhD students, while master’s thesis students move to a supervisor-plus-two-members structure. The reform maintains academic rigor, reduces faculty workload, and aligns SIS with McGill’s graduate supervision norms.

5.3 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTINUITY

Following Ms. Sharon Turner’s retirement on September 1, 2025, the SIS Graduate Program Office entered a significant period of administrative transition. This change coincided with the merger of the OTL graduate program with SIS, resulting in Mr. Fabio Ciccocioppo’s GPC position being transferred into SIS to address the vacancy created by Sharon’s departure. In addition, the increased volume and diversity of student files required the team to review workflows, clarify responsibilities, and ensure continuity of service.

Despite these challenges, the Graduate Program Office worked collaboratively to minimize disruption and maintain support for all student groups. Responsibilities were reshuffled to

improve efficiency and ensure that students continued to receive guidance from designated staff members. Ms. Laura Epure now oversees the PhD portfolio, including oral defences, RAC Chair assignments, milestone tracking, and harmonized stipend confirmations. Mr. Fabio Ciccocioppo manages the MSc Thesis portfolio, supports MSc milestone tracking, and disseminates GPS/FMHS announcements to SIS students and faculty. Ms. Micha Huynh oversees Taught MSc, Graduate Diploma, and Graduate Certificate students, in addition to curriculum processes, course calendar updates, fund disbursements, awards, and scholarship applications, the hiring of TAs, and the SIS budget.

Once fully implemented, the revised structure is expected to provide clearer points of contact, more consistent administrative support, and improved continuity for students across all SIS graduate programs. All three team members continue to support admissions through Slate, troubleshoot student and faculty inquiries, assist the Graduate Program Director with day-to-day operations, and lead major program events, including Research Day, Orientation and Open Evening, the Signature Recruitment Event, and the Fraser Gurd Conference.

2025 GRADUATES

SUMMER 2025

MSC (17)	
Brandon Bellware	Mark Abdelnour
Jean Cabot	Zahra Kardan
Joao Medeiros de Cerqueira	Paige Kostoulas
Cassandra Dellarocca	Juliana Abbatt-Montpetit
Bianca Giglio	Vanja Davidovic
Gismonde Gismonde Gnanhoue	Vanessa Gueorguieva
Fatima Inigo	Juiena Sagir
Angelina Lui	Lizianne Zini
Bilal Tarabay	

PHD (3)
Sayed Azher
Keerat Grewal
Matthew Zakaria

FALL 2025

MSC (6)	
Jacqueline Dalfen	Suman Ali
Georgiy Danylenko	Nadja Benmohamed
Asmita Ghosh	Marion Sylvain

PHD (5)	
Athanasios Babouras	Meghan DeMeo
Elise Di Lena	Iris Mingyang Kong
Alexandra Dimmer	

DIVISION REPORTS

11

We pride ourselves in providing *excellent clinical care* in an environment that *optimizes educational opportunities* and constantly seeks to *advance the quality of surgical care* through *research and innovation*.

Cardiac Surgery

REMARKS FROM THE
DIVISION DIRECTOR

DR. KEVIN LACHAPELLE



Since 2024, the Division of Cardiac Surgery has embarked on a strategic transformation to prepare for generational change, with several senior members nearing retirement.

Our goal: a streamlined, academically productive division based on a strong partnership between the RVH and the JGH.

This transformation has started with our recruit, Dr. David Drullinsky. Hired as a Surgeon Educator,

Dr. Drullinsky has a Master’s in Education from Maastricht University. He heads the Transplant and VAD program and has started a minimally invasive coronary artery surgery program at the RVH. We will be hiring in 2026 as well and are looking for another surgeon educator with minimally invasive valvular skills.

Key priorities include:

- Enhancing surgical education and residency training
- Expanding fellowship programs
- Advancing clinical research
- Transitioning and expanding minimally invasive techniques

This evolution is supported by strategic recruitment and collaboration across specialties—cardiology, anesthesia, intensive care—and recognizes the vital contributions of nursing staff, nurse practitioners, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists.

Programs include:

- Coronary Revascularization
- Valvular & Structural Procedures
- Advanced Heart Failure Therapies
- Aortic Surgery
- Adult Congenital Heart Disease
- Robotic Cardiac Surgery
- Pulmonary Thrombectomy
- Pericardial Diseases

Training Programs -

Clinical Fellowships:

- Adult Complex Cardiac Surgery
- Congenital Cardiac Surgery
- Heart Failure, Transplantation & Mechanical Assist

Research Activities -

The Division undertakes a broad scope of:

- Translational research
- Clinical and outcomes Research
- Education Research



LEADERSHIP TEAM



KEVIN LACHAPELLE, MD
*Division Director /
Chief, Cardiac Surgery
(McGill & MUHC)
CTU Director, Cardiac
Surgery*



EMMANUEL MOSS, MD
Program Director



SHUM-TIM DOMINIQUE,
MD
Research Director



DR. BENOIT DE
VARENNES
*Director, McGill
Fellowship in Advanced
& Complex Cardiac and
Valvular Surgery*

FACULTY MILESTONES,
ACHIEVEMENTS & HONOURS

NEW RECRUITS



David Drullinsky, MD Med
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,
McGill University Health Centre*

Dr. David Drullinsky is a cardiac surgeon at the McGill University Health Centre specializing in heart failure, mechanical cardiac support, and transplantation, with additional clinical interests in complex coronary surgery and surgery for atrial fibrillation. His academic focus centers on surgical education alongside clinical outcomes research

in cardiac transplantation and coronary surgery, reflecting his commitment to advancing both patient care and the training of future surgeons. Dr. Drullinsky has implemented a number of important changes to the heart failure program which has resulted in increased heart transplant volumes and superior outcomes. He has also started a minimally invasive coronary program which has significantly reduced length of stay both in the ICU and on the ward.

HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Renzo Cecere
Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Cecere took a leave of absence to focus on his surgical innovation opportunities.

- Led multi-omics research pipelines (plasma proteomics, metabolomics, lipidomics, snRNA-seq) resulting in publications in Canadian Journal of Cardiology and Advanced Healthcare Materials, and over 30 team presentations at CCC and HUPO 2025.
- **Heart-on-a-Chip Program:** 50+ patient-derived iPSC lines generated and validated. Established 2D and 3D patient-specific Heart-on-a-Chip models for dilated cardiomyopathy, hypoxia-induced injury, and doxorubicin-induced cardiotoxicity for drug screening and precision medicine.
- **Filed 3 International Patent Applications:**
 1. Modular Surgical System and Actuation Apparatus. Inventors: Hooshier A, Taki S, Sayadi A, Cecere R. US Patent App No. 63/933,906. 2025.
 2. Model-Independent Control Method and System for Steerable Soft Medical Instruments. Inventors: Hooshier A, Taki S, Sayadi A, Cecere R. US Patent App No. 63/933,906. 2025.
 3. System and Apparatus for Identifying a Potential Pathology Using Biological Sounds. Inventors: Cecere R, Giannetti N, Benovoy M, Hooshier A, Behr M, Lafouti M. US/Int'l App No. WO2025215537A1. 2025.
- Launched **ENTobot** (World's first percutaneous soft-robotic platform for ENT surgery); Spin Surgical (Durable percutaneously deployed VAD for advanced cardiac failure) and PercuTech 3D (Robotic surgery combined with transcutaneous 3D in-situ bioprinting for tissue repair).

- Progressed **HoloRay** (Achieved FDA and Health Canada regulatory approvals for its cloud-based Augmented Reality (AR) system) and **Meacor** (Advanced to Series A funding stage (\$15M raised); 27 granted patents; transcatheter anchoring system for mitral/tricuspid valve repair in pre-clinical trials)
- Advanced **Meacor** to Series A funding stage (\$15M raised); 27 granted patents; transcatheter anchoring system for mitral/tricuspid valve repair in pre-clinical trials, 2025.

Dr. Kevin Lachapelle
Professor of Surgery

- Implemented a new Aortic Dissection Protocol at the MUHC in 2025, streamlining institutional response to acute Type A aortic dissection.
- Co-lead (with Dr. Drullinsky) of Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) in Cardiac Surgery at the MUHC.
- Established a clinical database for the division in 2025.
- Reviewed University of Toronto Division of Cardiovascular Surgery
- Co-author article in European Heart Journal (impact factor 45.3)

Dr. Benoit de Varennes
Associate Professor of Surgery

- Expert Committee Member, INESS: Antibioprophylaxie de l'endocardite infectieuse – Guides et normes. September 2025.



INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Dominique Shum-Tim

Professor of Surgery

- Chinese Ambassador Award for significant contribution to Chinese-Canadian Friendship, 2025. Awarded by the Department of Foreign Affairs of China during an official state-organized China visit.
- Published as one of the 50 Most Influential Persons recognized for significant contributions to China-Canada friendship in commemoration of the United Nations Anniversary, 2025.
- “Contemporary Norman Bethune recognition in Chinese-Canadian relations” – a parallel to the celebrated Canadian humanitarian surgeon who provided medical care in China in the 1930s.
- Established the Contemporary Norman Bethune Fellowship Fund in partnership with MUHC Foundation and the Montreal Chinese community: raised \$400,000 to sponsor Chinese surgical fellows training at McGill.

INVITED LECTURES & VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS

Dr. Renzo Cecere

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, Bethune Medical Development Association of Canada, 2025.

Dr. Dominique Shum-Tim

Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou, Gansu, China, July 7-12, 2025.
- Visiting Professor, The First Affiliated Hospital of Harbin Medical University, Harbin, Heilongjiang, China. October 26-29, 2025.

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Dr. Kevin Lachapelle

Professor of Surgery

- Supervisor of **Naila Benchelabi** (MSc) – Fan Favourite Award, Canadian Cardiovascular Congress, Toronto, May 2025.

Dr. Dominique Shum-Tim

Professor of Surgery

- Co-supervisor of **Paromita Islam, PhD** (Biomedical Engineering; co-supervisor: Dr. S. Prakash). Graduated 2025.

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS

1. Ghandour A, Langlois H, Lavigne G et al., **Shum-Tim D**. Impact of Nurse Practitioners on Guideline-Directed Medical Therapy at Discharge in Patients with ACS after CABG. Heart Surgery Forum. 2025;28(1):E019–E025.
2. Laldin S, Shum-Tim C, Prakash S, **Shum-Tim D**. Comparing Innovative AI Algorithms to Assess Echocardiographic Videos for Clinical Modelling. J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg. 2025 Nov;170(5):1449-1458.e2
3. Fadel E, Benchelabi N, **Shum-Tim D, Cecere R, Tchervenkov C, de Varennes B, Lachapelle K**. Outcomes After Primary Versus Delayed Sternal Closure in Acute Type A Aortic Dissection Repair. Journal of Cardiac Surgery. 2025;2025(1):6735727.
4. Sniderman A, **Lachapelle K**, Thanassoulis G. Myocardial compression and recoil as determinants of coronary blood flow. Eur Heart J. 2025;46(39):3844–3850.
5. Kodaira M, **Lachapelle K** et al. A Multidisciplinary Aortopathy Clinic: The McGill Experience. CJC Open. 2025;7(7):921–927.
6. Alharbi MA, Muller-Moran HR, Maurice-Ventouris M, Harley JM, **Lachapelle KJ**. A Novel Multidimensional Fidelity Framework for Cardiac Surgery Simulation. Adv Med Educ Pract. 2025;16:2419–2430.
7. Tokuno J, Fried GM, Kaneva P, Sayadi A et al., **Cecere R**, Hooshia A. Mixed Reality for Remote Procedural Training and Assessment: A Feasibility Study. J Surgical Education. 2025; Jun;82 (6):103504.
8. Madani S, Sayadi A, Turcotte R, **Cecere R**, Aoude A, Hooshia A. A Universal Calibration Framework for Mixed-Reality Assisted Robotic Surgery. Computer Methods and Programs in Medicine. February 2025;259:108470.

2025 GRADUATES

Graduating Residents

NAME	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Jawahir Alteneiji	Cardiac Surgeon, UAE
Dr. Husain Esmaeil	Cardiac Surgeon, Chest Diseases Hospital, Kuwait



General Surgery

REMARKS FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

DR. PAOLA FATA

The Division of General Surgery continues to build on a proud tradition of excellence, innovation, and leadership in patient care, education, research, and service. As the largest surgical division at McGill University, we are privileged to bring together an extraordinary community of surgeons, scientists, educators, trainees, nurses, and allied health professionals who share a common purpose: to improve the lives of our patients while advancing the field of surgery.

Across our five McGill teaching hospitals - the Montreal General Hospital, the Royal Victoria Hospital, the Lachine Hospital, the Jewish General Hospital, and St. Mary's Hospital - our more than 50 faculty members provide comprehensive, highly specialized care spanning trauma and acute care surgery, transplantation, hepatopancreatobiliary surgery, colorectal surgery, endocrine surgery, bariatrics, minimally invasive and robotic surgery, abdominal wall reconstruction, breast surgery, and surgical oncology. Together, we care for some of the most complex surgical patients in the province, guided by a commitment to clinical excellence, compassion, and innovation.

The past year has been one of remarkable progress. We have continued to strengthen our clinical programs, welcomed outstanding new faculty, expanded access to advanced minimally invasive and robotic surgery, and developed innovative models of care that improve patient flow, enhance quality, and promote more efficient

use of healthcare resources. These initiatives reflect an important shift in our thinking: not simply adapting to the evolving healthcare landscape, but actively shaping it.

Innovation, however, extends far beyond technology. It is reflected in the way we teach, collaborate, and challenge ourselves to continually improve. Our residency program remains a cornerstone of the Division, fostering a culture of curiosity, accountability, mentorship, and excellence. Through simulation-based education, competency-based training, individualized mentorship, and meaningful clinical experience, we are preparing the next generation of surgeons to lead with technical excellence, sound judgment, professionalism, and humanity.

Our research enterprise continues to thrive. Our faculty are advancing discovery across clinical, translational, educational, and health services research, publishing in the world's leading journals, securing highly competitive funding, and translating new knowledge into better care for patients. Increasingly, our work is multidisciplinary, collaborative, and focused on solving complex healthcare challenges that extend well beyond the operating room.

Leadership has also remained a defining strength of our Division. Our faculty continue to serve in influential roles within provincial, national, and international organizations, contributing to surgical education, accreditation, quality

improvement, guideline development, global surgery, and health policy. Their collective impact reflects the respect our Division has earned both within McGill and throughout the international surgical community.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without the dedication, professionalism, and generosity of every member of our Division. Progress is never the result of individual achievement alone. It is built through shared purpose, mutual respect, and a willingness to support one another while holding ourselves to the highest standards.

As we look ahead, our vision remains ambitious. We will continue to strengthen our academic mission, expand access to innovative surgical care, embrace new technologies, including artificial intelligence and advanced data science and foster an environment where every member of our Division has the opportunity to excel. We will continue to invest in our people, nurture future leaders, and challenge ourselves to redefine what is possible in surgery.



LEADERSHIP TEAM



PAOLA FATA, MD
Division Director



DR. JEAN-SÉBASTIEN PELLETIER
Residency Program Director



DR. MATHIEU ROUSSEAU
Assistant Program Director



DR. STEVEN PARASKEVAS
Research Director

FACULTY MILESTONES

NEW RECRUITS



Olivia Hershorn, MD MSc
Assistant Professor of Surgery, St-Mary's Hospital Centre Colorectal surgery, St-Mary's Hospital Centre

Dr. Olivia Hershorn joined the General Surgery team as a Colon and Rectal Surgeon at St. Mary's Hospital Centre in August 2025, with a concurrent appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at McGill University. She earned her medical degree from McGill University, followed by residency training in General Surgery at the University of Manitoba, where she also completed a Master of Science in Surgery. She subsequently undertook a fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at St. Paul's Hospital (University of British Columbia) in Vancouver.

Her research program focuses on mixed-methods approaches, patient-centred outcomes, and quality improvement, with particular emphasis on advanced endoscopy and transanal techniques in rectal cancer care. Clinically, she specializes in advanced laparoscopic and transanal procedures, with expertise in the management of colorectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, diverticular disease, and anorectal conditions.

Teodora Dumitra, MD MSc PhD
Assistant Professor of Surgery Surgical Oncology, McGill University Health Centre

Following completion of her General Surgery residency at McGill, where she also earned an MSc in Epidemiology and Biostatistics and a PhD in Experimental Surgery, Dr. Teodora Dumitra

pursued a two-year fellowship in Complex Surgical Oncology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. During her fellowship, she received consecutive Dr. Henry R. Shibata Fellowship Awards and a prestigious NIH T32 Translational Artificial Intelligence in Cancer Research Program Award, recognizing her emerging international leadership in surgical oncology and translational research. Dr. Dumitra has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications in leading journals, including *JAMA Surgery*, *Surgery*, *Surgical Endoscopy*, and *Annals of Surgical Oncology*. Her research focuses on patient-centred outcomes, enhanced recovery, artificial intelligence, and precision surgical oncology, with a particular interest in complex neuroendocrine tumors and robotic oncologic surgery.

PROMOTIONS

Dr. Dan Deckelbaum
Promoted to Full Professor

Dr. Evan Wong
Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Stephanie Wong
Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. George Zogopoulos
Promoted to Full Professor



Andrew MacDonald, MD MSc
Assistant Professor of Surgery Abdominal transplant surgery, McGill University Health Centre

Dr. Andrew J. MacDonald joins the MUHC as an abdominal transplant surgeon within the Multi-Organ Transplant and Donation Program. He completed his medical degree at Queen's University, residency and a Master's in Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Alberta, and fellowship training at the Mayo Clinic Transplant Center. His expertise spans liver, kidney, and pancreas transplantation, including living donor procedures and minimally invasive and robotic approaches. A recognized researcher in acute liver failure and transplantation outcomes, he was named a Young Investigator by the European Association for the Study of the Liver. Dr. MacDonald is equally committed to surgical education, mentorship, and advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in medicine.

TRANSITIONS

Dr. Marylise Boutros
Professor, Resigned September 30, 2025

Dr. Richard Margolese
Professor, Retired October 31, 2025

Prof. Maria Petropavlovskaya
Assistant Professor, Retired August 1, 2025

Dr. Rajam Raghunathan
Assistant Professor, Resigned June 30, 2025

HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Jeffrey Barkun

Professor of Surgery

- Led jury at the first HPB robotic surgery consensus conference (Paris, endorsed by AHPBA, SAGES, ACS); published in Annals of Surgery, 2025.

Prof. Julio Fiore

Associate Professor – Scientist (tenure track)

- Awarded Canada Research Chair (Tier II) in Surgical Outcomes, 2025 (\$600,000 CAD over 5 years, April 2025 – March 2030).
- Launched Surgical Scientist Program Graduate Scholarship Competition, 2025.

Dr. Sender Liberman

Professor of Surgery

- Completed tenure as Program Director, General Surgery Residency Program, June 30, 2025.

Dr. Ari Meguerditchian

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Canadian Surgical Forum Conference Session Chair “Not Cancer, But Not Normal: How to Handle Abnormal Breast Biopsies”

Dr. Elliot Mitmaker

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Completed 8 years as Program Director, General Surgical Oncology Residency Program, with successful internal accreditation review in 2025.

NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES

Dr. Jean-François Boileau

Associate Professor of Surgery

- President, Comité National de Gouverne du Réseau de Cancérologie Mammaire, and medical representative, RUISSS McGill, 2025.

Dr. Prosanto Chaudhury

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Vice-President, Canadian Society of Transplantation (CST), 2025.

Dr. Richard Garfinkle

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Appointed Co-Director - Surgical Scientist Program (SSP), 2025.
- Appointed Research Director for the Colorectal Surgery fellowship program

Dr. Sender Liberman

Professor of Surgery

- President, Canadian Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (CSCRS).
- Chair, CRS Competence Committee, McGill General Surgery Residency Program.

NOTABLE GRANTS

Prof. Pnina Brodt

- PI, **Cancer Research Society** (\$135 000 total): “Role of IMP1 in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma initiation and progression”
- Co-PI, (with Prof Livia Garzia), **CIHR / PCMM Network** (\$40 000): “IGF-Trap for the treatment of Ewing sarcoma”
- PI, **Axelys (Québec innovation)** (\$81 275): “In vivo evaluation of IGF-Trap in clinically relevant models of Ewing sarcoma”

Prof. Julio Fiore

- PI, **CIHR** Canada Research Chair Research Allowance (\$150 000)
- PI, **MUHC-RI Accelerating Clinical Trials – Flagship Feasibility** (\$50 000): “Opioid vs. opioid-free analgesia after MIS colorectal surgery (RCT pilot)”
- PI, **Cleveland Clinic Digestive Disease and Surgery Institute – Chief Innovation Award** (\$67 500): “Assessment of the RAAS questionnaire using psychometric methods”

Dr. Steven Paraskevas

- Co-I (PI: C. Hoesli), **Breakthrough T1D / Stem Cell Network** (\$24 300): “Vascular lattice bioartificial pancreas for diabetes cellular therapy”

Dr. Ipshita Prakash

- PI, **Rossy Cancer Network** (\$86 665): “Mapping financial toxicity across the first year of oncologic treatment: FIONA pilot study”
- PI, **Novartis** (\$50 000): “Impact of omission of sentinel lymph node biopsy for early-stage breast cancer in Canada (real-world evidence)”

Dr. Jean Tchervenkov

- Co-investigator, PI: C Hoesli and D. Wagner, **CFI BRAVO grant** (\$15,151,069 total): “Biofabrication for organoid valorization”

Dr. Stephanie Wong

- Co-applicant, PI: L. McCaffrey, **CIHR Team Grant** (\$1,975,000): “Biology to Cancer Prevention”



HONOURS & AWARDS

Dr. Mark Basik

Professor of Surgery

- \$100,000 donation from the Montoni Foundation to the Jewish General Hospital Foundation in recognition of patient care.

Prof. Pnina Brodt

Professor of Surgery

- Ranked #2 worldwide in the field of Liver Metastatic Disease by ScholarGPS, 2025 (second consecutive year).
- Pediatric Clinical Innovation Prize, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, McGill University, 2025 (with Dr. Livia Garzia as co-recipient).
- Woman of Action Award, Israel Cancer Research Fund, Montreal, 2025.

Dr. Paola Fata

Associate Professor of Surgery

- \$100,000 in patient donations in recognition of clinical care, 2025.
- Honoured with the Medal of a Member of the National Assembly for her leadership in surgical innovation and patient-centered care.

Dr. Liane Feldman

Professor of Surgery

- Honored with the National Assembly Medal for her leadership in surgical innovation and patient-centered care.
- Provincial Health Innovation award (Prix Hippocrate – Prix innovation-technologique) to SuPER Lab.

Dr. David Fleiszer (HEADSHOT)

Associate Professor of Surgery

- King Charles III Coronation Medal, awarded March 2025, presented by Anna Gainey, Member of Parliament (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount). Awarded in recognition of “valuable contribution to [one’s] country” and “outstanding achievement” in clinical service.
- Honorary Membership, Canadian Association of General Surgeons (CAGS), awarded September 2025 “in recognition of outstanding service to the profession of General Surgery in Canada ... and in particular for dedication to education for residents and members of CAGS.”

Dr. Ari Meguerditchian

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Undergraduate Medical Education Teaching Excellence Award, Faculty of Medicine, McGill University, 2025.

Dr. Steven Paraskevas

Professor of Surgery

- The Islet Transplant Program: finalist in the Prix d’excellence, Institut d’administration publique du Québec, 2025.

Dr. Carol-Ann Vasilevsky

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Honorary Member, Canadian Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (CSCRS), September 2025.

Dr. Tsafirir Vanounou

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Donation received for Virtual Patient education program.

VISITING SCHOLAR & PROFESSORSHIPS

Dr. Jean-François Boileau

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, “Breast cancer axillary management: Past, present and future.” McMaster General Surgery Research Day, Hamilton, ON, 2025.

Dr. Liane Feldman

Edward W. Archibald Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery

- **Delivered nine invited lectures including 3 keynotes:**
 - Gordon Murray Lecturer, Gallie Day, University of Toronto “Getting to mastery: The promise (and pitfalls) of Video based analytics in surgery”
 - Joaquin S Aldrete Visiting Professor and Lecturer, University of Alabama “ERAS 2.0: it’s all about the R!”

- Society of Surgical Chairs Women in Surgery Luncheon, American College of Surgeons Leadership and Advocacy Summit, “Managing up”

Prof. Julio Fiore

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Sabbatical Visiting Scholar, DDSI, Cleveland Clinic Florida, Weston, USA, January–December 2025. Multiple international invited lectures on patient-reported outcomes and surgical recovery.

Dr. Sender Liberman

Professor of Surgery

- Invited Keynote Speaker, Surgical Oncology Grand Rounds, University of Toronto, 2025.

INNOVATIONS, NEW PROGRAMS & BENCH-TO-BEDSIDE TRANSLATION

Dr. Amin Andalib

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Established and launched Endoscopic Bariatric Procedures at the MUHC – one of only a handful of centres across Canada, 2025.
- Sole invited Canadian centre in the multi-national multicentre RCT on bariatric surgery vs. best medical therapy in NASH.

Dr. Mark Basik

Professor of Surgery

- Obtained Health Canada approval to initiate the FRIDA trial (fecal microbiota transplantation in triple-negative breast cancer), 2025.

Dr. Jean-François Boileau

Associate Professor of Surgery

- First use of MOLLI magnetic seed localization in Québec; established continued funding for the technology at JGH.

Prof. Pnina Brodt

Professor of Surgery

- Founded start-up BLES Therapeutics to advance the IGF-Trap biologic toward FDA approval for Ewing sarcoma and other indications.

Prof. Julio Fiore

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Launched the Surgical Scientist Program Graduate Scholarship Competition, 2025 – a new structured mechanism to support trainee funding across the Department.

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Dr Liane Feldman

Professor of Surgery

- **Dr Dylan Grissel** (MSc student)
 1. Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master’s Program award (declined).
 2. Canadian Associate of Medical Education Rising Star Award

Prof. Julio Fiore

Associate Professor of Surgery

- **Alireza Roosta** (MSc candidate): RI-MUHC EDI Prize for Academic Excellence (\$5,000); McGill FMHS (\$10,000).

Dr. Ari Meguerditchian

Associate Professor of Surgery

- **N. Morena** (PhD candidate): Weizenbaum Institute Fellowship, Berlin (\$6,000);

Dr. Steven Paraskevas

Professor of Surgery

- Start-up Nuredco Therapeutics received a US patent in 2025 for small molecule inhibitors of ROR-c (nuclear receptor).

Dr. Jean Tchervenkov

Professor of Surgery

- **Sabrina Leo** PhD candidate, McGill University: Courtois Foundation Research Award trainee: \$32,500.
- **Sabrina Leo** PhD candidate, McGill University: Young Investigator Award, The Transplantation Society, Istanbul, 2025.

Dr. Tsafrir Vanounou

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Students **Esther Kang** and **Andrew Meng**: Ted Hunter Resident Research Award for use of virtual patient simulations in surgical education, 2025.

Dr. George Zogopoulos

Professor of Surgery

- **Ruomeng Fang** (PhD candidate): Donner Studentship Award, Goodman Cancer Institute/ McGill (\$30,000).

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS

1. **Basik M**, Cecchini RS, De Los Santos JF et al. Breast Tumor-Bed Biopsy for Pathological Complete Response Prediction: The NRG-BR005 Nonrandomized Clinical Trial. JAMA Surg. 2025;160(7):723-731.
2. Cai Z, Boys EL et al., **Basik M** et al. Federated Deep Learning Enables Cancer Subtyping by Proteomics. Cancer Discov. 2025;15(9):1803-1818.
3. Geyer CE Jr **Basik M** et al. Survival with Trastuzumab Emtansine in Residual HER2-Positive Breast Cancer. N Engl J Med. 2025;392(3):249-257
4. **Fiore JF**, Shirzadi S , Roversi K , **Prakash I Wong S, Meterissian S, Meguerditchian AN**, Desbiens C, Rivard J, Findlay-Shirras L, Abou Khalil J, Maciver A, Quan ML, Verreault K, Johnston S, **Feldman L**. Comparative effectiveness of opioid versus opioid-free analgesia after outpatient breast surgery: PAIN-Alt trial protocol. BMJ Open 2025;15:e107258.
5. Wang AY, Paradis T, Hijji T, Abraham **L, Fiore JF, Liberman S, Lee L**. Ileostomy closure at an ambulatory surgery center: an initial assessment of feasibility and safety. Surg Endosc. 2025;39(9):6003–6009.
6. Moser M, Posel N, Ganescu O, **Fleiszer D**. Twelve tips: using generative AI to create and optimize content for virtual patient simulations. Medical Teacher. 2025;47(11):1745–1751.
7. Grou-Boileau F, Wang A, Robitaille S, Joshua TG, Maalouf MF, Olivier AM, **Liberman SA, Lee L**. Patient Activation Predicts Postoperative Quality of Life Following Proctectomy Better Than Low Anterior Resection Syndrome: A Retrospective Cohort Study. J Surg Res. 2025 Oct;314:574-579
8. **Wong SM**, Apostolova C, Ferroum A et al., **Fleiszer DM**, Foulkes WD. Chemotherapy receipt in affected BRCA1/2 and PALB2 carriers with operable breast cancer: the impact of early detection and pre-diagnostic awareness on clinical outcomes and treatment. Hered Cancer Clin Pract. 2025;23(1):14.
9. Moon J, Monton O, Smith A, Demian M, Sabboobeh S, **Garfinkle R**, Chamdroka M, Brown C, Chadi S, Kennedy E, **Liberman S**, Savard J, **Vasilevsky CA, Fiore JF** Jr, Loisselle C, Zelkowitz P, Bhatnagar S, **Boutros M**. The impact of an interactive online informational and peer support application (app) for patients with low anterior resection syndrome (LARS) on quality of life: a multicenter randomized controlled trial. Surg Endosc. 2025 Feb;39(2):1308-1317.
10. **Garfinkle R**, Demian M, Sabboobeh S, Bhatnagar S, Savard J, Drolet S, **Liberman SA**, Brown CJ, Park J, Moon J, Loisselle CG, Wexner SD, Bordeianou L, **Ghitulescu G, Faria J, Morin N, Vasilevsky CA, Boutros M**. Impact of a Patient-centered Program for Low Anterior Resection Syndrome: A Multicenter, Single-blinded, Randomized Controlled Trial. Ann Surg. 2025 Sep 1;282(3):361-370.
11. Harbeck N, Modi S, Pusztai L et al., **Boileau JF** (senior author). Neoadjuvant trastuzumab deruxtecan for high-risk HER2-positive early breast cancer: DESTINY-Breast11 phase III trial. Ann Oncol. 2026;37(2):166-179. Epub Oct 2025.
12. Jerzak KJ, Sehdev S, **Boileau JF** et al. Multidisciplinary Practical Guidance for Implementing Adjuvant CDK4/6 Inhibitors in HR+ /HER2- Early Breast Cancer in Canada. Curr Oncol. 2025;32(8):444.

13.

Hobeika C, Pfister M et al., **Barkun J**, Clavien PA. Recommendations on Robotic HPB Surgery: The Paris Jury-Based Consensus Conference. Ann Surg. 2025;281(1):136-153.

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Parente A, Verhoeff K et al., **Barkun J, Chaudhury P, Paraskevas S, Zogopoulos G** et al. Utilization of liver grafts from donation after MAiD: A Canadian multicenter experience. J Hepatol. 2026;84(2):329-338.

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Garg B, Khan S et al., **Brodt P** et al. MICAL2 Is a Super Enhancer Associated Gene Promoting Pancreatic Cancer Growth and Metastasis. Cancer Res. 2025;85(6):1049-1063.

16.

Chen YM et al., **Brodt P**. Nanoparticle encapsulation enables systemic IGF-Trap delivery to inhibit intracranial glioma growth. Neuro Oncol. 2025;27(5):1227-1240.

17.

Toss A, Blondeaux E et al., **Wong SM** et al. [Fertility and oncology outcomes in young BRCA carriers]. Ann Oncol. 2025.

18.

Melanson A, Mashal S et al., **Wong SM**. Uptake of Risk Reducing Mastectomy in Older BRCA1/2 and PALB2 Carriers. Ann Surg Oncol. 2026;33(1):108-117.

19.

Delisle M, Dingley B, Light A et al., **Meguerditchian AN** et al. Management and outcomes of Merkel Cell Carcinoma in Canada between 2000 and 2018 from the Pan-Canadian Merkel Cell Collaborative. Annals of Surgical Oncology 2025 Aug;32(8):5387-5396.

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Berry D, Moldoveanu D, Rajkumar S, Lajoie M, **Meguerditchian AN**, Richardson K, Wang B, Chergui M, Guiot MC, Watters K, Stagg J, Schmeing TM, Rodier F, Turcotte S, Mihalcioiu C, Meterissian S, Watson I. The NF1 Tumor Suppressor Regulates PD-L1 and Immune Evasion in Melanoma. Cell Reports 2025 March: 44(3): 115365.

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Boukhili N, Paradis T, Faris-Sabboobeh S, Demian M, **Morin N, Vasilevsky CA, Ghitulescu G, Faria J, Pang A, Boutros M**. Hospital-at-home for acute complicated diverticulitis: a single-arm feasibility study. Surg Endosc. 2025 Nov;39(11):7586-7591.

22.

Boukhili N, Caminsky NG, Sabboobeh S, Demian M, Rigas G, **Morin N, Vasilevsky CA, Ghitulescu G, Faria J, Pang A, Boutros M**. Nonoperative management of acute complicated diverticulitis: A retrospective cohort needs-assessment study for home-based management. Surgery. 2025 Oct;186:109537. d

23.

Groszman L, Hopkins B, AlShahwan N, **Fraser S, Bergman S, Pelletier JS, Vanounou T, Wong E**. Predicting Acute Cholecystitis on Final Pathology to Prioritize Surgical Urgency: An Evaluation of the Tokyo Criteria and Development of a Novel Predictive Score. Journal of Surgical Research 2025(314) 464-471.

24.

Knox JJ, Jang GH, Grant RC et al... **Zogopoulos G** et al. Whole genome and transcriptome profiling in advanced pancreatic cancer patients on the COMPASS trial. Nat Commun 2025 Jul 1; 16(1):5919

2025 GRADUATES

GRADUATING RESIDENTS

NAME	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Shafic Abdulakrim	Plastic Surgery fellowship, University of California, Irvine
Dr. Rabab Alabdullah	Vascular Surgery fellowship, University of Ottawa
Dr. Sarah Al Ben Ali	Surgical Oncology fellowship, University of Ottawa
Dr. Abdullah Al Shammari	Colorectal Surgery fellowship, McGill University
Dr. Natasha Caminsky	Surgical Oncology fellowship, University of Montreal
Dr. Élise Di Lena	Surgical Oncology fellowship, Roswell Park
Dr. Araz Kouyoumdjian	Advanced GI/Minimally Invasive Surgery fellowship, McGill University
Dr. Stephan Robitaille	General surgeon, Montérégie-Ouest

GRADUATING FELLOWS

NAME	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Abdulrahim Abdulmomen	Advanced Minimally Invasive Hepatopancreaticobiliary Surgery	Assistant professor, Imam Abdulrahman bin Faisal University
Dr. Liza Abraham	Colorectal Surgery	Colorectal surgery, Scarborough Health Network, Toronto
Dr. Arezoo Ahmadzadeh	Minimally Invasive Surgery	Acute Care Surgeon, William Osler Health System, Toronto
Dr. Naser Alali	Bariatric Surgery	MIS fellowship at Western University
Dr. Rami Alghamdi	Trauma Surgery	Trauma, Acute Care Surgery and Critical Care Medicine, King Saud Medical City, Saudi Arabia
Dr. Abrar Alhashemi	Colorectal Surgery	Jaber Hospital, Kuwait
Dr. Anthony Bismar	Colorectal Surgery	International training in robotic colorectal surgery
Dr. Amro Jastaniah	Surgical Oncology	HPB and transplant fellowship, McGill University
Dr. Mishary Shalhoub	Trauma Surgery	Consultant, Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, Abdominal wall reconstruction, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz University Hospital, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Orthopaedic Surgery

REMARKS FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

DR. GREG BERRY



It is a time of renewal in the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery at McGill. As I write this update for our alumni and supporters, I have the pleasure of announcing that, after two mandates as Mueller Chair and Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery at McGill, I am handing the torch to Dr Ahmed Aoude who will carry our academic mission forward to new heights of innovation and clinical excellence. Dr Aoude is the Director of the Sarcoma Unit and Co-Director of the Orthopaedics Biomechanical Laboratory at the MUHC, as well as an expert in spine and sarcoma surgery. At the Jewish General Hospital, Dr David Zukor is transitioning to a new phase in his professional life and a search committee has been struck to find his successor as Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery at the JGH after more than 20 years in that role. Lastly, Dr Ron Dimentberg has handed over the reins as Chief of Orthopaedic

Surgery at St Mary's to Dr Anthony Albers, an outstanding surgeon, researcher and innovator. The new blood in these key leadership positions will bring new vision, increased energy, and heightened enthusiasm to all three institutions and I wish each of these fine leaders "Bon courage" as they take on their new roles.

The division continues to attract world-class talent to its faculty ranks. Dr Julien Montreuil has returned from subspecialty training in Orthopaedic Oncology and Complex Arthroplasty Reconstruction to join the arthroplasty unit at the JGH and the sarcoma unit at the MGH/MUHC. It is a pleasure to welcome him back. At the MGH, we have been able to recruit two new additions to our Spine Unit to replace Dr Michael Weber (departure) and Dr Peter Jarzem (progressive retirement). The first is Dr Etienne

Bourassa-Moreau who joins us from Hôpital du Sacré-Coeur, our sister level one trauma centre in the city. He is a mid-career academic surgeon with superior technical skills and a well-established record in teaching and research. Dr James Wu is also a spine surgeon whose training began at the Université de Montréal (medicine), continued in Toronto (residency and a first spine fellowship) and ended in Calgary (spine fellowship). He has integrated smoothly into the division and is highly appreciated by the residents, fellows, nurses and orthopaedic staff. We look forward to great things from all three of these outstanding young surgeons.

Our researchers continue to perform well above their weight on the local, national and international scenes, as you can see from the list of accomplishments below. We are fortunate to have excellent scientists and surgeon-scientists shouldering the hard and under-funded work that is scientific research in Canada in 2025-26.

As I close out my tenure as Chair and Chief, I look back with pride and satisfaction at all the accomplishments our team has brought to fruition. Through the tireless and dedicated contributions of

residents, fellows, scientists, surgeons, nurses, administrators, and managers, we have moved the needle in all three domains of our academic mandate. It has been fun and gratifying to work alongside such amazing human beings.



LEADERSHIP TEAM



GREG BERRY, MD, MSED
Division Director



MITCHELL BERNSTEIN, MD
Residency Program Director



ANTHONY ALBERS, MD
Assistant Program Director



JAKE BARRALET, PHD
Research Director, Division



JOHN ANTONIOU, MD, PHD
*Research Director,
Residency Program*



RENÉ ST-ARNAUD, PHD
Research Director (Shriners)

FACULTY MILESTONES

NEW RECRUITS



Bardia Barimani, MD MSc
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,
Jewish General Hospital*

Dr. Bardia Barimani is an orthopaedic surgeon specializing in adult hip and knee arthroplasty. Dr. Barimani is experienced with providing robotic assisted surgical options spanning from uni-compartmental knee replacements to both primary and revision hip and knee arthroplasty. He completed his medical school at Imperial College

London and orthopaedic surgery training at McGill University. He then completed a subspecialty fellowship in hip and knee arthroplasty at the University of Toronto. Following this, he worked at the University of Texas Medical Branch prior to returning to McGill University where he is actively involved in teaching medical students, residents and fellows. Additionally he has a Master’s degree in Experimental Surgery with research interests in surgical innovation, augmented reality and surgical outcomes.



Jason Corban, MD
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,
McGill University Health Centre*

Dr. Jason Corban is an orthopaedic surgeon specializing in upper extremity pathology and orthopaedic sports medicine. He completed his medical degree and residency in orthopaedic surgery at McGill University, followed by a sports medicine fellowship at the University of Southern California and a Shoulder and Elbow Surgery fellowship at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston. During his fellowships, he served as part of the treating team for the USC Trojans, the Los Angeles Kings, and the Boston Celtics. His research focuses on automated kinematic assessment for injury prediction and postoperative outcome evaluation, with additional interests in novel technologies for injury prevention and biologics for cartilage restoration and soft tissue healing. Clinically, he specializes in arthroscopic procedures for the shoulder, hip, and knee, as well as comprehensive shoulder care.



Julien Montreuil, MD, MSc
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,
Jewish General Hospital*

Dr. Julien Montreuil completed his orthopaedic surgery residency at McGill University and an MSc from Université de Montréal with a focus on 3D imaging, before pursuing dual fellowship training at the University of Miami in Musculoskeletal Oncology and Complex Hip and Knee Reconstruction. This dual training provides him with comprehensive expertise spanning orthopaedic oncology and complex adult reconstruction. Dr. Montreuil’s clinical interests include musculoskeletal oncology, complex hip and knee reconstruction, and osseointegration. In collaboration with Dr. Robert Turcotte, he has established an osseointegration program

offering advanced prosthetic solutions for amputees. His practice further integrates cutting-edge technologies including surgical robotics, navigation systems, and custom implants to optimize patient outcomes.



Louis-Nicolas Veilleux, PhD
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,
Shriners’ Hospital*

Prof. Louis-Nicolas Veilleux is an orthopaedic researcher whose work focuses on two primary areas: gait and motion analysis in youth with musculoskeletal disorders, and sports medicine. His work in gait analysis examines the impact of musculoskeletal conditions on patients’ mobility and quantifies improvements following surgical or physiotherapy interventions. In sports medicine, his research targets risk factors for anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury and re-injury following reconstruction, as well as factors that contribute to optimal recovery outcomes. His expertise spans pediatric gait and motion analysis, biomechanics in pediatric sports medicine, and return-to-sport evaluations following ACL reconstruction.

TRANSITIONS

Rahul Gawri, MD PhD
*Assistant Professor of Surgery –
Departure June 30, 2025*

NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES

Dr. Anthony Albers

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Appointed Director of Orthopaedic Research, St-Mary’s Hospital

Dr. Mitchell Bernstein

Associate Professor of Surgery

- President, Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society (LLRS), 2025.

Dr. Mark Burman

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Appointed CTU Director, MUHC Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Service

Prof. Livia Garzia

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Appointed Co-leader, Cancer Research Program, RI-MUHC.

Dr. Jennifer Mutch

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- ERAS Lead, St-Mary’s Hospital: streamlined arthroplasty ERAS protocols, resulting in increased day surgery rates and reduced length of stay for inpatient arthroplasty.



NOTABLE GRANTS

Dr. Anthony Albers

- Co-PI (with Dr. J Mutch), **St-Mary’s Hospital Research Center CARE Grant** (\$30 000)
- PI, **St-Mary’s Hospital Foundation** St-Mary’s Orthopaedic Research Program, institutional support (\$220 000)

Dr. Ahmed Aoude

- PI, **Innovait** – Pilot Grant AI and Surgical Imaging (\$150 000): “AI powered medical device for intra-operative bone cancer detection”
- PI, **National Research Council Canada** – IRAP (\$100 000): “Medical device for intra-operative bone cancer detection”
- PI, **John Dobson Foundation** – Venture Innovation Grant (\$45 000): “Medical device for intra-operative bone cancer detection”

Prof. Lisbet Haglund

- Co-applicant (PI: J. Li), **CIHR** (\$325 000): “Mechanotransductive Regenerative Bioadhesives for IVD Repair”

Prof. Joanna Przybyl

- PI, **FRQS – Junior 2 Award** (\$147 057)
- PI, **CIHR Project Grant** (Priority) (\$100 000): “Liquid biopsy in sarcoma – pediatric cancers”
- PI, **RI-MUHC Precision Oncology Seed Fund** (\$100 000): “Precision Oncology – Sarcoma”
- PI, **LMS Direct Research Foundation** (\$67 600): “ctDNA Monitoring for Long-term Surveillance of LMS Patients”

HONOURS & AWARDS

Dr. Anthony Albers

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Harvey Sigman Award for Teaching Excellence, McGill University Department of Surgery.

Dr. John Antoniou

Professor of Surgery

- Honorary Doctorate, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece, June 2025 – in recognition of sustained contributions to orthopaedic research, global academic leadership, and lifelong commitment to medical education.

Dr. Ahmed Aoude

Associate Professor of Surgery

- CLIC - Hakim Innovation Prize – 1st Place - Medical device for intra-operative bone cancer detection.

Prof. Lisbet Haglund

Professor of Surgery

- CCTS Robin Poole Award 2025, Canadian Connective Tissue Society – awarded to a scientist with a strong track record in connective tissue research.
- Science Advances paper on senolytic treatment for low back pain selected as a Top 10 Research Advance of 2025 by the Arthritis Society Canada.

Prof. Fackson Mwale

Professor of Surgery

- James McGill Professor - in recognition of sustained academic excellence, leadership, and scholarly impact.

Prof. René St-Arnaud

Professor of Surgery

- Re-appointed to the Francis Glorieux Chair in Pediatric Musculoskeletal Research.

Dr. Michael Tanzer

Professor of Surgery

- McGill Department of Surgery L.D. MacLean Distinguished Achievement Award.
- Eugene Rogala Award, McGill University Orthopaedic Residents Research Competition.

INVITED LECTURES, TEACHING & VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS

Dr. Anthony Albers

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Chair and International Faculty, AO Recon 2025 Complex Hip Reconstruction Course, Davos, Switzerland

Dr. John Antoniou

Professor of Surgery

- Honorary Doctorate Lecture: “Bones, Breakthroughs, and Belonging: A Journey Forged by Science, Grit, and Hellenic Roots,” Medical Faculty, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, June 2025.
- “Hartofilakidis” Keynote Lecture: “What’s New in Hip Resurfacing in 2025?” ATTIKON University General Hospital, Athens, Greece, June 2025.

Dr. Gregory Berry

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Chair, AO Milestones Skills Training Session, Las Vegas, NV

Prof. Lisbet Haglund

Professor of Surgery

- Keynote: “Senolytic drugs for the treatment of pain”, European Orthopaedic Research Society (eORS), Davos, Switzerland, June 2025.

- Named Lecture: “Targeting Cell Senescence as a Therapeutic Option for Low Back Pain,” CCTS Robin Poole Award Lecture, Canadian Connective Tissue Conference, May 2025.
- Session Chair, ORS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
- Special Symposium Co-organizer and Chair, “Translational Spine Research: What Have We Accomplished and Where Should We Go?” eORS

Dr. Edward Harvey

Professor of Surgery

- Phoenix Dignity Heath Orthopaedic Visiting Professor – “Solving Compartment Syndrome”
- University of Toronto Department of Surgery Trauma Visiting Professor – “Sensor Driven Medicine - Solving Compartment Syndrome”
- Louisiana State University – Orthopedic Surgery Trauma Visiting Professor – “Compartment Syndrome – Safety through Protocol”
- Cedar Sinai Health Sciences University Trauma Visiting Professor – “Understanding Compartment Syndrome”
- Invited Keynote, AOA Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX: “Designing Smart Machines for Medicine”

NEW PROGRAMS & BENCH-TO-BEDSIDE TRANSLATION

Dr. Ahmed Aoude

Associate Professor of Surgery

6 US Orthopedic patent applications filed 2025:

- Method And System For Augmented Reality Overlay In The Real World With Scene Object Registration And Tracking In Image-Guided Surgery On Bones. US Patent Application No. 63/931,036; Inventors: Aoude A
- Method And Apparatus For Preoperative Planning, Intraoperative Guidance, And Autonomous Surgery On Bones. US Patent Application No. 63/713,674; Inventors: Aoude A, Madani A, Hooshiair A, Turcotte R.
- InfuseXMR: An Infusion of Inside-Out and Outside-In Mixed Reality Navigation Frameworks for Computer Assisted Surgery Targeting Stationary Anatomies with Implications on Robotic Surgical Systems; Inventors: Aoude A, Madani A, Hooshiair A, Turcotte R.
- Method And Apparatus For Tracking Of Navigated Stereotaxic Surgical Robots. 63/713,680; Inventors: Aoude A, Madani A, Hooshiair A, Turcotte R.
- Methods And Systems For Operating A Robotic Arm, Controlling A Burr And Determining A Trajectory For A Tool. Patent Application No. 63/759,893; Inventors: Aoude A, Madani A, Hooshiair A, Turcotte R.
- Methods And Systems For Registering Coordinate Systems No. 63/762,287; Inventors: Aoude A, Madani A, Hooshiair A, Turcotte R.

Prof. Jake Barralet

Professor of Surgery

- 3 new invention disclosures (ROIs) filed: Robot-assisted laparoscopic surgery (ROI 2025-084); Wound healing enhancement agent (ROI 2026-007); Modifying healing tissue microenvironment (ROI 2026-008).
- Launched SNIP (Student Network of Innovation Platform) at McGill, 2025.

Dr. Gregory Berry

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Osteobotix: Surgical robotic orthopaedic trauma platform in active development; 6 patents pending.
- BookCase patient management application: Developed and deployed for orthopaedic patient management.
- Telehealth and Technology (T&T) Project for Cree communities: Reduced major amputation rate from 40% to less than 5% per year.
- Procurement of intra-operative spinal navigation system for the Spine Service, MUHC.

Dr. Mark Burman

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Expanding ambulatory surgical activity at the affiliated CMS (Centre médical spécialisé) for the Sports Medicine Group: increasing breadth and volume of orthopaedic sports medicine procedures performed in the community surgical setting.

Dr. Edward Harvey

Professor of Surgery

- Multiple applied patents in 2025: Identification of Bacteria for Sensors; 5-in-1 Sensor for Limb Health; Modifications of sensor insertion technology.

Prof. Fackson Mwale

Professor of Surgery

- CEO, Intervertech Inc. – translating intervertebral disc therapeutic concepts toward clinical development. Also involved in Trepso Therapeutics and OligoMedic.

Dr. Michael Tanzer

Professor of Surgery

- Established the highest proportion arthroplasty day surgery program in Québec.

NEW COURSES & TRAINING PROGRAMS

Dr. Gregory Berry

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Hard Skills Modules for resident training (McGill Orthopaedic Surgery program).

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Prof. Lisbet Haglund

Professor of Surgery

- **Xiaoyi Lan** (PDF): NSERC Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$70,000/yr) and FRQS Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$45,000/yr).
- **Saber Ghazizadeh** (PhD): FRQ Doctoral Research Scholarship (\$25,000/yr, 2025–2028); Arthritis Society Canada Training PhD Salary Award (\$53,000); McGill Graduate Excellence Award (\$6,000).
- **Eleane C.B. Hamburger** (PhD): RI-MUHC PhD Fellowship (\$12,000); Dean’s List with Distinction; Innovation Showcase Winner, Research Canada/RI-MUHC.

Prof. Joanna Przybyl

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- **Pateel Markarian** (MSc→PhD fast-track): CIHR CGS-M (\$27,000).
- **Anastasia MacKeracher** (PhD): Cancer Research Society Doctoral Research Award (\$70,000); Interdisciplinary Cancer Sciences Graduate Excellence Fellowship (\$8,000).
- **Pegah Rahimizadeh** (PhD): FRQS Doctoral Training Award (\$91,666).
- **Richard Miallot** (Postdoc): FRQS Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$90,000).

Prof. Livia Garzia

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Assumed directorship of Taught-MSc Oncology Concentration.

Prof. Jake Barralet

Professor of Surgery

- **Ayden Watt** (PhD): FRQS Doctoral Research Award 2025–2028 (\$75,000); first-author publication in Advanced NanoBiomed Research 2025.
- **Arife Uzundurukan** (PDF): FRQNT B3X Scholarship (\$45,000); Edgar and Millicent Shaw Postdoctoral Prize in Acoustics (\$3,900).

Prof. Livia Garzia

Associate Professor of Surgery

- **Wajih Jawhar** (PhD): 5 Best Oral Presentation Awards at major conferences in 2025; Golden Scalpel Prize (Best Surgical Research in Canada, 2025); Cedar and Maple Prize 2025.
- **Ansley Gnanapragasam** (PhD): Herbert S. Lang Award in Oncology and Surgery (\$64,000, MGH Foundation).
- **Chika Jalamuddin**: MacCallum MacBain Foundation Award (\$20,000 CAD).

Prof. Fackson Mwale

Professor of Surgery

- **Muskan Alad** (PhD): Best Oral Presentation, 24th Annual McGill Biomedical Graduate Conference; 1st Place Podium, 34th Annual Fraser Gurd Research Day.

Prof. Louis-Nicolas Veilleux

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- **Marianne Gagnon** (PhD): CIHR CGS-Doctoral (\$105,000) and FRQS Doctoral Training Award (\$84,000).

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS

1. Grant MP, Alad M, Yousef F, Epure LM, **Antoniou J, Mwale F**. Link N directly targets IL-1 β to suppress inflammation and regulate sensory pain in intervertebral disc degeneration. *Biomolecules*. 2025 Apr 19;15(4):603.
2. Deng J, Moskalyk M, Shammass-Toma M, **Aoude A**, Ghert M, Bhatnagar S, **Bozzo A**. Development of explainable machine learning models to identify patients at risk for 1-year mortality and new distant metastases postendoprosthetic reconstruction for lower extremity bone tumors: a secondary analysis of the PARITY trial. *JBJS Open Access*. 2025;10(2):e24.00213.
3. Jawhar W, Danieau G, Annett A, Ishii T, Bajic A, Castillo-Orozco A, Krug B, Faucher-Jabado Y, Seyedmoomenkashi J, Saquib M, Faury D, Jung S, **Aoude A, Turcotte RE**, Ellezam B, Sontag T, Langlois S, Sinnett D, Bailey SD, Zhang L, Dal Soglio D, Kleinman CL, Jabado N, **Garzia L**. Aberrant EZHIP expression drives tumorigenesis in osteosarcoma. *Nat Commun*. 2025;16(1):6752.
4. Kalashnikov N, **Barralet J**, Vorstenbosch J. Implantable medical devices, biomaterials, and the foreign body response: a surgical perspective, Part A. *J Biomed Mater Res*. 2025;113(9):e37983.
5. Louni Y, Laroche M, Alnasser A, **Mutch J, Albers A**. Acceptability of a digital care application for patients undergoing hip and knee arthroplasty (preprint). *JMIR Hum Factors*. 2025 Nov 20.
6. Brigato P, Cardahi F, Sheng K, Cherif H, Li L, Coluni C, Upshaw K, Ouellet JA, **Haglund L**. Technical insights and implications of thoracolumbar spine and neural tissue harvesting in recently deceased organ donors: a direct anterior approach integrated into multi-organ procurement protocols. *Eur Spine J*. 2025 Dec 26.
7. Lee JJY, **Garzia L**, Taylor MD. ZIC1 is a context-dependent medulloblastoma driver in the rhombic lip. *Nat Genet*. 2025;57(1):88–102.
8. De Bellis C, Vennam S, **Przybyl J**. Genomic, epigenomic, and transcriptomic inter- and intratumor heterogeneity in desmoid tumors. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2025;31(1):205–216.
9. Bouklouch Y, Miclau T, Harvey E. Diagnosis of acute compartment syndrome: current diagnostic parameters. *Injury*. 2025 Nov; 56 Suppl 1:112773.
10. Morello V, **Berry G, Bernstein M, Bunting A, Harvey E**, Reindl R. Distal femur fractures in the elderly population treated with fibular allograft and lateral plating only: the surgical technique. *OTA Int*. 2025 Aug 1;8(3):e416.
11. Raizman R, Garcia Luna Ramirez J, Newaz T, Wang S, **Berry G**, Yuan KL, Fraser R. Empowering patients and caregivers to use AI and computer vision for wound monitoring: a feasibility study. *J Particip Med*. 2025; manuscript 69470.
12. Laverdiere C, **Hart A**, Elmasry W, Capolicchio T, Smith K, **Tanzer M**. Weathering the storm: the impact of total hip arthroplasty on weather-related pain. *Bone Joint J*. 2025 May 1;107-B(5 Suppl A):16–21.
13. Nooh A, **Aoude A, Hart A, Tanzer M, Turcotte RE**. Taper junction subsidence occurs in modular tumor endoprostheses: how concerned should we be? *Clin Orthop Relat Res*. 2025 Feb 1;483(2):289–302.
14. **Veilleux LN**, Courter R, Feng J, Warshauer S, Descôteaux N, Chafetz RS. Variability and reproducibility of gait parameters in youth with cerebral palsy: feasibility for multicenter motion analysis studies. *Clin Biomech (Bristol, Avon)*. 2025;130:106678.
15. Baril M, Groszman L, Alhojailan K, **Albers A**. Competency in orthopaedic surgery: student perceptions and objective knowledge assessment. *Int Med Educ*. 2025;4(3):31.

2025 GRADUATES

GRADUATING RESIDENTS

NAME	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Hussain AlAli	Hand and microsurgery fellowships at the Kleinert and Kutz Institute
Dr. Nawaf Alamiri	Orthopedic Oncology and Arthroplasty fellowships
Dr. Hamid Al Badi	Knee and arthroplasty fellowships, University of Toronto and Nevada
Dr. Muadh Alzeedi	Knee Preservation and Reconstruction Fellow, University of Ottawa
Dr. Paul Kooner	Arthroplasty Fellowship at University of Toronto
Dr. Andrew Kusek	Trauma fellowship, University of Ottawa
Dr. Lucy Luo	Foot and Ankle Fellowship, Baylor University Medical Center
Dr. Simon Martel	Adult Reconstruction fellowship, University of British Columbia
Dr. Drew Schupbach	Sports Medicine fellowship, University of Chicago

GRADUATING FELLOWS

NAME	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Abdulmohsen Alabdulaly	Clinical Orthopedic Sports Medicine & Arthroscopy	Orthopedic Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy Surgeon, Saudi Arabia
Dr. Khalid Alaqeely	JGH Arthroplasty	
Dr. Abdulaziz AlHakbani	Sports Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery	Orthopedic Sports Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery, Saudi Arabia
Dr. Mohammed Alhasson	Sport Medicine and Arthroscopy	Orthopaedic Surgery, Saudi Arabia
Dr. Omar Alrifai	Arthroplasty	Hip and Knee arthroplasty and oncology, Saudi Arabia



Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

REMARKS FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

DR. JOSHUA VORSTENBOSCH

It is a tremendous honour to serve as Division Director of the McGill University Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery. As I begin this role, I would first like to acknowledge the outstanding leadership of Dr. Mirko Gilardino, whose dedication and vision have helped shape our division into one of Canada's premier academic plastic surgery programs. During his tenure, the division experienced meaningful growth in its clinical, educational, and research missions, including the recruitment of exceptional new faculty and expansion of specialized clinical services. I am grateful for the strong foundation he has established and excited to lead the next chapter of our division's evolution.

McGill Plastic Surgery has long been defined by excellence in patient care, education, research, and innovation. Across our affiliated teaching hospitals, our faculty provide comprehensive, highly specialized care spanning the full breadth of plastic, reconstructive, and aesthetic surgery. Through collaboration across disciplines and institutions, we continue to deliver outstanding care to patients with the most complex reconstructive challenges while advancing new approaches that improve outcomes and quality of life.

The past year has been one of exceptional momentum. We were delighted to welcome Drs. Tyler Safran, Charlotte Jaloux, and Myriam MacDonald to our faculty, bringing internationally recognized expertise in microsurgery, breast reconstruction, peripheral nerve surgery, hand surgery, and aesthetic surgery. These recruitments

significantly strengthen our clinical programs and expand access to highly specialized care for patients throughout Quebec. I am equally pleased to congratulate Dr. Dominick Zammit on his appointment as Residency Program Director. His commitment to innovation in surgical education will ensure that McGill continues to train the next generation of outstanding plastic surgeons.

Education remains one of the defining strengths of our division. Our residents and fellows benefit from exceptional mentorship and broad clinical exposure across multiple tertiary and quaternary referral centres. We are committed not only to developing technically outstanding surgeons, but also compassionate physicians, thoughtful educators, and future leaders who will shape our specialty nationally and internationally. The accomplishments of our graduates continue to reflect the strength of this educational mission.

Research is fundamental to our identity as an academic division. Our clinician-scientists and basic scientists are advancing discovery across a diverse range of fields, including regenerative medicine, biomaterials, fibrosis, microsurgery, peripheral nerve regeneration, surgical education, and health outcomes research. During the past year, our faculty secured major competitive funding, produced impactful scholarship, and received national and international recognition for their work. These achievements underscore our commitment to translating scientific discovery into meaningful improvements in patient care.

Looking ahead, our vision is both ambitious and clear. We will continue to recruit exceptional clinician-scientists and surgeon-educators, strengthen our research infrastructure, expand access to highly specialized reconstructive services, and foster innovation across every aspect of our academic mission. Particular emphasis will be placed on further developing our internationally recognized programs in microsurgery, breast reconstruction, peripheral nerve surgery, regenerative medicine, and translational biomaterials research. By encouraging collaboration across our hospital network and with partners throughout McGill University, we aim to create an environment where clinical excellence and scientific discovery continuously inform one another.

Our aspiration is not simply to maintain our reputation, but to establish McGill Plastic Surgery as the leading academic plastic surgery division in Canada and among the foremost programs internationally. Achieving this vision will require curiosity, collaboration, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to excellence—qualities that have long defined our faculty, trainees, researchers, and staff.

Finally, I extend my sincere gratitude to every member of our division. The accomplishments highlighted throughout this report are the result of the dedication of our faculty, residents, fellows, graduate students, researchers, nurses, allied health professionals, administrative staff, and countless collaborators. It is their commitment to our patients, our learners, and our academic mission that

makes McGill Plastic Surgery such an exceptional place to work and learn.

As we look toward the future, I am confident that together we will continue to advance the field of plastic surgery through innovation, discovery, and excellence in patient care, education, and research.



LEADERSHIP TEAM



MIRKO GILARDINO, MD
Division Director
(July 1, 2025)



JOSHUA VORSTENBOSCH
MD, PHD
Division Director
(from July 1, 2025)



DR. DOMINICK ZAMMIT
Residency Program
Director



ANIE PHILIP, PHD
Research Director

FACULTY MILESTONES

NEW RECRUITS



Tyler Sfran, MD, MSc
Assistant Professor of Surgery
McGill University Health Centre

Dr. Tyler Safran is a dual-fellowship-trained surgeon who completed residency training in Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery at McGill University, followed by fellowships in aesthetic surgery at USC and breast reconstruction/microvascular surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. He also holds a master’s degree in Experimental Surgery from McGill, where his award-winning thesis explored topical tranexamic acid in breast reconstruction. Author of 80+ peer-reviewed publications, Dr. Safran combines expertise in aesthetics, microsurgery, and breast reconstruction to deliver precise, personalized, natural results.



Charlotte Jaloux, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Surgery
McGill University Health Centre

Dr. Charlotte Jaloux is a French-trained plastic and hand surgeon specializing in complex reconstructive procedures, upper limb spasticity, trauma surgery, and peripheral nerve injury. Formerly Chief of Hand Surgery and Limb Reconstruction at Hôpital de la Timone in Marseille, she completed her hand surgery fellowship at the Institut de la Main in Paris and holds a PhD in Neurosciences focused on upper limb functional recovery. She joined Montreal General Hospital’s Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery team in 2025, bringing technical expertise, humanitarian dedication, and compassionate patient care.



Myriam MacDonald, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Jewish General Hospital

Dr. Myriam MacDonald is a double-board-certified plastic surgeon from Brazil with a strong interest in feminine aesthetics and well-being. After establishing a successful cosmetic plastic surgery practice in Brazil, she relocated to Canada in 2017,

completing her Canadian plastic surgery training at McGill University and a fellowship in breast reconstruction and microsurgery at the University of Ottawa. Her research interests span surgical outcomes, regenerative medicine, surgical education, and surgical oncology, with clinical expertise centered on breast reconstruction and aesthetics.

NOTABLE GRANTS

Prof. Anie Philip

- PI (PA), **CIHR – Project Grant** (\$631 125): “Pre-clinical development of a peptide biologic for idiopathic and scleroderma-related lung fibrosis”

Dr. Joshua Vorstenbosch

- PI, **NSERC Discovery Grant** (\$210 000): “Understanding how the tissue-biomaterial interface uniquely impacts the foreign body response”

ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS

Dr. Tassos Dionisopoulos

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, Tel Aviv University.

Dr. Roy Kazan

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, Kuwait: delivered two invited presentations on body contouring challenges and new techniques.
- Visiting Professor, Adel AlQutaina, Dubai.

NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES

Prof. Anie Philip

Professor of Surgery

- Chair, Training Committee, Skin Investigation Network of Canada (SkIN Canada).
- Co-Director and Executive Committee Member, SkIN Canada (CIHR-funded national skin research network).
- Appointed Board Member, Association for Research on Biosignaling and Communication (ARBIOCOM).

NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES CONT.

Dr. Joshua Vorstenbosch

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Appointed Division Director, Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery, McGill University. As Program Director until June 2025, he successfully led the Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery divisional royal college accreditation review.
- Appointed Associate Editor, Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Journal, 2025

Dr. Dino Zammit

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Appointed Residency Program Director

HONOURS & AWARDS

Dr. Stephanie Thibaudeau

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Best Paper Award, American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH).

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Prof. Anie Philip

Professor of Surgery

- **Adel Batal** (MSc): CIHR CGS-M (\$27,000).
- **Setareh Garousi** (MSc): CIHR CGS-M (\$27,000).
- **Varsha Durgampudi** (PhD): Surgeon Scientist Program Doctoral Award, Department of Surgery, (\$30,000).

INNOVATIONS, NEW PROGRAMS & BENCH-TO-BEDSIDE TRANSLATION

Dr. Roy Kazan

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Initiated a Brazilian Butt Lift (BBL) liposuction safety project (Safe BBL). Research will focus on standardizing perioperative protocols and improving outcomes in a high-risk procedure.

Prof. Anie Philip

Professor of Surgery

- CEO, start-up biotech “PL Signals,” incorporated for the development and licensing of anti-fibrotic and anti-cancer peptides derived from CD109 research. Holds pending and continued patents in Canada, the EU (UK, Germany, France), and the USA (US11787850B2).

Dr. Stephanie Thibaudeau

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Completed development and implementation of an ERAS pathway for flap surgery to the limbs at the MGH.

Dr. Joshua Vorstenbosch

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- **Hillary Nepon** (PhD): Oral Podium Presentation Award, Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons Annual Meeting. Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- **Nikita Kalashnikov**: Translational Research Award (McGill Division of Pediatric Surgery).

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS

1. Hassan A et al., **Philip A**. IL-6-mediated tumorigenicity in squamous cell carcinoma via CD109/STAT3/NRF2. *Exp Hematol Oncol*. 2025;14(1):64.
2. Batal A, Garousi S, Finnson K, **Philip A**. CD109, a master regulator of inflammatory responses. *Front Immunol*. 2025;15:1-16.
3. Chakraborty A et al., **Vorstenbosch J**. Cost of Care and Surgical Outcomes Between Direct-To-Implant and Staged Tissue-Expander Breast Reconstruction. *Plast Reconstr Surg*. 2025 Oct 20.
4. Haas Y, Williams OP , Masia J et al.... **Vorstenbosch J** et al. Microsurgical vs. complex physical decongestive therapy for chronic breast cancer-related lymphoedema. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2025;2025(2):CD016019.
5. Henry N, Haddad C, Abi-Rafeh J, Meguerditchian A-N, **Vorstenbosch J**. Breast implant rupture surveillance practices among plastic surgeons in publicly funded healthcare systems. *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*. 2025;49(3):741-748.
6. ElAbd R, Pu L, Esmonde-White C, ElHawary H, **Vorstenbosch J, Zammit DJ**. Association of Grit and Shame Based Learning on Burnout in Surgical Training: A Single Institution Analysis. *Surg Educ*. 2025 Sep;82(9):103583.
7. ElAbd R, Barone N, Richa Y, Do U, **Thibaudeau S, Samargandi O**. A critical appraisal of statistical approaches in within-individual observations in hand surgery. *Hand (N Y)*. 2025.
8. Chergui M et al., **Thibaudeau S** et al. Guidelines for skin biopsies and reporting on suspected cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. *Curr Oncol*. 2025;32(12):689.
9. Abi-Rafeh J, Cattelan L, Bassiri-Tehrani B, Marks J, **Kazan R, Shridharani S, Albert M, Nikolis A, Gilardino MS**, Nahai F. Artificial Intelligence-Generated Educational Curriculum on Facial Neurotoxin Injections: Assessment of Educational Content, Curriculum Structure, and Course Logistics. *Journal Drugs Dermatol* 2025 Apr 1;24(4):e19-29.
10. ElAbd R, Richa Y, Pu L et al., **Safran T, Gilardino MS**. Evaluation of the Safety and Efficacy of Tranexamic Acid Use in Face and Necklift Surgery: A Systematic Review. Accepted in *J Plast Reconstr Aesthet Surg* May 2025 104:369-85
11. Nguyen AL, Courtemanche R, **Gilardino MS**, Arneja J. Industry Payments to Plastic Surgeons: A Blind Spot for Physician Accountability in Canada (Editorial). *Plat Surg (Oakv)* 2025 Aug 17;33(4): 541-3
12. ElHawary H, Saedeldin A, Salimi A, Abdulkarim S, **Gilardino MS**. Ambidextrous Surgical Skills Training: What is Left to Do it Right? *J Surg Educ* 2025 Sep;82(9):103595 .

2025 GRADUATES

GRADUATING RESIDENTS

NAME	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Nader Henry	Oncologic and microvascular reconstruction fellowship, University of Toronto
Dr. Yasser Almadani	Microsurgery Fellowship, University of Michigan
Dr. Aslan Baradaran	Hand and Upper Extremity Fellowship, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Dr. Yehuda Chocron	Private and community practice in Miami, Florida
Dr. Hassan El Hawary	Microsurgery Fellowship, Stanford University

GRADUATING FELLOWS

NAME	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Mohammed Almarghoub	Plastic Surgery Craniofacial	Consultant, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



Thoracic and Upper Gastrointestinal Surgery

REMARKS FROM THE
DIVISION DIRECTOR

DR. LORENZO FERRI



The Division of Thoracic and Upper GI Surgery continued to strengthen its position as a national and international leader in clinical care, education, and translational research throughout 2025. Building on our longstanding excellence in thoracic and upper gastrointestinal oncology, this year was marked by major advances in surgical innovation, precision oncology, trainee development, and global academic leadership.

The lung cancer program within the Division established several key initiatives in 2025 including establishing novel neoadjuvant systemic therapy standard of care protocols also streamlining peri-operative care through

an innovative day-surgery lobectomy program. Another milestone reached in 2025 was the establishment of a robotic esophagectomy program at the McGill University Health Centre, further expanding our ability to offer advanced minimally invasive surgical care to patients with complex thoracic disease.

Research plays a crucial role at the McGill Division of Thoracic Surgery, encompassing established investigational programs in clinical, translational, and fundamental research streams. These active lines of investigation received over 2,750,000 \$ in 2025 from both peer reviewed and industry sponsored sources. Key scientific

findings published by members of the Division in 2025 span novel systemic therapies in lung and esophageal cancer, paradigm challenging work on the inflammatory/immune basis of cancer progression and metastasis, and investigating epigenetic drivers of cancer progression.

Our faculty maintained strong international visibility through leadership of major professional societies, invited keynote lectures, impactful publications, and innovative research programs spanning cancer biology, functional genomics, proteomics, and surgical outcomes research. Most importantly, these accomplishments were made possible through the dedication of our faculty, trainees, research staff, and clinical teams, whose commitment continues to advance patient care and scientific discovery.



LEADERSHIP TEAM



LORENZO FERRI, MD PhD
Director



MATHIEU ROUSSEAU MD
Fellowship Director



JONATHAN SPICER, MD, PhD
Research Director

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS
AND HIGHLIGHTS

MULTIMODAL MANAGEMENT
OF LUNG CANCER

Through the leadership of Jonathan Spicer, several key studies on novel neoadjuvant therapy protocols in resectable lung cancer were published most notably the overall survival results from the Checkmate 816 trial in the New England Journal of Medicine, the first trial pioneering the use of immunotherapy in the pre-operative window. Other industry sponsored trials published in 2025 for which Dr Spicer had a major role include the NeoCOAST-2 trial on peri-operative Durvulamab (Nature Med) and a subset analysis of the Checkmate 816 exploring double; checkpoint inhibition in resectable lung cancer (Journal of Clinical Oncology).

After successfully completing a clinical trial on same day discharge following lung resection first published first online in Aug 2025, under the direction of Sara Najmeh, the Division established a Day-Surgery Minimally Invasive Lobectomy

program. Through this program, carefully selected patients undergoing major lung resection are now able to be discharged on the same day of surgery, compare to hospital stay average of 4 days across Canada.

ROBOTIC THORACIC SURGERY
PROGRAM

In 2025, the Division expanded the minimally invasive approaches to diseases of the chest and upper GI system by incorporating the robotic Intuitive XI system. Although robotic lung and mediastinal surgery had already been performed previously in small volume, in 2025 the Division expanded significantly robotic surgical resection of the chest and formally established a robotic esophagectomy program at the Montreal General Hospital. This latter initiative builds upon the mature minimally invasive esophagectomy program in place for the past 20 years via a structured mentorship/proctorship program with leading robotic esophageal surgeons

including Mark van Berge Henegouwen from the University of Amsterdam and Peter Grimminger from University of Mainz. At present over 75% of lung, gastric, and esophageal resections performed by the division are via minimally invasive approaches with robotic assistance in a rapidly growing percentage.

FUNCTIONAL PRECISION
ONCOLOGY THROUGH ORGAN-
CHIP TECHNOLOGY

Through continued investment in thoracic tumour live banking, the Division has established the largest repository of patient derived tumour organoids for esophageal cancer globally. The success rate in generating these live tumour organoids is highest in the literature, and in 2025 the Division published

the optimized methodology so that we can share the technique with the broader scientific community. Through an innovative and bold approach in collaboration with the Wyss Institute at Harvard University and published in 2025, the Division of Thoracic Surgery has uniquely combined two new technologies in cell biology and bioengineering, **Organoids** and microfluidic **Organ-on-a-chip** respectively, to build completely faithful patient tumor “avatars” allowing the ability to faithfully replicate the complexities of an individual patient’s tumour allowing for functional precision oncology. This groundbreaking work on patient avatar cancer organ-chips published in the Journal of Translational Medicine was recently highlighted in national and international media outlets through print, video, and radio interviews (e.g. CBC, Global News, CBC radio, The Medical News) and was selected as one of the top 10 Organ-Chip manuscripts published in 2025 globally (Emulate corporation).



LEADERSHIP ROLES AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION



Lorenzo Ferri Delivering the Presidential Address at the Annual ISDE Meeting in Brisbane Australia Sept 2025

Divisional Director Lorenzo Ferri is the president of two prominent international societies: the International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus (ISDE) and the International Society for Digestive Surgery (ISDS). In September 2025, he presided over the ISDE annual meeting in Brisbane, Australia, where he delivered his presidential address titled “An Esophagologist’s Journey to Remain Relevant.” Through his leadership in ISDE, Dr Ferri chaired the first ISDE-Chinese Esophageal Society regional meeting in China in collaboration with the Shanghai Chest Hospital.

Both Drs Jonathan Spicer and Lorenzo Ferri were invited keynote speakers at the 37th Annual Meeting of the General Thoracic Surgical Club (GTSC) in March 2025, in Bonita Springs, Florida. Dr Spicer delivered a lecture on keys to success as a surgical-investigator in clinical trials and Dr Ferri

gave several talks on updates in management of esophageal cancer. Dr Spicer was invited speaker at several universities including the University of Ottawa and the Karolinska Institute and delivered keynote lectures at Sweden and Japanese surgical societies. In 2025 Dr Ferri was visiting professor at the University of British Columbia and the San Raffaele University in Milan, Italy. He was honoured to be the Keynote Lecturer in Upper Gastro-intestinal Surgery at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (Sydney- May 2025), as well as the European Society for Diseases of the Esophagus (Amsterdam - May 2025), Mexican Association of Endoscopic Surgery (Mexico City - Sept 2025), and Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand Gastric and Esophageal Surgery Association (Brisbane - Sept 2025). Dr Cools-Lartigue was invited to give a keynote lecture at the 7th Myeloid-Directed Therapies Summit in Boston (Sept 2025) titled “From Infection to Metastasis: Unravelling the Role of Emergency Myelopoiesis & Myeloid Cells in Cancer Progression”



Jonathan Spicer giving the keynote lecture at the General Thoracic Surgery Club in Florida Feb 2025

In May 2025, Sara Najmeh’s leadership in thoracic malignancy treatment was recognized by the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer by being selected as one of the four international co-chairs for the 2027 World Conference on Lung Cancer (WCLC), the premier lung cancer conference globally.

ADVANCED THORACIC AND UPPER GI SURGERY FELLOWSHIP

Due to the international reputation of the division of thoracic surgery, in 2025 we welcomed numerous international fellows in both clinical and research spheres. The Fellowship has flourished under the directorship of Mathieu Rousseau and we were fortunate to have trained surgeons this past year from some of the leading centres across the globe including:

Clinical Fellows

- Luis Santos-Castro - University of Lisbon (Portugal)
- Gokce Yavuz – University of Munich (Germany)
- Heidi Paine - University of Oxford (England)
- Noel Donlon – Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)

Research Fellows

- Sofia Cusin – San Raffaele Hospital Milan (Italy)
- Huynh-Tao Li – University of Freiburg (Germany)
- Riccardo Taje – University of Rome (Italy)



Advanced Thoracic and Upper GI Fellows Drs Li, Paine, Yavuz, Donlon, and Santos-Castro with attending surgeons Ferri, Najmeh, Mueller, and Rousseau.

NOTABLE GRANTS

Dr. Jonathan Spicer

- PI, **Cancer Research Society** (\$500 000): “Correlating post-operative ctDNA clearance to depth of pathological response in resectable NSCLC”.

Dr. Lorenzo Ferri

- PI, **2025 RI-MUHC Trottier Webster Innovation Competition Award** (\$100 000), Co-PIs (Pierre-Olivier Fiset, Logan Walsh): “NEO-PEGAL: Neoadjuvant Evaluation of Pathological Scoring in Esophageal and Gastric Cancers using Artificial Intelligence”.

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS

1.

Forde PM, **Spicer JD**, Provencio M, Mitsudomi T, et al. Overall survival with neoadjuvant nivolumab plus chemotherapy in lung cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2025 Aug 21;393(8):741-752.

2.

Desharnais L, Sorin M, Rezanejad M, et al.; **Spicer JD**, Walsh L. Spatially mapping the tumour immune microenvironments of non-small cell lung cancer. *Nat Commun*. 2025;16:1345.

3.

Jain MD, **Cools-Lartigue J**. Immune dysfunction after cancer remission: scar or disease? *Blood*. 2025 Sep 11;146(11):1255-1257.

4.

Cascone T, Bonanno L, Guisier F, et al.; **Spicer JD**, Forde PM. Perioperative durvalumab plus chemotherapy plus novel agents for resectable non-small-cell lung cancer: the NeoCOAST-2 trial. *Nat Med*. 2025 Aug;31(8):2788-2796.

5.

Pal S, **Bailey SD**, Berubé J, Ingber DE, **Ferri L**. Patient-derived esophageal adenocarcinoma organ chip: a physiologically relevant platform for functional precision oncology. *J Transl Med*. 2025;23:577.

6.

Alcindor T, Tankel J, **Mueller C**, **Cools-Lartigue J**, **Bailey S**, **Ferri L**. Phase 2 trial of perioperative chemo-immunotherapy for gastro-esophageal adenocarcinoma: the role of M2 macrophage landscape in predicting response. *Cell Rep Med*. 2025;6(4):102045.

7.

Strasser MK, **Ferri LE**. Concerted changes in epithelium and stroma: a multi-scale, multi-omics analysis of progression from Barrett's esophagus to adenocarcinoma. *Dev Cell*. 2025 Oct 20;60(20):2807-2824.

8.

SPACE-FLOT Investigators (includes **Ferri L**). Pathological response guides adjuvant FLOT chemotherapy in surgically resected gastro-oesophageal cancer. *Br J Surg*. 2025 Mar 28;112(4):znaf056.

9.

Jawhar W, Aoude A, Turcotte RE, **Bailey SD**, Garzia L. Aberrant EZHIP expression drives tumorigenesis in osteosarcoma. *Nat Commun*. 2025;16:6752.

10.

Lee JJY, **Bailey SD**, Garzia L, et al. ZIC1 is a context-dependent medulloblastoma driver in the rhombic lip. *Nat Genet*. 2025 Jan;57(1):88-102.

11.

Elmahboubi R ... **Sirois C** et al. Quality Improvement Initiatives for Pleural Infection Managed with Intrapleural Therapy. *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*. 2025 Feb;22(2):285-2912025.

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Kim S, **Kim DK**, et al. Perturbed cell fate decision by schizophrenia-associated AS3MTd2d3 isoform during corticogenesis. *Sci Adv*. 2025 Mar 28;11(13):eadp8271.

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Puttemans J, ... **Kim DK** et al. Inhibitors of Tax1-PDZ interactions block HTLV-1 viral transmission by changing EV composition. *J Extracell Vesicles*. 2025 Aug;14(8):e70137

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Hallet J, **Rousseau M** et al. Contemporary Incidence and Survival of Lung Neuroendocrine Neoplasms. *JAMA Network Open*. 2025 Oct 1;8(10):e2535125

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Tankel J, Amin S, Katz A, Sakalla R, Dehghani M, Al Ben Ali S, **Najmeh S**, **Cools-Lartigue J**, **Spicer J**, **Mueller C**, **Ferri L**. Gastric conduit necrosis following esophagectomy: is conduit salvage feasible? *Dis Esophagus*. 2025 Jul 3;38(4):doaf066.

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Awad MM, Forde PM, Girard N, **Spicer JD**, et al. Neoadjuvant nivolumab plus ipilimumab versus chemotherapy in resectable lung cancer. *J Clin Oncol*. 2025 Apr 20;43(12):1453-1462.

17.

Crump T, Dehghani M, Sutherland JM, **Mueller C**, **Ferri LE**. Calculating the minimally important difference for the FACT-E from esophageal cancer surgery to recovery using distribution-based methods. *Dis Esophagus*. 2025 May 3;38(3):doaf042.



Division of Urology

REMARKS FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

DR. SIMON TANGUAY

The Division of Urology comprises 19 urologists, six PhD scientists, and a dynamic training program that includes residents and fellows. The Division remains highly productive academically, with 120 publications in 2025. The Division's research program—led by clinician-scientists and supported by six full-time academic researchers—has secured new operating grants from CIHR, DoD, Terry Fox

Research Institute, the Cancer Research Society (CRS) and NSERC.

Research collaborations continue to expand, further positioning the Division as a national and international leader in urological research and innovation. This year, the Division welcomed Dr. Éva Michaud as a research faculty member, bringing specialized expertise in cancer immunology.

In addition to its residency training program, our Division offers fellowship training across five subspecialties attracting international trainees seeking advanced clinical and research experience.

The Division serves as a key referral centre for complex tertiary urological pathology conditions, including oncology, reconstructive urology, BPH benign prostatic hyperplasia, stone disease, functional urology, infertility, and pediatrics pediatric urology. It has also developed a unique focal therapy program for localized prostate cancer, establishing itself as a global leader in this emerging treatment approach.

The Division continues to advance interdisciplinary integrated models of care, with many members holding leadership roles in provincial, national, and international societies.



LEADERSHIP TEAM



DR. SIMON TANGUAY
*Division Chair (McGill) & Director,
Division of Urology (MUHC)*



DR. MÉLANIE AUBÉ-PETERKIN
Residency Program Director



PROF. SIMONE CHEVALIER
Director of Research

FACULTY MILESTONES & ACHIEVEMENTS

NEW RECRUITS



Prof. Eva Michaud, PhD
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,
McGill University Health Centre*

Prof. Éva Michaud specializes in immunology and its implications for cancer therapy. She completed her PhD in Immunology at Université Lyon-Saint-Étienne, France, investigating the role of secretory IgA in inflammatory bowel disease, before pursuing postdoctoral research at McGill University on immune and microbial determinants of response to radiation therapy in muscle-invasive bladder cancer. Her work has explored the interplay between gut microbiome composition and immune responses in bladder cancer, and she currently investigates Immunoglobulin A responses in the bladder as a disease biomarker and therapeutic target, with a particular focus on sex differences in outcomes and immunological responses.

PROMOTIONS

Dr. Nader Fahmy
Promoted to Associate Professor.

TENURE GRANTED

Prof. David Labbé
*Associate Professor of Surgery,
McGill University Health Centre*

HONOURS & AWARDS

Dr. Maurice Anidjar

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Raised \$4,000,000 CAD through JGH Foundation for the Prostate Disease Research and Innovation Program.

Dr. Lysanne Campeau

Associate Professor of Surgery

- FRQS Clinicien Chercheur Senior Award.

Dr. Serge Carrier

Professor of Surgery

- Sexual Medicine Society of North America (SMSNA) Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Jacques Corcos

Professor of Surgery

- Received the Polish Urological Association Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr. Nader Fahmy

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Everett C. Reid Teaching Excellence Award.

Prof. Cristian O’Flaherty

Professor of Surgery

- Asian Journal of Andrology Outstanding Reviewer Award, 2025.



NOTABLE INVITATIONS & VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS

Dr. Mélanie Aubé-Peterkin

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, VA: “Competency-Based Medical Education in Urology: Experiences, Challenges and Future Directions.” June 2025.

Dr. Peter Chan

Professor of Surgery

- Chair, symposium at ASRM Annual Congress, San Antonio.

Dr. Wassim Kassouf

Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, University of Vermont: “Evolving management of NMIBC after BCG failure” and “Bladder preservation for MIBC.” May 14–15, 2025.

Prof. David Labbé

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Keynote (International), Epigenetics & Endocrine Discovery: 40 Years of Impact, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston: “Timing matters: Precision nutrition in prostate cancer.” December 2025.

Dr. Victor McPherson

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, CHUM Urology Grand Rounds, March 2025

Dr. Alexis Rompré-Brodeur

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Visiting Professor, University of Ottawa, 2025.

Dr. Simon Tanguay

Professor of Surgery

- Co-chaired the Bench to Bedside (B2B) GU Oncology Meeting with Dr. Peter Black (Canada) and Caroline Moore (UK), Edinburgh, 2025.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. Armen Aprikian

Professor of Surgery

- Co-chaired the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Cedars Cancer Centre, raising \$4.9M in total.

Dr. Mélanie Aubé-Peterkin

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Successfully passed internal accreditation review for the Urology Residency program.

Dr. Lysanne Campeau

Professor of Surgery

- Member at Large, Canadian Urological Association Scholarship Foundation.

Dr. Serge Carrier

Professor of Surgery

- Elected Member at Large, Canadian Urological Association Board of Directors.

Dr. Wassim Kassouf

Professor of Surgery

- Inaugurated as President, Canadian Urological Association (CUA).

Prof. David Labbé

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Appointed to the Editorial Board of Cancer Research (AACR).
- Promoted to Full Member, Urological Research Society (URS), October 2025.

Prof. Cristian O’Flaherty

Professor of Surgery

- Elected Director, American Society of Andrology.
- Appointed Director, MSc Non-Thesis Program (Core Stream), Surgical and Interventional Sciences, Department of Surgery.
- Appointed Associate Editor, Human Reproduction Update.

Dr. Rafael Sanchez Salas

Associate Professor of Surgery

- President, International Focal Therapy Society.

Dr. Simon Tanguay

Professor of Surgery

- Chair, Medical Advisory Board, Kidney Cancer Canada.
- Treasurer, SIU Foundation.

INNOVATIONS, CLINICAL FIRSTS & BENCH-TO-BEDSIDE TRANSLATION

Dr. Victor McPherson

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- World first intraoperative use of autonomic-somatic nerve grafting during radical prostatectomy for restoration of sexual function.

NOTABLE GRANTS

Dr. Lysanne Campeau

- Senior Principal Investigator (Early-Career Partner: Porter E), **Department of Defense** (USA) – CDRP Spinal Cord Injury Research Program, Translational Research Award (\$258 173 USD): “Discreet and Wearable Microwave Sensing for Continuous Real-Time Bladder Monitoring”

Dr. Wassim Kassouf

- PI (co-investigators: King IL, Michaud E, Piccirillo CA), **CIHR – Project Grant** (\$1 507 050): “Unravelling Immune-Microbiome Networks in Radiation-Based Organ-Preserving Therapies for Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer”
- PI, **Cancer Research Society** (\$135 000): “Investigate the Role of Natural Killer Cells on the Outcome of Radiation Therapy in MIBC”

CIHR GRANT SPOTLIGHT KASSOUF LABORATORY

The \$1,507,050 CIHR Project Grant (“Unravelling Immune-Microbiome Networks in Radiation-Based Organ-Preserving Therapies for Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer”) represents a landmark five-year investment in bladder cancer translational research at the RI-MUHC. It is one of the largest individual CIHR Project Grants in the Department of Surgery in the 2025 cycle and was featured in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Health e-News as part of the \$43M CIHR funding announcement to FMHS researchers.

Research Question & Significance: Muscle-invasive bladder cancer (MIBC) is a life-threatening disease in which bladder-preserving (trimodality) therapy offers an alternative to radical cystectomy for appropriately selected patients. The mechanisms determining which patients respond to organ-preservation strategies remain poorly understood. This project investigates the metabolic interactions between gut microbiota-derived metabolites and tumour-infiltrating T cells during radiation-based therapies, with the goal of identifying biomarkers and modifiable targets to improve organ-preservation outcomes.

Team: The grant brings together a multidisciplinary team at the RI-MUHC: Dr. Kassouf (PI, urologic oncology), Dr. Irah L. King (co-investigator, immunology and microbiome), Dr. Eva Michaud (co-investigator, bladder cancer immunology – recruited to the Division of Urology in 2025 specifically in part to support this program), and Dr. Ciriaco A. Piccirillo (co-investigator, regulatory T cell immunology). This team structure directly bridges clinical urologic oncology with basic immunology and microbiome science.



Prof. David Labbé

- PI, **CIHR – Project Grant** (\$1 093 250): “Epigenetic Control of MYC-Driven Metabolic Adaptations in Aggressive Prostate Cancer”
- PI, **Cancer Research Society** – Operating Grant (\$135 000): “Defining a MYC-Induced AR Corepressor Central to Prostate Cancer Therapy Resistance”

Prof. Jacques Lapointe

- PI, **RI-MUHC CRP Precision Oncology Seed Funding Competition** (\$100 000): “Exploring the Role and Potential for Liquid Biopsy of Novel Extracellular Nanoparticles in Prostate Cancer”

Dr. Victor McPherson

- PI, **Canadian Urological Association** (CUA) (\$50 000): “Pilot Trials in Autonomic-somatic nerve grafting during radical prostatectomy”

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Prof. David Labbé

Associate Professor of Surgery

- **Jiaxuan Li** (PhD student): FRQS Bourse de Formation Doctorale (May 2025–Apr 2029).
- **Yufeng Gu** (PhD student): FRQS Bourse de Formation Doctorale \$10 (May 2025–Apr 2029)
- **Jiachen Ji** (PhD student): SIS Graduate Scholarship (Sep 2025–Aug 2026)

Prof. Cristian O’Flaherty

Professor of Surgery

- **Chika Onochie** (PhD student): FMHS Studentship (Sep 2025–Aug 2026); Best Oral Presentation, 12th Canadian Oxidative Stress Consortium Meeting.

Prof. Simone Chevalier

Professor of Surgery

- **Sedigheh Mortazavi** (PhD student): Cancer Research Society Studentship (2025–2027).
- **Priyanka Banerjee** (PhD student): FMHS Studentship (2025–26).

Dr. Lysanne Campeau

Professor of Surgery

- **Mohan Krishna Redlapalle** (MSc student): D2R Master’s Scholar Award
- **Diery-Leando Saint-Vil** (MSc student): Canada Cancer Society Research Training Award

Dr. Rafael Sanchez-Salas

Associate Professor of Surgery

- **Dr. Rocio Roldan-Testillano** (Research Fellow): Bayer-CUASF-CUOG Research Award in Prostate Cancer

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS

1.

Kwong JCC et al., **Kassouf W** et al. Development and international evaluation of an AI-based model (PROGRxN-BCa) to predict progression risk for non-muscle-invasive bladder cancer. Eur Urol. 2025.

2.

Kulkarni GS, Black PC et al., **Kassouf W**. 2025 CUA expert report: muscle-invasive bladder cancer. Can Urol Assoc J. 2025 Jan.

3.

Bacca L, Brandariz J, Zacchi F et al., **Labbé DP**. Therapy-induced senescence in prostate cancer: mechanisms, therapeutic strategies, and clinical implications. Gene. 2025;972:149774.

4.

Kristof AS et al., **Labbé DP**, Wykes L, Schricker T. Biological responses during high-dose protein nutrition in the critically ill: a randomized controlled trial. Am J Clin Nutr. 2025;122(2):612-623.

5.

Daman AW et al., **McPherson VA** et al. Microbial cancer immunotherapy reprograms hematopoietic stem cells to enhance anti-tumor immunity. Cancer Cell. 2025;43(8):1442-1459.

6.

Jurado LF et al., **McPherson VA**, Divangahi M. A fungal-derived adjuvant amplifies the antitumoral potency of BCG. Immunity. 2025;58(8):1984-2001.

7.

Fleshner NE et al., **Tanguay S** et al. Metformin active surveillance trial in low risk prostate cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2025;43:3662.

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Ouchene L, Udupa M et al., **Tanguay S** et al. Assessing the diagnostic metrics of cutaneous leiomyomas in HLRCC syndrome. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2025;93:2026.

9.

Serafini S, **O’Flaherty C**. Dysregulation of sphingolipid and cholesterol homeostasis imposes oxidative stress in human spermatozoa. Redox Biol. 2025;84:103669.

10.

Linehan WM, Pinto CA et al., **Rompré-Brodeur A** et al. Longitudinal evaluation of clear-cell RCC in von Hippel-Lindau disease. Eur Urol. 2025;88(1):56-63.

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Benzouak T, Addar A et al., **Carrier S, Aubé-Peterkin M**, Hamouche F. HoLEP vs RASP in BPH management: a systematic review and meta-analysis. J Urol. 2025;213(2):150-161.

12.

Ibrahim A, Touma N et al., **Carrier S, Aubé-Peterkin M**. GreenLight laser prostatectomy: outcomes sustainable after a decade? Can Urol Assoc J. 2025;19(11):E356-E361.

13.

Roldan-Testillano R, Rodriguez-Sanchez L et al., **Anidjar M, Sanchez-Salas R**. Advances in focal therapy for prostate cancer: current modalities, outcomes, and future directions. Prostate Int. 2026;14(1):1-9.

14.

Hesswani C, Avolio PP, **Rompré-Brodeur A** et al., **Anidjar M, Sanchez-Salas R**. Navigating focal therapy for prostate cancer: contemporary perspectives in the Canadian context. J Endourol. 2025;39(S2):S29-S37.

15.

Hamouda A, Covarrubias C, **Campeau L**. Personalized care for neurogenic bladder: pro anticholinergic for bladder storage symptoms in NLUTD. Neurourol Urodyn. 2025 Nov.

16.

Covarrubias C, Cammisotto P, **Campeau L**. Neurotrophins and proneurotrophins as biomarkers for overactive bladder syndrome in aging females. Metabolites. 2025;15(7):429.

17.

Hamouda A, Covarrubias C, Cammisotto P, **Campeau L**. p75NTR antagonist THX-B increases NGF secretion by bladder cells through decreased MMP-9 activity. Mol Cell Endocrinol. 2025;599.

18.

Rodriguez-Sanchez L, Cathelineau X et al., **Sanchez-Salas R** (FALCON group). Refining partial gland ablation for localised prostate cancer: the FALCON project. BJU Int. 2025;135(6):1000-1009.

19.

Giesen A, Milonas D et al., **Sanchez-Salas R** et al. Prognostic stratification of pN1 prostate cancer after radical prostatectomy. Eur Urol Open Sci. 2025;77:60-68.

20.

Derderian S, Jarry E et al., **Sanchez-Salas R** et al. Clinical significance of stratifying prostate cancer patients through specific circulating genes. Mol Oncol. 2025;19(5):1310-1331.

2025 GRADUATES

GRADUATING RESIDENTS

NAME	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Anfal Al Raisi	Functional fellowship, University of Ottawa
Dr. Jaffar Hussain	Urologic Oncology fellowship, McGill University
Dr. Anne Yin	Specialty training, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City

GRADUATING FELLOWS

NAME	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Mustafa Soytaş	Urologic Oncology	Associate Professor Medipol University, Istanbul, Turkey
Dr. Mohammed Aleid	Sexual Medicine/Male Genito-Urinary Dysfunction and Reconstructive Urology	Department of Urology, Security Forces Hospital, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Division of Vascular Surgery

REMARKS FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

DR. KENT MACKENZIE



The McGill Division of Vascular Surgery is currently comprised of eight vascular surgeons. Drs. Kent MacKenzie, Oren Steinmetz, Stephen Hanley, and Robert Doonan, 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 seven of these surgeons work in a collaborative manner across the two hospital systems and provide on-call

consultancy service with back-up to both sites. Dr. Carl Emond continues to practice Vascular Surgery at St. Mary's Hospital.

All surgeons participate in the education of medical students, surgery residents, and vascular surgery trainees. All of 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, and aortic trauma. The JGH and MUHC both have 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 program and internally funds an Advanced Aortic and Peripheral Endovascular Fellowship. Graduates from both training programs have become leaders in Vascular Surgery, both in Canada and internationally. The Division remains proactive in advancing its research mission. We've increased the allocation of internal Division funds to fund two full-time research coordinators and have directed and

supported specific recruitment strategies to enhance our research productivity. This has resulted in a stepwise increase in annual peer-reviewed publications, awards, and grant success.

Our current research focus is 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 current residents and fellows are involved in investigator-initiated research under the expert supervision of our Faculty members. The Endovascular Simulation Center at the JGH is led by Vascular Surgery in collaboration with cardiac surgery and cardiology. This has become a key unit for the Division regarding education and research activities in simulation. Formal monthly endovascular simulation sessions are now included as part of the vascular surgery residents' curriculum. During 2020's response to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Division of Vascular Surgery established a new online visiting speaker program. Thus far, we have hosted 26 exceptional speakers from around the world. By using social media to advertise and offer attendance to a broader group of vascular surgeons.



LEADERSHIP TEAM



DR. KENT MACKENZIE
*Division Director
(McGill and MUHC)*



DR. ELIE GIRSOWICZ
Residency Program Director



DR. ROBERT JAMES DOONAN
Research Director



DR. OREN STEINMETZ
*MUHC CTU Director and Advanced
Endovascular Fellowship Director*



DR. DANIEL OBRAND
*JGH CTU Director
and JGH Division Director*

FACULTY MILESTONES

NEW RECRUIT



Stephen Hanley, MD PhD
McGill University Health Centre

Dr. Hanley completed his PhD in surgical research, as well as his undergraduate medical training and General Surgery residency at McGill University before undertaking his Vascular Surgery fellowship at Tufts Medical Centre in Boston, MA. He started his vascular surgery practice at the CISSS de

l'Outaouais, serving as chief of the vascular surgery service and course director with the McGill University satellite medical school campus. He also co-initiated a multi-disciplinary limb salvage program. Dr. Hanley's clinical practice covers open and endovascular treatment of aneurysmal, carotid, peripheral and mesenteric disease, as well as vascular access and limb salvage/complex wound care. His current research interests include clinical outcomes and improving access to care.

HONOURS & AWARDS

Dr. Jason Bayne

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Undergraduate Medical Education Teaching Excellence Award – Transition to Clinical Practice, McGill University, awarded March 2025.

Dr. Heather Gill

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Kathryn Rolph Award recognizing the contributions of women surgeons in our Department. This year's award recognized Dr. Gill's contribution to the Department of Surgery over the 10-year span of her career at McGill University and the MUHC.

NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES

Dr. Jason Bayne

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Education and Accreditation Chair, Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery (CSVS).
- Judge and Co-Organizer, 2025 "Top Gun Skills Competition," Winnipeg Vascular and Endovascular Symposium.
- Chair, McGill Pediatric General Surgery Internal Accreditation Review.

Dr. Kent MacKenzie

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Conducted external review of the Division of Vascular Surgery at Western University.

INNOVATIONS & CLINICAL FIRSTS

Dr. Jason Bayne

Assistant Professor of Surgery

- Quebec first use of the Pioneer IVUS-enabled re-entry device. This intravascular ultrasound-guided catheter enables true lumen re-entry in complex occlusive aortoiliac and peripheral arterial disease cases where conventional wire-based re-entry has failed.

Dr. Kent MacKenzie

Associate Professor of Surgery

- Management and dissemination of a novel off-label endovascular technique for treatment of ruptured thoracic pseudoaneurysm and aortobronchial fistula: presented at two national meetings (CSVS Winter Meeting and Winnipeg Vascular Symposium) in 2025.

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS

1.

Coca-Martinez M, **Doonan RJ**, Gillis C, **MacKenzie K**, **Obrand DI**, **Bayne JP**, **Steinmetz OK**, Girsowicz E... **Gill HL**. The PREHAAAB Trial: Multimodal prehabilitation for patients awaiting open abdominal aortic aneurysm repair – Study protocol for an international randomized controlled trial. PLoS One. 2025;20(12):e0339473.

Coca-Martinez M, St-Pierre J, **Girsowicz E**, **Doonan RJ**, **Obrand DI**, **Bayne JP**, **Steinmetz OK**, **MacKenzie KS**, Carli F, Martinez-Palli G, **Gill HL**. Multimodal prehabilitation for patients undergoing endovascular aortic aneurysm repair surgery: A feasibility study. J Endovasc Ther. 2025;32(5):1681-1689.
3.

Kodaira M, Lachapelle K, Leask RL et al., **Steinmetz OK**, **MacKenzie K** et al. A Multidisciplinary Aortopathy Clinic: The McGill Experience. CJC Open. 2025;7(7):921-927.

2025 GRADUATES

GRADUATING RESIDENTS

NAME	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Sree Kannathasan	Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Saskatchewan
Dr. Anna Kinio	Complex Endovascular Fellowship, Prince of Wales Hospital, University of Sydney
Dr. Yousef Al Mutawa	Complex Endovascular Fellowship, Prince of Wales Hospital, University of Sydney

GRADUATING FELLOW

NAME	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM	CURRENT POSITION
Dr. Lydia Wuarin	Advanced Endovascular Fellowship	Vascular Surgery, University of Geneva





McGill

Department of
Surgery