



## Annual Reporting for Faculty Supported Research Centres and Networks

All Centres (provisional Centres; McGill Centres), Research groups and Networks that receive funding from the Faculty of Medicine are required to provide two components of reporting:

1. an Annual Report of Activities and Outcomes (see below),
2. a Financial Statement (see attached Excel document).

The reporting period is May 1, 2018 – April 30, 2019.

**Both documents are due May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5pm**

**Continued support from the Faculty is contingent on:**

1. the receipt of the reporting documents on time,
2. the evaluation of reported activities by the Faculty's Committee for Oversight of Research Units (CORU), and
3. the availability of Faculty funds in the next fiscal year.

Please send both documents to Faculty of Medicine's Research Office ([riac.med@mcgill.ca](mailto:riac.med@mcgill.ca)).

Your strong engagement in the Faculty's mission for continued research excellence and financial stewardship is truly appreciated.

## Annual Report of Activities and Outcomes

---

**Please respect the page limits, where indicated, or the report will be returned.**

*(The accepted font is Times New Roman or Calibri regular 11 pts)*

1. Name of the Unit: McGill Centre for Translational Research in Cancer (MCTRC)

2. Director's contact information:

Dr. Gerald Batist

3755 Chemin de la Côte-Sainte-Catherine office E-539, Montréal, QC. H3T 1E2

514-340-8222 ext. 25418

[gerald.batist@mcgill.ca](mailto:gerald.batist@mcgill.ca)

3. If the Unit is a **Senate-approved** McGill Research Centre, indicate date of approval: 1996

4. Number of Unit members: 58

5. Number of members affiliated with McGill's Faculty of Medicine: 54

6. **Unit's website:**

URL: <https://www.mcgill.ca/translational-research-cancer/>

**Note: The website needs to feature the following:**

- all sources of funding support (including the Faculty of Medicine's logo),
- the List of Members and their institutional affiliation with appropriate links,
- the activities supported by the Unit
- all previous Annual Reports.

7. Summary of past year's **goals and objectives** of the Unit. (**limit: ½ page**)

The MCTRC's missions are to:

- Further the advancement of scientific knowledge and generate novel approaches to cancer prevention, screening and treatment
- Promote the translation of innovative laboratory and clinical research findings into real health improvements of cancer patients

In line with our missions, the Centre outlined the following objectives in 2018:

- Revise the advisory board  
This is still in progress, as efforts are underway to develop an AB that is aligned with others already in existence in the environment, so as to create synergies rather than redundancies.
- Restructure the Centre's website
- Support innovative cancer researches, with a focus on personalized approach to patient care
- Submit team grant applications that involve research collaborations between scientists and clinicians and among the specialists from different areas of cancer research
- Establish a tumor bank management committee at the Jewish General Hospital to harmonize and streamline biobanking practices across all tumor tissue banks of the hospital
- Continue to provide high-quality educational trainings to next-generation scientists

8. **Major achievements** enabled by the support obtained from the Faculty. **(limit: 1 page)**

- MCTRC members published a total of 254 articles in peer-reviewed journals. Of these, an impressive number of publications, 53, resulted from direct collaborations among the MCTRC researchers (**Appendix I**). The list includes publications from highly respected journals such as Cancer Cell (IF=22.844), Cell Metabolism (IF=20.565) and Nature Communications (IF= 12.353) among others.
- MCTRC members obtained 38 new operating grants this year, amounting to more than 16 million dollars in total. 4 of these grants involve collaborative efforts among the Centre's members (**Appendix II**). Of note, Dr. Mader established new collaborations with 3 other MCTRC members, Drs. Ursini-Siegel, Witcher and Pollak, for a project titled "Targeting vulnerabilities to overcome drug resistance in poor outcome breast cancers." The project aims to understand the underlying epigenetic reprogramming that contributes to the development of drug resistance in breast cancer and to identify therapeutically targetable mechanisms to delay or abolish resistance to therapies. They successfully secured a grant from Oncopole.
- With the support of the Terry Fox Research Institute, several MCTRC members partnered with other leading cancer centres and hospitals in Montreal to form a multi-institutional consortium called "Montreal Cancer Consortium." Together, they launched a 2-year pilot project to advance immunotherapy treatments for melanoma and acute leukemia by using the approach of precision and personalized medicine.
- MCTRC members maintain high visibility in the scientific community. This year, they participated in more than 55 conferences at local, national and international levels, including 14 symposiums and workshops which certain members (co-)organized. 2 symposiums were organized by at least two members of the MCTRC (**Appendix III**).
- MCTRC members are principal and/or sub-investigators of 94 on-going clinical trials at the Clinical Research Unit (CRU) of the Jewish General Hospital (**Appendix IV**), including 20 new clinical trials. At least 76 of these trials involve the collaborations of MCTRC members.
- 9 Master's and 12 Ph.D. students from different departments as well as 8 postdoctoral fellows started their training this year at the MCTRC (**Appendix V**). 4 of these trainees are co-supervised by the MCTRC investigators.
- A total of 34 Lady Davis Institute (LDI) Cancer Seminars (**Appendix VI**) were held, with an average of 30 attendees per session. 20 graduate students had the opportunity to present their project and receive constructive feedback from their colleagues and PIs. Additionally, this year's Cancer Seminar Series were marked by the presentations of PI members of the MCTRC. Not only is their participation educational for the trainees, but it also promotes more collaboration among the MCTRC researchers.
- We modified the website to accommodate for the changes the Centre has adapted over the past years. The newly formed research group "Artificial Intelligence-Assisted Radiomics for Advanced

Diagnostics” was added to the list. The descriptions of research themes, core facilities and members were updated to recruit talented trainees and to attract potential collaborators.

- Through our bridge fund for innovative projects, the Centre provided a financial support to Dr. Mark Trifiro’s research project investigating the use of nanoparticles to ablate the tumors. The project focuses initially on prostate cancer, but the resulting knowledge will eventually be applied to other types of cancer. The Centre also supported Vincent Turgeon, a resident in Medical Physics Unit at the McGill University. His research focuses on decreasing patient discomfort and minimizing adverse events during a PET scan by developing a non-invasive but effective way to measure radioactive tracer concentration in the blood, called input function.
- The Centre established a tumor bank management committee at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH). With the financial support from the Réseau de Recherche sur le Cancer (RRCancer), all JGH biobanks are currently undergoing a certification process offered by the Canadian Tissue Repository Network (CTRNet).
- The Centre helped develop the Molecular Tumor Board to support the CAPTUR (CCTG) trial of molecular based cancer therapy, with the aim to expand this with increased profiling of patients, and linking with other institutions across McGill and Quebec.
- The Centre established a core genomic profiling unit, in Molecular Pathology, with the addition of the Thermo Fisher Gene Studio S5 system. This grants access to the Oncomine genomic/RNAomic panels, enables a comprehensive sequencing capacity and fuels advancements in molecular diagnostics and innovation in biomarker driven translational research. The Centre facilitated acquisition of the technology, even though the funds do not pass through the Centre. The profiling unit has set the foundation for:
  1. Translational NGS research aimed at Urachal Cancer Research (funded by the Ride to Conquer Cancer)
  2. Innovative multi-Centre liquid biopsy NGS testing in pulmonary oncology (Funded by the Rossy Cancer Network).
  3. Comprehensive Genomic profiling Research and Development initiatives for the JGH molecular diagnostics laboratories
  4. Representing the Quebec Profiling Lab Platform for the pan- Canadian Personalize my Treatment (PMT) Initiative driven by Exactis Innovation.
- The Centre also facilitated the acquisition of Nano-LC system (1260 Infinity) and Agilent Fraction Collector (1260 Infinity II) in the Proteomics Centre.

9. **New Members** who joined the Unit in the past year and their **institutional affiliation(s)**.

Name Last, First	Title PI, Staff or Trainee [Graduate student (GS) or post- doctoral fellow (PDF)]	Type of Membership Full, Associate	Affiliation(s)
Rivera, Barbara	Assistant Professor	Full	Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology

Dr. Rivera, previously a trainee at the MCTRC in Dr. Foulkes’s laboratory, is now Assistant Professor at the Gerald Bronfman Department of Oncology, McGill University. Since then, she has joined the Centre as full member and has established a new collaboration with Dr. Orthwein.

10. Members who have **left the Unit** over the reported year.

N/A

11. State how the current and forecasted activities of your Unit align with the Education or Research mission (Strategic Research Plan) of the Faculty of Medicine and/or other Faculties at McGill  
(limit: ½ page):

MCTRC's activities center around its missions to foster innovative discoveries in the field of oncology and to take these discoveries from bench to bedside to make real impacts in patient care. More specifically, personalized medicine, one of the Faculty's strategic priorities, has been and continues to be the main focus of the Centre. Based on each member's expertise, MCTRC researchers are grouped into 7 research themes. These themes represent crucial components of our approach to personalized and precision medicine, covering from biomarker discovery, drug designing, immunotherapies, to artificial intelligence & computer science applied to diagnostic methods.

Our core facilities provide access to state-of-art equipment and technology platforms required to conduct translational research, along with training, technological support and consulting services. This year, Drs. Borchers and Spatz, directors of Proteomics Centre and Pathology Facility, respectively, organized an educational symposium targeting researchers and trainees in the institute to train them on how to best leverage the Centre's services to increase the clinical relevancy of their research. Furthermore, the Centre's new initiative to improve tissue banking is an important step to ensure high-quality biospecimens is collected for research purpose and to facilitate the accessibility of these materials to researchers. With the support of the Centre, our members maintain highly productive research activities, publishing an average of 200 papers each year and leading more than 80 ongoing clinical trials.

12. Explain why support from the Faculty of Medicine continues to be crucial to the operations of the Unit  
(limit: ½ page):

Support from the Faculty of Medicine is ever more important in attaining the objectives we set out for the coming years, as the Centre plans to launch new supplementary initiatives (outlined below) to better support the members' research activities and education of their trainees. MCTRC's new initiatives consist of:

- 1) improving the biobanking process and increasing the accessibility of patient materials to researchers
- 2) developing a funding stream for graduate students working in Translational Medicine at McGill University
- 3) organizing MCTRC's first annual scientific symposium in efforts to strengthen the network within the Centre and to promote collaborations among the members
- 4) supporting and expanding the Molecular Tumor Board currently at the Segal, and expanding this to include other Quebec institutions
- 5) Continued explicit support for the McGill-wide Proteomics Program led by C Borchers

The successful outcomes of these initiatives will undoubtedly add values to the Faculty's research and educational mission.

13. List action items that the Unit has taken or will consider taking in the next year towards growth and sustainability of its operations (limit: ½ page)

- Continue to support innovative cancer researches, in particular within large local, national and international Consortia, with a focus on personalized medicine
- Identify funding opportunities and assist the members for team grant applications
- Advance the tumor tissue biobank initiative

We are in the process of creating a website to increase the awareness and participation of patients and to increase the accessibility of resources to researchers.

- Support and expand and integrate Molecular Tumor Boards across the network of hospitals
- Support the development and expansion of the McGill-wide Proteomics Program (C Borchers)
- Develop financial support for graduate students in Translational Medicine
- Organize an annual scientific symposium

14. Provide suggestions about how the Faculty could do better to support the Unit and research efforts in general (e.g., centralized data repositories, institutional data management plans, support for software developments, guidance for adopting open-science practices, simplification of administrative procedures, etc.) **(no page limit but please be specific and unleash your creativity!)**

- Central leadership with addressing Quebec's legal impediments to bio banking (towards an 'opt out' system)
- Support for patient data integration within and among the hospitals
- Free access to publications for trainees other than graduate students (e.g. postdoc fellows)
- Higher profile for the Centre in McGill's environment

In the attached (Excel) **Year-End Financial Report** please detail:

1. Expenditures of funding provided by the Faculty of Medicine and other sources, towards meeting the objectives of the Unit,
2. Any in-kind contributions provided to the Unit by other partners and sponsors,
3. Projected budget for the coming year (including request to the Faculty of Medicine).

## Appendix List

---

Appendix I: Publications.....	8
Appendix II: Grants .....	12
Appendix III: Conferences .....	13
Appendix IV: Clinical Trials.....	14
Appendix V: New graduate students and trainees .....	15
Appendix VI: Lectures and Seminar Series.....	17

## Appendix I: Publications

---

The researchers of the MCTRC are indicated in bold letters. Only the publications involving collaborations among the PI members of the Centre are listed.

The Lady Davis Institute (LDI) selects a paper each month from recently published articles of the researchers at the institute to highlight its significant contribution to the understanding and/or treatment of a disease. This year, September 2018 edition featured the multidisciplinary work of Drs. **Richard** and **Kleinman** (Calabretta et al., 2018) on deciphering the role of PRMT5, an arginine methyltransferase, in oligodendrocyte differentiation. As PRMT5 is identified as a positive regulator of a growth factor receptor PDGFR $\alpha$ , its inhibitor represents a new therapeutic target for treating PDGFR $\alpha$ -addicted cancer cells such as glioblastoma and gastro-intestinal stromal tumors (GIST). October 2018 edition featured Dr. **Orthwein** lab's article (Findlay et al., 2018), co-authored by Drs. **Mann** and **Greenwood**. In this paper, the researchers discovered that a novel factor SHLD2 interacts with REV7 to initiate non-homologous end joining (NHEJ). The study deepens our understanding of how DNA damage is repaired, a crucial mechanism that is often impaired in malignant tumor cells.

1. Popp R, **Basik M**, **Spatz A**, **Batist G**, **Zahedi RP**, **Borchers CH**. How iMALDI can improve clinical diagnostics. *Analyst*. 2018;143(10):2197-2203. PMID: 29713694
2. Garant A, Florianova L, Gologan A, **Spatz A**, Faria J, Morin N, Vasilevsky CA, **Vuong T**. Do clinical criteria reflect pathologic complete response in rectal cancer following neoadjuvant therapy? *Int J Colorectal Dis*. 2018;33(6):727-733.
3. Daniel P, **Sabri S**, Chaddad A, Meehan B, Jean-Claude B, Rak J, **Abdulkarim B**. Temozolomide induced hypermutation in glioma: evolutionary mechanisms and therapeutic opportunities. *Frontiers in Oncology*, 2019,9:41.
4. **Gottlieb B**, Babrzadeh F, Oros KK, Alvarado1 C, Wang C, Gharizadeh B, **Basik M**, **Greenwood C**, Beitel LK, **Trifiro M**. New insights into the role of intra-tumor genetic heterogeneity in carcinogenesis: identification of complex single gene variance within tumors. *J Cancer Metastasis Treat*. 2018;4:37.
5. Hulea L, Gravel S-P, Morita M, Cargnello M, Uchenunu O, Im YK, McLaughlan S, Larsson O, Ohh M, Ferreira T, **Greenwood C**, Bridon G, Avizonis D, **Ursini-Siegel J**, St-Pierre J, **Pollak M**, **Topisirovic I**. Translational and HIF1 $\alpha$ -dependent metabolic reprogramming underpin oncometabolome plasticity and synergy between oncogenic kinase inhibitors and biguanides. *Cell Metabolism*. 2018;28(6): 817-832. PMID: 30244971
6. Findlay S, Heath J, Luo VM, Malina A, Morin T, Coulombe Y, Djerir B, Li Z, Samiei A, Cheyou ES, Karam M, Bagci H, Rahat D, Grapton D, Lavoie EG, Dove C, Khaled H, Kuasne H, **Mann KK**, Klein KO, **Greenwood CM**, Tabach Y, Park M, Côté JF, Masson JY, Maréchal A, **Orthwein A**. SHLD2/FAM35A co-operates with REV7 to coordinate DNA double-strand break repair pathway choice. *EMBO J*. 2018;37(18): e100158.
7. **Zahedi RP**, Parker CE, **Borchers CH**. Immuno-MALDI-TOF-MS in the Clinic. *Clin Chem*. 2018;64(9):1271-1272. PMID: 30018057
8. Mnatsakanyan R, Shema G, **Basik M**, **Batist G**, **Borchers CH**, Sickmann A, **Zahedi RP**. Detecting post-translational modification signatures as potential biomarkers in clinical mass spectrometry. *Expert Rev Proteomics*. 2018;15(6):515-535. PMID: 29893147
9. Vadnais C, Chen R, Fraszczak J, Yu Z, Boulais J, Pinder J, Frank D, Khandanpour C, Hebert J, Dellaire G, Cote JF, **Richard S**, **Orthwein A**, Drobetsky E, Moroy T. GFI1 is required for efficient DNA Repair by regulating PRMT1 dependent methylation of MRE11 and 53BP1. *Nat Commun*. 2018;9(1):1418.
10. Litzler LC, Zahn A, Meli A, Hébert S, Patenaude AM, Methot SP, Sprumont A, Bois T, Kitamura D, Costantino S, King IL, **Kleinman CL**, **Richard S**, Di Noia JM. PRMT5 is essential for B cell development and germinal center dynamics. *Nature Communications*. 2019;10(1):22.
11. Gomes CC, Gayden T, Bajic A, Harraz OF, Pratt J, Nikbakht H, Bareke E, Diniz MG, Henriques Castro W, St-Onge P, Sinnott D, Han H, **Rivera B**, Mikael LG, De Jay N, **Kleinman CL**, Valera ET, Bassenden



- AV, Berghuis AM, Majewski J, Nelson MT, Gomez RS, Jabado N. TRPV4 and KRAS and FGFR1 gain-of-function mutations drive giant cell lesions of the jaw. *Nature Communications*. 2018;9(1):4572.
12. Calabretta S, Vogel G, Yu Z, Choquet K, Darbelli L, Nicholson TB, **Kleinman CL, Richard S**. Loss of PRMT5 promotes PDGFR $\alpha$  degradation during oligodendrocyte differentiation and myelination. *Developmental Cell*. 2018;46(4):426-440.
  13. Ha JR, Ahn R, Smith HW, Sabourin V, Hébert S, Cepeda Cañedo E, Im YK, **Kleinman CL, Muller WJ, Ursini-Siegel J**. Integration of distinct ShcA signaling complexes promotes breast tumor growth and tyrosine kinase inhibitor resistance. *Molecular Cancer Research*. 2018;16(5):894-908.
  14. Alahmad YM, Aljaber M, Saleh AI, Yalcin HC, **Aboukassim T**, Yasmeen A, **Batist G**, Moustafa AA. Effect of cell-phone radiofrequency on angiogenesis and cell invasion in human head and neck cancer cells. *Head Neck*. 2018;40(10):2166-2171. doi: 10.1002/hed.25210
  15. Banerji U, Dean EJ, Pérez-Fidalgo JA, **Batist G**, Bedard PL, You B, Westin SN, Kabos P, Garrett MD, Tall M, Ambrose H, Barrett JC, Carr TH, Cheung SYA, Corcoran C, Cullberg M, Davies BR, de Bruin EC, Elvin P, Foxley A, **Lawrence P**, Lindemann JPO, Maudsley R, Pass M, Rowlands V, Rugman P, Schiavon G, Yates J, Schellens JHM. A Phase I Open-Label Study to Identify a Dosing Regimen of the Pan-AKT Inhibitor AZD5363 for Evaluation in Solid Tumors and in *PIK3CA*-Mutated Breast and Gynecologic Cancers. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2018;24(9):2050-2059. doi: 10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-17-2260.
  16. Al-Thawadi H, Ghabreau L, **Aboukassim T**, Yasmeen A, Vranic S, **Batist G**, Al Moustafa AE. Co-Incidence of Epstein-Barr Virus and High-Risk Human Papillomaviruses in Cervical Cancer of Syrian Women. *Front Oncol*. 2018;8:250. doi: 10.3389/fonc.2018.00250.
  17. Im YK, Najyb O, Gravel SP, McGuirk S, Ahn R, Avizonis DZ, Chénard V, Valerie Sabourin V, Hudson J, Pawson T, **Topisirovic I, Pollak M**, St-Pierre J, **Ursini-Siegel J**. Interplay between ShcA signaling and PGC-1 $\alpha$  triggers targetable metabolic vulnerabilities in breast cancer. *Cancer Res*. 2018;78(17):4826-4838. doi: 10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-17-3696.
  18. Uchenunu O, **Pollak M, Topisirovic I**, Hulea L. Oncogenic kinases and perturbations in protein synthesis machinery and energetics in neoplasia. *Journal of Molecular Endocrinology*. 2019;62(2):R83-R103. doi: 10.1530/JME-18-0058
  19. Zaja F, Salvi F, Rossi M, Sabattini E, Evangelista A, Ciccone G, Angelucci E, Gaidano G, Zanni M, Ladetto M, Chiappella A, Vitolo U, Zinzani PL, Califano C, Tucci A, Patti C, Pileri SA, Lenti V, Piccaluga PP, Cavallo F, Volpetti S, Perali G, **Assouline S, Mann KK**, Morin R, Alcaide M, Bushell K, Fanin R, Levis A. Single-agent panobinostat for relapsed/refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma: clinical outcome and correlation with genomic data. A phase 2 study of the Fondazione Italiana Linfomi. *Leuk Lymphoma*. 2018;59(12):2904-2910.
  20. Marques M, Jangal M, Wang LC, Kazanets A, da Silva SD, Zhao T, Lovato A, Yu H, Jie S, **del Rincon S**, Mackey J, Damaraju S, **Alaoui-Jamali M** and **Witcher M**. Oncogenic activity of poly (ADP-ribose) glycohydrolase. *Oncogene*. 2019;38(12):2177-2191.
  21. Dahabieh MS, Di Pietro E, Jangal M, Goncalves C, **Witcher M**, Braverman NE, **Del Rincón SV**. Peroxisomes and Cancer: The Role of a Metabolic Specialist in a Disease of Aberrant Metabolism. *Biochim Biophys Acta Rev Cancer*. 2018;1870(1):103-121.
  22. Wever CM, Geoffrion D, Grande BM, Yu S, Alcaide M, Lemaire M, Riazalhosseini Y, Hébert J, Gavino C, Vinh DC, Petrogiannis-Haliotis T, Dmitrienko S, **Mann KK**, Morin RD, **Johnson NA**. The genomic landscape of two Burkitt lymphoma cases and derived cell lines: comparison between primary and relapse samples. *Leuk Lymphoma*. 2018;59(9):2159-2174.
  23. Meti N, **Esfahani K, Johnson NA**. The Role of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors in Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2018;10(6). doi: 10.3390/cancers10060204.
  24. Klil-Drori AJ, Yin H, **Azoulay L**, Del Corpo A, Harnois M, Gratton MO, Olney HJ, Delage R, Laneuville P, Mollica L, Busque L, **Assouline SE**, Groupe Québécois de Recherche en Leucémie Myéloïde Chronique et Néoplasies Myéloprolifératives (GQR LMC-NMP). Molecular monitoring of therapeutic milestones and clinical outcomes in patients with chronic myeloid leukemia. *Cancer*. 2019;125(4):618-625.
  25. Leech AO, Vellanki SH, Rutherford EJ, Keogh A, Jahns H, Hudson L, O'Donovan N, **Sabri S, Abdulkarim**

- B**, Sheehan KM, Kay EW, Young LS, Hill ADK, Smith YE, Hopkins AM. Cleavage of the extracellular domain of Junctional Adhesion Molecule-A is associated with resistance to anti-HER2 therapies in breast cancer settings. *Breast Cancer Res*. 2018; 20(1):140. PMID: 30458861.
26. Chaddad A, **Sabri S**, **Niazi T** and **Abdulkarim B**. Prediction of survival with multi-scale radiomic analysis in glioblastoma patients. *Med Biol Eng Comput*. 2018;56(12):2287-2300.
  27. Xue Y, Meehan B, Macdonald E, Venneti S, Wang SX, Witkowski L, Jelinic P, Kong T, Martinez D, Morin G, Firlit M, Abedini A, Johnson R, Cencic R, Patibandla J, Chen H, Papadakis A, Auguste A, de Rink I, Kerkhoven R, Bertos N, **Gotlieb W**, Clarke B, Leary A, **Witcher M**, Guiot M, Pelletier J, Dostie J, Park M, Judkins A, Hass R, Levine D, Rak J, Vanderhyden B, **Foulkes WD**, Huang S. CDK4/6 inhibitors target SMARCA4-determined cyclin D1 deficiency in hypercalcemic small cell carcinoma of the ovary. *Nature Commun*. 2019;10(1):558.
  28. Gotlieb R, Abitbol J, How JA, Ben-Brith I, Abenhaim HA, Lau SK, **Basik M**, Rosberger Z, Geva N, **Gotlieb WH**, Mintz A. Gender differences in how physicians access and process information. *Gynecol Oncol Rep*. 2019;27:50-53.
  29. Grolleman JE, de Voer RM, Elsayed FA, Nielsen M, Weren RDA, Palles C, Ligtenberg MJL, Vos JR, Ten Broeke SW, de Miranda NFCC, Kuiper RA, Kamping EJ, Jansen EAM, Vink-Börger ME, Popp I, Lang A, Spier I, Hüneburg R, James PA, Li N, Staninova M, Lindsay H, Cockburn D, Spasic-Boskovic O, Clendenning M, Sweet K, Capellá G, Sjursen W, Høberg-Vetti H, Jongmans MC, Neveling K, Geurts van Kessel A, Morreau H, Hes FJ, Sijmons RH, Schackert HK, Ruiz-Ponte C, Dymerska D, Lubinski J, **Rivera B**, **Foulkes WD**, Tomlinson IP, Valle L, Buchanan DD, Kenwrick S, Adlard J, Dimovski AJ, Campbell IG, Aretz S, Schindler D, van Wezel T, Hoogerbrugge N, Kuiper RP. Mutational Signature Analysis Reveals NTHL1 Deficiency to Cause a Multi-tumor Phenotype. *Cancer Cell*. 2019;35(2):256-266.e5.
  30. McCluggage WG, Chong AS, Attygalle AD, Clarke BA, Chapman W, **Rivera B**, **Foulkes WD**. Expanding the morphological spectrum of ovarian microcystic stromal tumour. *Histopathology*. 2019;74(3):443-451.
  31. Castellsagué E, Li R, Aligue R, González S, Sanz J, Martin E, Velasco À, Capellá G, Stewart CJR, Vidal A, Majewski J, **Rivera B**, Polak P, Matias-Guiu X, Brunet J, **Foulkes WD**. Novel POLE pathogenic germline variant in a family with multiple primary tumors results in distinct mutational signatures. *Hum Mutat*. 2019;40(1):36-41.
  32. Sharif-Askari B, Amrein L, **Aloyz R**, **Panasci L**. PARP3 inhibitors ME0328 and olaparib potentiate vinorelbine sensitization in breast cancer cell lines. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*. 2018;172(1):23-32.
  33. Elakshar S, James MGT, Michael JK, Tomic N, Fawaz ZS, **Bahoric B**, Papayanatos J, Chaddad A, **Niazi T**. Does Interfraction Cone Beam Computed Tomography Improve Target Localization in Prostate Bed Radiotherapy? *Technol Cancer Res Treat*. 2019;18: 1533033819831962.
  34. Chaddad A, **Niazi T**, Probst S, Bladou F, Anidjar M, **Bahoric B**. Predicting Gleason Score of Prostate Cancer Patients Using Radiomic Analysis. *Front Oncol*. 2018;8:630.
  35. Tang A, Tam R, Cadrin-Chênevert A, Guest W, **Chong J**, Barfett J, Chepelev L, Cairns R, Mitchell JR, Cicero MD, Poudrette MG, Jaremko JL, **Reinhold C**, Gallix B, Gray B, Geis R; Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR) Artificial Intelligence Working Group. Canadian Association of Radiologists White Paper on Artificial Intelligence in Radiology. *Can Assoc Radiol J*. 2018;69(2):120-135.
  36. Al Ajmi E, **Forghani B**, **Reinhold C**, Bayat M, **Forghani R**. Spectral multi-energy CT texture analysis with machine learning for tissue classification: an investigation using classification of benign parotid tumours as a testing paradigm. *European Radiology*. 2018;28(6):2604-2611.
  37. Savadjiev P, **Chong J**, Dohan A, Vakalopoulou M, **Reinhold C**, Paragios N, Gallix B. Demystification of AI-driven medical image interpretation: past, present and future. *Eur Radiol*. 2019;29(3):1616-1624.
  38. Chatterjee A, Vaillieres M, Dohan A, Levesque IR, Ueno Y, Bist V, Saif S, **Reinhold C**, **Seuntjens J**. An empirical approach for avoiding false discoveries when applying high-dimensional radiomics to small datasets. *IEEE Transactions on Radiation and Plasma Medical Sciences*. 2019;3(2):201-209.
  39. Upadhaya T, Vallières M, Chatterjee A, Lucia F, Bonaffini PA, Masson I, Mervoyer A, **Reinhold C**, Schick U, **Seuntjens J**, Le Rest CC, Visvikis D, Hatt M. Comparison of radiomics models built through

- machine learning in a multicentric context with independent testing: identical data, similar algorithms, different methodologies. *IEEE Transactions on Radiation and Plasma Medical Sciences*. 2019;3(2):192-200.
40. Song JS, Dmytriw AA, **Yu E, Forghani R**, Rotstein LE, Goldstein DP, Poon C. Investigation of Thyroid Nodules: A Practical Algorithm and Review of Guidelines. *Head Neck*. 2018;40(8):1861-1873.
  41. Chatterjee A, Vallières M, Dohan A, Levesque IR, Ueno Y, Saif S, **Reinhold C** and **Seuntjens J**. Creating robust predictive radiomic models for data from independent institutions using normalization. *IEEE Transactions on Radiation and Plasma Medical Sciences*. 2019;3(2):201-215.
  42. Almarzouki H, **Niazi T, Hier M, Mlynarek A**, Lavoie I, **Sultanem K**. Local Failure Rate in Oropharyngeal Carcinoma Patients Treated with Intensity-modulated Radiotherapy Without High-dose Clinical Target Volume. *Cureus*. 2018;10(7):e2958.
  43. Rodriguez AM, Frenkiel S, Desroches J, DeSimone A, Chiocchio F MacDonald C, Black M, Zeitouni A, **Hier M**, Kost K, **Mlynarek A**, Bolster-Foucault C, Rosberger Z, Henry M. Development and validation of the McGill body image concerns scale and use in head and neck oncology (MBIS-HNC): a mixed-method approach. *Psychooncology*. 2019;28(1):116-121.
  44. Henry M, Alia A, Frenkiel S, Richardson K, **Hier M**, Zetouni A, Kost K, **Mlynarek A**, Black M, MacDonald C, Chartier G, Rosberger Z. Contribution of psychiatric diagnoses to extent of opioid prescription in the first year post-head and neck cancer diagnosis: A longitudinal study. *Psychooncology*. 2019;28(1):107-115.
  45. Cohen A, Ianovski LE, Frenkiel S, **Hier M**, Zeitouni A, Kost K, **Mlynarek A**, Richardson K, Black M, MacDonald C, Chartier G, Rosberger Z, Henry M. Barriers to psychosocial oncology service utilization in patients newly diagnosed with head and neck cancer. *Psychooncology*. 2018;27(12):2786-2793.
  46. Henry M, Chang Y, Frenkiel S, Chartier G, Payne R, MacDonald C, Loïselle C, Black MJ, **Mlynarek AM**, Ehrler A, Rosberger Z, **Tamilia M, Hier MP**. Feelings of disenfranchisement and support needs among patients with thyroid cancer. *Oncol Nurs Forum*. 2018;45(5):639-652.
  47. Henry M, Rosberger Z, Bertrand L, Klassen C, **Hier M**, Zeitouni Z, Kost K, **Mlynarek A**, Richardson K, Black M, MacDonald C, Zhang X, Chartier G, Frenkiel S. Prevalence and risk factors of suicidal ideation among patients with head and neck cancer: longitudinal study. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg*. 2018;159(5):843-852.
  48. Filimon S, Payne RJ, Black MJ, **Hier MP, Mlynarek AM**, Forest VI, **Tamilia M**. Calcitonin secretory index and unsuspected nodal disease in medullary thyroid carcinoma. *Endocr Pract*. 2018;24(5):460-467.
  49. Henry M, Rosberger Z, Ianovski LE, **Hier M**, Zeitouni A, Kost K, **Mlynarek A**, Black M, MacDonald C, Richardson K, Zhang X, Fuhrmann F, Chartier G, Frenkiel S. A screening algorithm for early detection of major depressive disorder in head and neck cancer patients post-treatment: longitudinal study. *Psychooncology*. 2018;27(6):1622-1628.
  50. Turkdogan S, Forest VI, **Hier MP, Tamilia M**, Florea A, Payne RJ. Carcinoembryonic antigen levels correlated with advanced disease in medullary thyroid cancer. *Journal of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery*. 2018;47(1):55.
  51. Fawaz ZS, Kazandjian S, Tsui JM, **Devic S, Lecavalier-Barsoum M, Vuong T**, Elakshar S, Garant A, Lavoie I and **Niazi TM**. What Is the Optimal Radiation Technique for Esophageal Cancer? A Dosimetric Comparison of Four Techniques. *Cureus*. 2018;10(7):e2985.
  52. **Esfahani K**, Meti N, **Miller WH Jr**, Hudson M. Adverse events associated with immune checkpoint inhibitor treatment for cancer. *CMAJ*. 2019;191(2):E40-E46.
  53. **Rivera B**, Fahiminiya S, Rabinowicz S, Watters AK, Leventer R, Levental M, Khanna M and **Foulkes WD**. SMO syndrome: a unifying molecular diagnosis that suggests therapeutic opportunities. *JCO Precision Oncology*. 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1200/PO.18.00146>.

## Appendix II: Grants

Only the grants that involve multiple PI members of the Centre are listed.

Years	Project title	MCTRC members	Funding Agency	Amount
<b>2018-2020</b>	Montreal Cancer Consortium: Pilot Project	Wilson Miller, Gerald Batist, Mark Basik, Alan Spatz, Sarit Assouline, Cristiano Ferrario, Sonia del Rincon	Terry Fox Research Institute	\$ 2,000,000
<b>2019-2021</b>	Targeting vulnerabilities to overcome drug resistance in poor outcome breast cancers	Sylvie Mader, Michael Pollak, Claudia Kleinman, Mark Basik, Michael Witcher, Josie Ursini- Siegel	Oncopole	\$ 1,500,000
<b>2018-2020</b>	Innovative cleavable linker strategy for mass spectrometry- based elucidation of drug binding sites	Christoph Borchers, Rene Zahedi	FRQNT	\$ 300,000
<b>2018-2019</b>	Radiogenomics Models with Artificial Intelligence for Detections of Nodal Micrometastases to Reduce Unnecessary Neck Dissections in Head and Neck Cancer Patients	Reza Forghani, Caroline Reinhold, Jaron Chong, Behzad Forghani, Michael Hier, Marcin Mlynarek, Alan Spatz, Jan Seuntjens, Khalil Sultanem	Rossy Cancer Network	\$ 100,000

## Appendix III: Conferences

---

Only the conferences that involve participation of more than one member of the Centre are listed.

- 1. Translating Proteomics into the Clinic Symposium**, Jewish General Hospital, Montreal. January 14, 2019.  
Christoph Borchers: hosted the symposium and delivered the lecture “Introduction to the Pan Canadian Proteomics Centre.”  
Alan Spatz: delivered the lecture “PD-L1: How proteomics can help to meet unmet needs in pathology.”
- 2. 9th Annual Lady Davis Institute Scientific Retreat**, Montreal. May 4, 2018.  
Alexandre Orthwein: co-organized the event along with Dr. Colin Crist and Dr. Marc Fabian.  
Session 1 chair: Gerald Batist; Session 4 chair: Koren Mann.
- 3. 10<sup>th</sup> Worldwide Innovative Network (WIN) Symposium: “Global Implementation of Precision Oncology: Winning the War against Cancer”**, Paris, France. June 25-26, 2018.  
Alan Spatz: chaired the session 4 “New Concepts and Therapeutics Avenues in Precision Oncology” and moderated “The future of drug development for Precision Oncology,” an open forum and debate with the audience on June 26.  
Gerald Batist: participated in this event as well as the Annual General Assembly.
- 4. 104th Scientific Assembly and Annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA)**, Chicago, IL. November 25-30, 2018.  
Reza Forghani: moderated the session “SSM17 - Neuroradiology/Head and Neck (Dual-Energy CT in Head and Neck Imaging).” He is also a member of RSNA Education Exhibits Awards Committee – Team Neuroradiology and of RSNA Neuroradiology/Head & Neck Subcommittee of the Scientific Program Committee.  
Eugene Yu: moderated “Head and Neck Cancer Imaging Series” on November 25.
- 5. 23rd Annual McGill University Update in Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery**, Mont-Tremblant, Quebec. March 15-17, 2019.  
Michael Hier: moderated Head & Neck session on March 16.  
Khalil Sultanem and Marcin Mlynarek: participated as panelists in the discussion “Diagnosis and Management of Benign Salivary Gland Tumours” on March 16.  
Marcin Mlynarek: also participated as panelists in the discussion titled “Rehabilitation of Persistent Facial Paralysis/Paresis” on March 16.

## Appendix IV: Clinical Trials

---

The MCTRC investigators take part in designing and conducting clinical studies to evaluate the safety and efficacy of new drugs or more effective ways to use existing drugs. Closely tied to the MCTRC, the Clinical Research Unit (CRU) of the Jewish General Hospital plays a key role in the Centre's bench-to-bedside approach. There are currently more than 80 ongoing clinical trials involving the members of the MCTRC. For more information on these trials, please refer to the separate document entitled "2018-2019 Ongoing Clinical Trials".

This year, we would like to highlight the success of the following phase I trial at the CRU:

**A Phase I/II Open-Label Multicenter Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of AK-01 as Monotherapy in Patients with Locally Advanced or Metastatic Solid Tumors**

Aurka, Protocol: AURA-001, 2017 – closed in late 2018.

This was a unique opportunity to work on a phase I trial at more than one site in Montreal. The trial was completed in record time, and two posters are being presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology meeting in Chicago in April 2019. This study was rapid, and showed some exciting signals of clinical activity, and so the licence for this molecule's further development was purchased back to Eli-Lilly. The CRU and the investigators are currently working on participating in the phase II development.

## Appendix V: New graduate students and trainees

---

The researcher members of the MCTRC continue to dedicate their time to mentor and train graduate students, postdocs and fellows. Below is the list of trainees who started their degree during the current reporting period.

The members also put efforts into educating younger aspiring scientists in their undergraduate program. This year, we would like to highlight the contribution of Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel's laboratory in supervising 7 undergraduate students from different programs in Sciences and Engineering as a part of a yearlong project from a student-led initiative called iGEM McGill (international genetically engineered machine competition – McGill team).

### **Christoph Borchers**

Student : Makepeace, Karl  
3rd cycle

Student : Fröhlich, Björn  
3rd cycle

Student: Vincent Lacasse  
3rd cycle

### **Claudia Kleinman**

Student : Hu, Yixing  
Project title : Computational methods for single-cell sequencing transcriptomics  
2nd cycle

Student : Worme, Samantha  
Project title : Single cell analysis of leukaemia tumors  
2nd cycle

Student : Coutelier, Marie  
Post doctoral fellow

### **Gerald Batist**

Student : Mitsa, Georgia  
Project title : Proteogenomics of colorectal cancer as a tool to improve patient stratification  
Distinction : Travel award by the Division of Experimental Medicine (Feb 2019)  
3rd cycle

### **Ivan Topisirovic**

Student : Kim, Ha Eun  
Project title : Defining the role of mTOR in epigenetic landscape in cancer  
3rd cycle

Student : Jovanovic, Predrag  
(co-supervised with **Josie Ursini-Siegel**)  
Project title : Role of 4E-BP1/2 in breast cancer progression  
2nd cycle

Student : Papadopoli, David  
Project title : Canagliflozin inhibits bioenergetics of cancer cells through perturbation of glutamine metabolism  
(co-supervised with **Michael Pollak**)  
Post doctoral fellow

### **Koren Mann**

Student : Wright, Cassandra  
3rd cycle

### **Laurent Azoulay**

Student : Cao, Dai  
2nd cycle

Student : Pradhan, Richeek  
Funding Source : CIHR Drug Safety and Effectiveness Cross-Disciplinary Training Program  
3rd cycle

### **Mark Basik**

Student : Bozik, Kathryn  
Project title: Overcoming drug resistance in HER2 positive breast cancers  
2nd cycle

### **Thierry Muanza**

Student : Jooya, Alex Alborz  
2nd cycle

Student : Dumut, Catalina  
Project title: Optimal delivery of therapeutics to prostate cancer based on magneto-aerotactic MC-1 bacterial agents  
2nd cycle

### **Walter Gotlieb**

Student : Matanes, Emad  
Project title: Inhibition of PARG, sensitizes ovarian cancer cells to PARP inhibitors and DNA damaging agents  
Postdoctoral fellow

Student : Raban, Oded  
Project title : Genes involved in homologous recombination and ovarian cancer pathogenesis  
Fellow

#### **Wilson Miller**

Student : Khoury, Elie  
Project title : Identifying novel functions of Mnk1/2 kinases  
2nd cycle  
(co-supervised with **Sonia del Rincon**)

Student : **Khashayar, Esfahani**  
Project title : Predictive biomarkers of immune-related adverse events in melanoma patients treated with checkpoint inhibitors  
Distinction: 2018 Edith Strauss Clinician Scientist Fellowship Award  
2nd cycle & Clinician Scientist Fellow  
(co-supervised with **Gerald Batist**)

Student : Preston, Sam  
Project title : Investigating the role of the MNK/eIF4E axis in the regulation of the tumour microenvironment in pregnancy-associated breast cancer  
3rd cycle

Student : Bartish, Margarita  
Project title : Role of MNK1/2 in anti-tumor immunity  
Post doctoral fellow

#### **Sonia del Rincon**

Margarita Bartish  
Post doctoral fellow

Samuel Preston  
3rd cycle

Sakktee Krisna  
3rd cycle

#### **Katherine Borden**

Student : Rahardjo, Amanda  
Project title : Studying the protein interaction between VPg and eIF4E  
1st cycle

Student : d'Asti, Esterina  
Project title : eIF4E generated micro vesicles  
Post doctoral fellow

Student : Moros, Gavin  
Project title : Biochemical understanding of multiple functions of eIF4E  
Post doctoral fellow

Student : Ghramm, Mehdi  
Project title : eIF4E and polyadenylation  
Post doctoral fellow

#### **Nathalie Johnson**

Student : Rys, Ryan  
Project title : Understanding the mechanisms of relapsed refractory DLBCL  
3rd cycle

#### **Siham Sabri**

Student : Bagchi, Monisha  
Project title : Investigating PRIMA-1<sup>MET</sup> as a new strategy to overcome resistance to Temozolomide in Glioblastoma  
3rd cycle, enrolled in Graduate Diploma in Clinical Research



## Appendix VI: Lectures and Seminar Series

Our trainees have access to various seminars, lectures and workshops offered by the Segal Cancer Centre (SCC) and the Lady Davis Institute (LDI). Among these programs are the LDI Cancer Seminar Series that are composed of talks from invited speakers from all around the world and presentations of trainees in the LDI Cancer Axis. Both published and unpublished data are presented, and preliminary data or outlines of new research proposals can be discussed as well. All trainees are encouraged to practice their communication skills in a formal setting and to obtain constructive feedback on their projects. To further encourage our trainees, a prize for best talk in the M.Sc., Ph.D. and Postdoc categories are awarded starting from this year. Additionally, the investigators of the institute also started to present their research, thereby serving as exemplary models for effective communications as well as fostering collaborations among the laboratories within the institution. Furthermore, LDI Cancer Axis partners with other axes of the institute to bring multidisciplinary perspectives on cancer research. One example of this is when the Cancer Axis, in collaboration with Biomedical Ethics Unit, hosted Dr. Mark. J. Ratain to give lectures titled “Interventional Pharmacoeconomics: A Strategy to Reduce Prescribing Costs of Modern Cancer Therapeutics” over two days.

Additionally, LDI Trainee Committee, formed by graduate students and postdoctoral fellows at the LDI, offers a monthly journal club and various workshops covering a wide range of topics, from research techniques to activities that shape trainees for their future careers in the field of biomedical research. The committee also holds monthly seminar series where the postdoctoral fellows present their research. The active student representation and involvement is crucial in creating rich learning environment for our trainees.

### LDI Cancer Seminars

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

#### **The mechanism and relevance of translational control of metabolism in cancer cells**

Stefano Biffo, Ph.D.

Professor of Cell Biology and Comparative Anatomy, University of Milano & Program Leader INGM “Romeo ed Enrica Invernizzi”

Hosted by: Dr. Ivan Topisirovic

Thursday, May 3, 2018

#### **In vivo screen identifies receptor for organ-selective neutrophil and cancer cell recruitment to the lungs and liver**

Donna L. Senger Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute Department of Oncology, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, May 11, 2018

#### **Epigenetic characterization and therapeutic targeting of cancers harboring dysfunctional CTCF**

Maika Jangal, Postdoc Fellow

Dr. Michael Witcher’s Lab

#### **& Characterization of a dual kinase inhibitor targeting PKC $\alpha$ and Aurora A kinases in leukemic cells**

Mariana Asslan, M.Sc.

Dr. Alaoui Jamali’s Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Thursday, May 17, 2018

#### **Fertilizing the metastatic soil: how primary tumours influence the microenvironment in lungs and tumour-draining lymph nodes**

Kevin L. Bennewith, Ph.D.

Senior Scientist, Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar, Department of Integrative Oncology, BC Cancer Research Centre

Hosted by: Dr. Ivan Topisirovic

Friday, May 18, 2018

#### **Progress toward a cell model for DICER1 syndrome**

Mona Wu, Ph.D.

Drs. William Foulkes and Marc Fabian’s Lab

#### **& The role of thioredoxin-interacting protein in biguanide-induced metabolic reprogramming**

Kristofferson Tandoc, M.Sc.

Drs. Ivan Topisirovic and Michael Pollak’s Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, May 25, 2018

**Peroxisome metabolism in health and disease**

Dr. Nancy Braverman

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics,  
Faculty of Medicine McGill University & Scientist,  
RI-MUHC Child Health and Human Development  
Program

Hosted by: Dr. Sonia del Rincon

Friday, June 15, 2018

**PRMT5/PDGFR $\alpha$  axis: implications for cancer**

Sara Calabretta

Stephane Richard's Lab

**& Interferon-driven STAT1 activation sensitizes breast cancers to biguanides as anti-cancer agents**

Stephanie Totten

Josie Ursini-Siegel's Lab

Friday, September 21, 2018

**Elimination of signaling receptors in cancers**

Serge Y. Fuchs, PhD, MD

Professor of Cell Biology, Department of  
Biomedical Sciences, University of Pennsylvania,  
School of Veterinary Medicine

Hosted by: Dr. Ivan Topisirovic

Friday, September 28, 2018

(In collaboration w/ Biomedical Ethics Unit)

**Interventional Pharmacoeconomics: A Strategy to Reduce Prescribing Costs of Modern Cancer Therapeutics**

Mark. J. Ratain, MD

Leon O. Jacobson Professor of Medicine Director,  
Center for Personalized Therapeutics Associate  
Director for Clinical Sciences Comprehensive  
Cancer Center, University of Chicago

Hosted by: Dr. Gerald Batist

Friday, September 28, 2018

(In collaboration w/ Biomedical Ethics Unit)

**Interventional Pharmacoeconomics: A Strategy to Reduce Prescribing Costs of Modern Cancer Therapeutics**

Mark. J. Ratain, MD

Leon O. Jacobson Professor of Medicine Director,  
Center for Personalized Therapeutics Associate  
Director for Clinical Sciences Comprehensive  
Cancer Center, The University of Chicago

Hosted by: Dr. Gerald Batist

Friday, October 5, 2018

**A mouse model of metabolic syndrome -what it means to oncology?**

Dr. Mark Trifiro

Senior Investigator & Professor, Department of  
Medicine, McGill University

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, October 12, 2018

**Potential Mechanisms of Action of Metformin in Early Breast Cancer**

Ryan Dowling, Ph.D.

Affiliate Scientist Princess Margaret Cancer Centre  
University Health Network, Toronto

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, October 19, 2018

**The adaptive trait of the integrated stress response promotes KRAS lung tumorigenesis**

Nour Ghaddar, MSc Student

Dr. Antonis Koromilas' Lab

**& Promoting pexophagy to overcome therapy resistance**

Michael Dahabieh, PhD Student

Dr. Wilson Miller's Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, October 26, 2018

**Functional proteomics as a pathway to precision medicine**

Shawn S. Li, PhD

Canada Research Chair in Molecular and  
Epigenetic Basis of Cancer & Professor of  
Biochemistry, Oncology and Chemistry  
Scientist, Child Health Research Institute, Lawson  
Research Institute, University of Western Ontario

Hosted by: Dr. Stephane Richard

Friday, November 2, 2018

**State of the Arg!**

Dr. Stephane Richard

Senior Investigator, Lady Davis Institute &  
Professor, Departments of Medicine and  
Oncology, McGill University

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, November 9, 2018

(In collaboration w/ Molecular & Regenerative  
Medicine Seminar)

**Seeing and modeling tumours: The role of advanced materials in oncology**

Matt J. Kinsella, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Department of  
Bioengineering, McGill University

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, November 23, 2018

**Negative growth control and survival mechanisms in ovarian cancer cell dormancy**

Fred Dick, Ph.D.

Professor of Biochemistry and Oncology  
Distinguished Scientist, London Health Sciences  
Centre University of Western Ontario

Hosted by: Dr. Ivan Topisirovic

Friday, November 30, 2018

**A distinct adaptive response can support breast tumor growth in the presence of oxidative stress**

Rachel La Selva, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Ursini-Siegel's Lab

**& Arginine methylation of RBMX by PRMT5 modulates P53 response via MDM4 alternative splicing**

Ting Cai, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Stéphane Richard's Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, December 7, 2018

**The diverse pathologies associated with metal toxicology: lessons from arsenic and tungsten**

Dr. Koren K. Mann

Director, Molecular and Regenerative Medicine  
Axis Associate Professor, Department of Oncology  
McGill University

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, December 14, 2018

(In collaboration w/ Molecular & Regenerative  
Medicine Seminar)

**New players in mammalian post-transcriptional gene silencing pathways**

Dr. Marc Fabian

Investigator Assistant Professor, Department of  
Oncology, McGill University

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, January 11, 2019

**Aberrant mRNA translation in the tumor microenvironment of postpartum breast cancer (PPBC)**

Qianyu Guo, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Wilson Miller's Lab, co-supervised by Dr. Sonia del Rincon

**& BORIS/CTCF mediates melanoma phenotype switching**

Sanne Janssen, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Alan Spatz's Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, January 18, 2019

**New tricks for old dogs: endocytosis proteins promote oncogenic signaling yet can also be 'trained' for drug delivery**

Costin N. Antonescu, Ph.D.

Associate Professor Department of Chemistry and  
Biology Ryerson University

Hosted by: Dr. Ivan Topisirovic

Friday, January 25, 2019

**The role of mutated STAT6 in relapse/refractory DLBCL**

Alexandre Benoit, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Koren Mann's Lab

**& Targeting thyroid cancer stem cells through inducing centrosome declustering**

Henry Yu, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Alaoui-Jamali's Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, February 1, 2019

**FER, Calpain and Ezrin: novel therapeutic targets and biomarkers in breast cancer**

Peter Greer, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Pathology and  
Molecular Medicine, Queen's University &  
Division of Cancer Biology & Genetics, Queen's  
Cancer Research Institute

Hosted by: Dr. Ivan Topisirovic

Friday, February 15, 2019

**MNK1/2 drives the expression of a novel subset of pro-tumorigenic and pro-invasive genes in melanoma**

Elie Khoury, M.Sc. Student

Dr. Wilson Miller and co-supervised by Dr. Sonia del Rincon

**& Oncogenic Impact of CTCF Mutations**

Benjamin Lebeau, M.Sc. Student

Dr. Michael Witcher's Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, February 22, 2019

**The role of cholesterol metabolism in cellular senescence**

Frédéric A. Mallette, Ph.D

Professeur agrégé Département de Médecine,  
Université de Montréal Centre de Recherche de  
l'Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Thursday, February 28, 2019

**The inner workings of nonribosomal peptide synthetases, nature's antibiotic nanofactories**

Martin Schmeing, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, McGill University

Hosted by: Dr. Ivan Topisirovic

Friday, March 1, 2019

**Pinpointing the origins of pediatric brain tumors using single cell transcriptomic analysis**

Selin Jessa, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Claudia Kleinman's lab

**& PTEN and its C-tail phosphorylation as a clinically relevant biomarker for Breast cancer therapy resistance**

Sahar Ibrahim, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Christoph Borchers' Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, March 15, 2019

**Single cell transcriptomics identifies a maturation continuum in acute myeloid leukemia**

Samantha Worme, MSc Student

Dr. Francois Mercier's Lab

**& Novel negative regulatory mechanisms for receptor tyrosine kinase signaling in breast cancer**

Jacqueline Ha, PhD Student

Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel's Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Thursday, March 21, 2019

**Impact of microRNA alterations on target pathways linked to cancer metastasis**

Andrew Craig, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Biomedical and Molecular Sciences, Queen's University

Hosted by: Dr. Ivan Topisirovic

Friday, March 22, 2019

**Mass spectrometry-based proteogenomics to complement precision oncology**

Vincent Richard, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Christoph Borchers's Lab

**& Investigating the role of 4E-BPs in polyomavirus (PyV) middle-T oncogene mouse model of mammary tumorigenesis**

Sophie Guénin, M.Sc. Student

Dr. Ivan Topisirovic's Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, March 29, 2019

**Oncogenic activities for a negative regulator of the small GTPases Rac1 and Cdc42**

Nathalie Lamarche-Vane, Ph.D.

Professor, Research Institute-MUHC, Cancer Research Program

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday April 5, 2019

**Emerging roles of ZNF280E/POGZ as a regulator of genomic stability and cell cycle progression**

John Heath, Ph.D. Student

Dr. Alexandre Orthwein's Lab

**& Carbohydrate-based vaccines for cancer therapy**

Rajarshi Roy Choudhury, Postdoctoral Fellow

Dr. Uri Saragovi's Lab

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

Friday, April 26, 2019

**Cell-surface proteomics for the identification of novel immunotherapeutic targets in cancer**

Philippe P. Roux, PhD Professor, Department of Pathology and Cell Biology, Faculty of Medicine Université de Montréal

Hosted by: Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel

## Distinguished Lecture Series

Trainees also benefit from the Distinguished Lecture Series, which has attracted world renowned scientists like James D. Watson (lecture on October 12, 2011). The lectures shown here are only those relative to the context of oncology.

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018**

**Intracellular and extracellular nitric oxide transport and its role in M1 and M2 macrophages as a novel mechanism involved in tumor cell killing or promotion**

Des R. Richardson, Ph.D.

Professor of Cancer Cell Biology National Health & Medical Research Council of Australia Senior Principal Research Fellow Director, Molecular Pharmacology & Pathology Program, University of Sydney

Hosted by: Dr. Prem Ponka

**Tuesday, June 5, 2018**

**Metabolic dysregulation in cancer and other diseases**

Ralph DeBerardinis, MD, Ph.D.

Professor, Children's Research Institute, UT Southwestern Medical Center

**Tuesday, October 2, 2018**

**The multifaceted DNA damage response**

Roger A. Greenberg, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Cancer Biology Director of Basic Science Basser Center for BRCA Perelman School of Medicine University of Pennsylvania

Hosted by: Dr. Alexandre Orthwein

**Tuesday, October 16, 2018**

**Mapping Genetic Networks in Yeast and Human Cells**

Charles Boone, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto

Hosted by: Dr. Alexandre Orthwein

**Tuesday, November 20, 2018**

**Telomeres and the DNA damage response** Titia de Lange, Ph.D.

Leon Hess Professor, American Cancer Society & Professor Head, Laboratory of Cell Biology and Genetics Director, Anderson Center for Cancer Research Click

Hosted by: Dr. Alexandre Orthwein

**Monday, March 25, 2019**

**The Brain Tumor Microenvironment and its Role in Tumor Progression and Therapeutic Resistance**

Stephen M. Robbins, PhD

Scientific Director, CIHR Institute of Cancer Research & Professor, Department of Oncology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Calgary

Hosted by: Dr. Alexandre Orthwein

**Tuesday, March 26, 2019**

**Design of Lipid Nanoparticle Systems to Enable Gene Therapies**

Pieter Cullis, PhD, FRSC, FNAI (USA)

Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology & Director, NanoMedicines Research Group, University of British Columbia

Hosted by: Dr. Alexandre Orthwein

**Thursday, April 11, 2019**

**Genomic screens for drug resistance studies**

Marc Ouellette, Ph.D.

Professor Department of Microbiology & Immunology Laval University

Hosted by: Dr. Koren Mann

**Tuesday, April 16, 2019**

**The metabolic regulation of stem cells and cancer**

Sean J. Morrison, Ph.D.

Professor and Director, Children's Medical Center Research Institute at UT Southwestern / Pediatrics Kathyne and Gene Bishop Distinguished Chair in Pediatric Research at Children's Research Institute at UT Southwestern; Mary McDermott Cook Chair in Pediatric Genetics

Hosted by: Dr. Colin Crist