

**Annual Report**  
**Division of Gastroenterology**  
**Department of Medicine - Jewish General Hospital**  
**April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011**

**I HIGHLIGHTS**

None to report.

**II EVALUATION OF THE PAST ACADEMIC YEAR**

**1) Teaching activities**

Total clinical teaching hours

Dr. S. Blum, Dr. A. Cohen, Dr. G. Friedman, Dr. N. Hilzenrat Dr. A. Szilagy, Dr. J. Wyse, Dr. P. Galiatsatos	Gastroenterology consult service	300 hrs/yr. for each physician
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Post-graduate teaching hours

GI Pathology Conference Dr. Esther Lamoureux, Dr. A. Gologan Dr. Olga Aleynikova	Wednesdays 8-9 am (alternate week)
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GI Radiology Conference Dr. M. Rosenbloom	Wednesdays 8-9 am (alternate week)
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GI Journal Club, M&M rounds	Wednesdays 8-9 am, once/month
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McGill interhospital GI rounds	Wednesdays 5-6 pm
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MED 1:

McGill Gastrointestinal Physiology Small Group Tutor, Unit IV: Dr. A. Cohen, Dr. G. Friedman, Dr. N. Hilzenrat, Dr. P. Galiatsatos, Dr. J. Wyse and Dr. A. Szilagy – total number of hours: 16/physician

Total Clinical Teaching hours:

Residents:	CTU: 80 hours	OPD: 800
Students:	CTU: 80 hours	OPD: 200

## 2) Research

Dr. Albert Cohen

MLN0002 In Crohn's (13007): A Phase 3, Randomized, Placebo Controlled, Blinded, Multicenter Study of the Induction and Maintenance of Clinical Response and Remission by MLN0002 in Patients with Moderate to Severe Crohn's Disease. Quintiles/CRO PRA Int.

MLN0002 In Crohn's (C13006): A Phase 3, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Blinded, Multicentre Study of the Induction and Maintenance of Clinical Response and Remission by MLN0002 in Patients with Moderate to Severe Ulcerative Colitis.

MLN0002 in UC and Crohn's (C13008)

Extension Study An Open-Label Phase 3 Study: An Open-Label 3 Study to determine the long-term efficacy and safety of MLN0002 in Patients with Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease. (Quintiles/CRO PRA Int)

IN UC and Crohn's (C1 C0168T62: A Multi-centre International Study of the Long-Term Safety of Infliximab (Remicade) in ulcerative colitis.

Advanced Biologics/PRA International-CRO

Open-label Adalimumab S/C in Ulcerative Colitis

Extension study of placebo controlled trial.

Multicenter International Trial

Site Principal Investigator

Sponsor: Abbott Laboratories

Quebec Genetic Consortium- Identification of the genes responsible for inflammatory bowel disease. This study represents a collaboration between gastroenterologists throughout Quebec, involving all medical faculties in conjunction with the Whitehead Institute and the National Health Institute, Bethesda, MD.

Multicenter International trial

Site Principal Investigator

Co-investigator: Dr. A. Szilagy, Dr. G. Friedman, Dr. S. Blum, Dr. N. Hilzenrat  
2003 to present

Dr. Nir Hilzenrat

The incidence of diabetes following interferon treatment in patients with HCV

Site principal investigator: Hilzenrat Nir

Co-investigator: Kader T

Funding: Jewish General Hospital, GI Research Group  
2004-date.

Dr. Andrew Szilagyi

Differential effects of lactose on fecal microflora in adult Lactase Persistent and Lactase Non-Persistent healthy subjects ( Danone Institute). This trial is registered at ClinicalTrials.gov ID NCT00599859

Epidemiological study of Inflammatory bowel diseases and relationships to diet, vitamin D levels and genetics of lactase and NOD2, OCTN1/2.  
Adaptability to fructose in fructose intolerant subjects: On going since January 2008.

### 3) **Clinical Activities**

Office visits

Dr. A. Cohen	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm
Dr. G. Friedman	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm 17 786 visits/year
Dr. A. Szilagyi	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm
Dr. N. Hilzenrat	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm
Dr. P. Galiatsatos	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm

Endoscopy laboratory: our volume has decreased to 7187 procedures/year since 2009 (9000 procedures) and 2010 (8771 procedures). This is the result of increased demands in terms of nursing care to comply with conscious sedation guidelines and no commensurate increase in the number of nurses in endoscopy. Without an increase in resources, we expect our volume of endoscopic procedures to drop even further in 2011-2012. This is having a very grave impact on our already engorged waiting lists.

Monday to Friday	8-4 pm	7187 procedures/year
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#### **Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)**

Mondays and Thursdays	1-4 pm	344 procedures/year (included in Endoscopy)
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Anemia Clinic: Cancelled due to shortage of nurses.

Monday, Thursday	1:30-4:00 pm	300 procedures/yr
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#### **Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinics**

Monday to Friday (included in office visits)	8-12 pm	3500 visits/year
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Clinical trials in inflammatory bowel disease have continued to flourish. We are participating in numerous international clinical trials under the direction of our research nurse, Stefania D' Aleo.

#### Hepatology clinic

Dr. N. Hilzenrat      Monday to Friday      8-4 pm      4831 visits/year  
(included in office visits)

Maria Stavrakis and Paul Plaisir are our research nurses in Hepatology. Activities include conduction of clinical trails in Hepatology as well as teaching and monitoring of patients undergoing anti-viral therapy for chronic hepatitis.

#### GI Service

In-patient activities revolve around the GI consulting service which is attended by our staff physician on a two week rotating schedule throughout the year. The volume of consultations is approximately 2400/year, the majority of which involve endoscopic procedures.

#### **4) Academic Staff**

Dr. Jonathan Wyse has launched gastrointestinal endoscopic ultrasound at the Jewish General Hospital. He has trained under the mentorship of Dr. Anand Sahai who is considered to be a world leader in his field. He has also successfully completed his Masters in Epidemiology and will certainly strengthen the academic profile of our division.

#### **5) Consulting activities**

#### **6) Other**

#### **Publications**

##### **Dr. A. Cohen**

Infliximab therapy for moderately severe Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis: a retrospective comparison over 6 years. Alzafiri R, Holcroft CA, Malolepszy P, Cohen A, Szilagyi A. Clin Experiment Gastroenterol 2011; 4: 9-17;  
[http://www.dovepress.com/articles.php?article\\_id=6138](http://www.dovepress.com/articles.php?article_id=6138)

##### **Dr. A. Szilagyi**

Infliximab therapy for moderately severe Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis: a retrospective comparison over 6 years. Alzafiri R, Holcroft CA, Malolepszy P, Cohen A, Szilagyi A. Clin Experiment Gastroenterol 2011; 4: 9-17;  
[http://www.dovepress.com/articles.php?article\\_id=6138](http://www.dovepress.com/articles.php?article_id=6138)

Szilagyi A, Leighton H, Burstein B, Shrier I. Significant positive correlation between sunshine and lactase nonpersistence in Europe may implicate both in similarly altering risks for some diseases. Nutr Cancer (ahead of print DOI: 10.1080/01635581.2011.596641).

Differential impact of lactose/lactase phenotype on colonic microflora. A Szilagyi, I Shrier, D Heilpern JS Je SH Park, G Chong C Lalonde L-F Cote, BH Lee. Can J Gastroenterol 24; 373-379; 2010.

High fructose intake fails to induce symptomatic adaptation but may induce intestinal carriers. Heilpern D, Abbas RN, Gladman S, Menard M, Lee BH, Szilagyi A. Gastroenterology Insights. <http://www.pagepress.org/gi>, Vol 2;e3, 2010.

Szilagyi A. Determinants of Geographic Patterns of Diseases: Interaction of Lactose/Lactase status and Sunshine Exposure. Szilagyi A. Med Hypotheses. 2010 May 8. [Epub ahead of print]PMID: 20457495]

### **III OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES**

The main objectives of the division for the coming year are:

- to expand our EUS program to meet the growing demands from our Oncology colleagues and
- to obtain adequate resources to conduct the endoscopic procedures which are requested of us.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert Cohen, MD  
Chief, Division of Gastroenterology