

# ***FOCUS ON GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE***

## ***MARCH 2017***



*Spring in on the way – Promise!*



***Ongoing Excellence – Congratulations!***



**Dr Tom Maniatis** was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine.

**Dr Jeff Wiseman** was one of 11 laureates presented with student-nominated Transition to Clinical Practice (TCP) Awards for Excellence in Teaching in January. TCP is a unique 6-month component during the 4-year medical curriculum when students apply the knowledge learned in their first 18 months, practice their skills, and learn key aspects of various disciplines without being responsible for patient care.



**Dr Stella Daskalopoulou** was appointed Chair of the Central Review Committee of the Hypertension Canada Guidelines.

**Dr Patrick Willemot** was appointed Associate Exam Chair (Francophone Board) for the Royal College Internal Medicine Examinat.

### **McGill RUIS**

**Info Update:** We have collaborated and shared our preop protocols, tools, and procedures with members in CISSS de l'Abitibi Témiscamingue (Amos) in the interests of standard-setting and collaboration.

#### **Northern GIM Services Expanding: McGill Division of GIM in Inuit and Québec communities**

**Dr Patrick Willemot** was recently named GIM Service Chief for Nunavik (Région 17) and Eeyou Istchee (Région 18).

Four PREM Reseaux have been announced : 2 in Nunavik and 2 in the Cree Territories that are affiliated with the MUHC in conjunction with the Division of GIM, the Northern Health Boards and the MUHC DPSs.

**Dr Romina Pace**'s current dérogation will be converted to one of the PREMs in the Cree Territories. As such she is the first GIM faculty with a PREM Reseau practicing in Eeyou Istchee. While completing her FRQS-funded research training in determinants of health in the Québec Cree, Romina provides service to the inland Cree communities via Mistissini.

Since 2006, Patrick Willemot has been providing GIM consultation services to the Ungava Bay Inuit communities, including daily e-mail support to on-site physicians and week-long clinical visits to Kuujuaq 8-10 times a year. As Nunavik GIM Service Chief, Patrick advises the regional health board in organization of specialized services and has implemented a clinical rotation for R3-R5 residents.

In 2014, Patrick added GIM support to the coastal James Bay Cree communities. Visits to Chisasibi that occur 8 weeks a year, also with R3-R5 resident rotations, are now shared with Dr Pace. In collaboration with RUIS McGill and the Cree Health Board, Patrick and Romina have implemented weekly Telehealth clinics to Chisasibi. Patrick, is strongly advocating for "repatriation" of medical subspecialties to the Cree territories, contributing to what is known as population cultural safety.

**Stay Tuned and put in your Agenda!**

**McGill University Division Rounds: Wednesday 22 November featuring Dr Willemot, Dr Pace and visiting speakers from the North**

## Medical Education Corner



### From the desk of Dr Michelle Elizov, McGill Faculty Development

Spearheaded by **Dr Jeff Wiseman** *Serious games in health professions education*

May 11: 12h30-15h45 CyberMed 208/9, McIntyre Medical Building

Control click for more info and registration: [Serious Games Flyer](#)

May 17-18: *Your teaching journey at McGill*

New Residence Hall, 3625 du Parc

Control click for more info and registration: [Journey Flyer](#)

For more info on faculty development workshops, control click here: [FacDev](#)

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**First GIM Division Faculty Development Activity of the Year!**

**Ultrasound Course accredited by CPD McGill**

**DATE TO BE CONFIRMED VERY SHORTLY: PLEASE STAND BY!**

**Steinberg Centre for Simulation and Interactive Learning**

**Dr Leora Birnbaum** is organizing the Ultrasound course that promises to be a great ½ day!

- Faculty facilitators to cover the following topics:
  - Lung / pleura
  - The heart
  - Deep Vein Thrombosis

Registration is still open! Register by email: [antoINETTE.sevensma@muhc.mcgill.ca](mailto:antoINETTE.sevensma@muhc.mcgill.ca)

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**Drs Jeff Wiseman, Ning-Zi Sun and Maxime Labelle, et al.:** *ERRAD (Early Recognition of and Response to the Acutely Deteriorating ward patient)*: Course given to final-year medical students preparing to become R1 house officers. Clinicians who tutor this very popular 2-day course take a 2-hr workshop on the use of the deteriorating patient as a teaching method.

**Tutors will be needed for 2018! Please consider volunteering!**

## Global Health Haiti Project

### New to the Global Health: A unique research initiative

Drs Julia von Oettingen, **Louise Pilote** and Kerling Israel received a Steinberg Grant, McGill Global Health Program, for their project, *Prevalence and outcomes of gestational hypertension and diabetes in Haiti*.

### About the Project

This project aims to address two major pregnancy-related non-communicable diseases prevalent in Haiti. The researchers will implement a screening strategy to measure the problem of gestational hypertension/preeclampsia and diabetes among Haitian women. This information will help develop a local treatment strategy and its measured impact on maternal and neonatal health outcomes, and will be important in building capacity within the Haitian health sector to ascertain, diagnose and manage hypertension and diabetes in pregnant women. The ultimate aim is to improve maternal and infant health and the decrease intergenerational transmission of non-communicable diseases in Haiti.



## GIM Residency Training Program Corner

### Welcome to 8 incoming R4s who arrive on 1 July 2017!

Ira Roshan Afshar, Maxime Gosselin, Dennis Ho-Wo-Cheong, Juilian Huertas-Garcia, Nora Hutchinson, Aly Kanji, Douglas Slobod, Moez Tajdin.

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**Inter-University Research Day: PGY5 and Staff Presentations**  
**1:00 – 5:00, Thursday, 8 June**  
**Auditorium, CRCHUM, 900 rue St-Denis, Room R05.210, 5th Floor**



The following McGill PGY5s will present their CSP projects at the 5th annual Quebec Inter-University GIM Research Day, hosted this year by the Université de Montréal:

**Dr Renee Borkovich:** *The role of preoperative cardiac testing in the bariatric surgical population: Retrospective cohort study*

**Dr Maxime Labelle:** *The ERRAD Experience - a theory-based method for teaching medical undergraduates acute care thinking*

**Dr Samuel Mamane:** *The incremental prognostic value of sarcopenia in older adults undergoing transcatheter aortic valve replacement*

**Dr Zale Rosenberg:** *Treatment discontinuation and clinical events in Type II Diabetes patients treated with dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors or NPH insulin as third-line therapy*

**Dr Jessica Thom:** *Incidence of fluid overload amongst admitted internal medicine patients receiving maintenance or replacement intravenous fluids*

**Dr Remy Wong:** *Prevalence of masked HTN and undertreated HTN*

**All are welcome to attend to hear about resident CSP projects!**

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**Dr Isabelle Malhame** received the McGill Postgraduate Resident Global Health Travel Award in October 2016 for her trip to Haiti this month.

**Dr Renee Borkovich** had a poster presentation at the CSIM in October 2016: *Preoperative cardiac testing in patients undergoing bariatric surgery: a retrospective cohort study.*

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**The Faculty Scholars Award** supports GIM residents in their pursuit of scholarly activities in projects such as, but not exclusive to, clinical research, quality improvement and medical education. **The deadline for the next competition is April 30th.**

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**Dr Omar Ahmad and his wife, Julie,** announced their 3<sup>rd</sup> child: a baby girl, Myriam, born in December 2016. 

## GIM Research Corner



### This issue's feature

**Dr Kaberi Dasgupta** was recently awarded a grant from the Lawson Foundation entitled, *Partnering with the Cree to develop, implement, and evaluate a sustainable diabetes prevention strategy in young families with a gestational diabetes history.*

### About the Project

This project will develop a diabetes prevention program in families with a history of gestational diabetes in the mother. The intervention will be family-based, involving cooking and exercising in the homes of participating families. This program is being developed in collaboration with Cree Community Health Workers, patients and families, and conducted in partnership with the Cree Board of Public Health.

### Clinical Impact

A successful program will be sustained long term by the Cree Public Health with funding through the Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative. Success will be measured by uptake, engagement, participation, and impact on insulin resistance and blood pressure.



### Breaking News!

#### **Congratulations to Dr Natalie Dayan!**

She has received a CIHR grant for her study entitled, *Prediction of severe maternal morbidity among women who give birth following assisted reproductive technology.*



### Please Complete a Survey!

**Dr Amal Bessissow is conducting a Canada-wide survey: Perioperative corticosteroid administration: A survey for internists, endocrinologists and anesthesiologists.**

**Please control click on this link to complete the survey: [SURVEY](#)**

**If you have a survey you would like announced, please inform us and we will help circulate!**

### In the Media

**Dr Vicky Tagalakakis's** post doc, Dr Adi Klil-Drori's work was featured as one of the top news stories at the 2016 American Society of Haematology Meeting in December 2016

*The risk of major bleeding with low-molecular-weight heparins for venous thromboembolism in dialysis patients: the Q-VTE study.*

Read more, control click: [ASH](#)

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**Dr Kaberi Dasgupta** (PI) and **Dr Stella Daskalopoulou** (PI)'s trial, *SMARTER Step Monitoring to improve ARTERial health*, sparked numerous media releases: Read more, control click:

Taking Steps [GLOBALNEWS](#) Step count prescriptions [DIABETES](#) Prescription pedometer [RADIOCANADA](#)

Marche comme ordonnance [JOURNALDEMONTREAL](#)

A prescription with legs [SCIENCEDAILY](#) Prescribing extra walking [MONTREALGAZETTE](#)

A prescription with legs [MCGILLCHANNELNEWS](#) Physician-delivered step count [MPR](#)

### Congratulations!

**Four abstracts of graduate students supervised by Division researchers were accepted for presentation at**

**The 2017 Department of Medicine Research Symposium**

**11:00 – 17:00 Wednesday 3 May 2017**

**McGill New Residence Hall, 3625 Avenue du Parc**



**Please make every effort to attend!**

- *Trends in Mortality of Patients Presenting to the Emergency Department with Suspected Pulmonary Embolism.* Adi J. Klil-Drori\*, Janie Coulombe, Samy Suissa, Andrew Hirsch, and **Vicky Tagalakakis**
- *Dietary Calcium Intake and Vascular Health: Are they related?* Shubhabrata Das\*, David Goltzman, Angel M. Ong, Yessica H. Gomez, Jessica Gorgui, Michelle Wall, **Suzanne N. Morin, Stella S. Daskalopoulou**
- *Arterial stiffness for the prediction of pre-eclampsia compared to angiogenic biomarkers and uterine artery Doppler ultrasound.* Kim Phan\*, **Stella Daskalopoulou**
- *Risk of stroke and major bleeding associated with anticoagulation in patients with atrial fibrillation and advanced chronic kidney disease.* Michelle Samuel\*, J Joza, Hassan Behloul, Vidal Essebag, **Louise Pilote**

\*supervised trainees

### Revamped McGill Division website coming soon!

Please send your photo, CV and special interests to Antoinette

[antoinette.sevensma@muhc.mcgill.ca](mailto:antoinette.sevensma@muhc.mcgill.ca)