

Annual Report
Division of Gastroenterology
Department of Medicine - Jewish General Hospital
January 1 - December 31, 2015

SUMMARY:

Introduction

Clinical innovation continues to be one of the hallmarks of our division. In the past year, we expanded the fibroscan program run by Dr. Nir Hilzenrat. This is a non-invasive measure of liver fibrosis which can largely replace liver biopsies in many instances. In biliary diseases, we have gained expertise as one of the few sites in the province to use the Spyglass system which is direct cholangioscopy. This allows removal of large complex biliary stones and the diagnosis of biliary and pancreatic malignancies with much greater precision.

Clinical Activities

Office visits

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Dr. A. Cohen | Monday to Friday | 8-4 pm | |
| Dr. G. Friedman | Monday to Friday | 8-4 pm | 17 994visits/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:

Endoscopy volume for 12 months was 9477 in total. This includes both in and out patients.

Monday to Friday 8-4 pm procedures/year

Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)

Mondays and Thursdays 1-4 pm 278 procedures/year (included in Endoscopy)

Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinics

Monday to Friday 8-12 pm 3500 visits/year (included in office visits)

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.

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Rapid Access IBD Clinics: Monday to Thursday, 2-4 pm: 108 patients/year.

Hepatology clinic

Dr. N. Hilzenrat Monday to Friday 8-4 pm 4657 visits/year
(included in office visits)

Maria Stavrakis is our research nurse 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.

1. Research activities:

- Dr. Albert Cohen research interests focus on Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, ulcerative colitis and acid-related gastro-intestinal disorders.
- Dr Andrew Szilagyi's research interests include medical aspects of lactose and lactase as they pertain to lactose intolerance, diseases affected by dairy foods and epidemiology of lactose digestion. Related topics include irritable bowel syndrome and inflammatory bowel disease.
- Dr. Polymnia Galiatsatos is currently doing research on the impact of Lynch syndrome on career pursuits, professional development, and academic studies.
- Dr. Nir Hilzenrat major research interests are in the fields of liver diseases and gastroenterology: portal hypertension (basic sciences), viral hepatitis B & C - its treatment modalities and extrahepatic manifestations and complications (clinical studies) and colorectal cancer screening.
- Dr. Jonathan Wyse's research interests focus on the value of on-site cytopathology during endoscopic ultrasound and the study of biomarkers of irritable versus inflammatory bowel disease.

2. Teaching and learning (undergraduate and graduate):

Total clinical teaching hours

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Gastroenterology Consult service | |
| Dr. S. Blum, Dr. A. Cohen, | 300 hrs/yr. |
| Dr. G. Friedman, Dr. N. Hilzenrat | for each |
| Dr. A. Szilagyi, Dr. J. Wyse, | physician |
| Dr. P. Galiatsatos | |

Post-graduate teaching hours

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

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. Szilagyi - total number of hours: 16/physician

Total Clinical Teaching hours:

Residents: CTU: 80 hours OPD: 800

Students: CTU: 80 hours OPD: 200

3. Involvement in the community:

Members of the Division continue to serve in committees and editorial boards and to participate in other high level academic activities at national and international levels.

4. Partnerships:

The division collaborates with gastroenterologists throughout Quebec in conjunction with the Whitehead Institute and the National Health Institute, Bethesda, MD for the identification of genes responsible for inflammatory bowel disease.

5. Milestones: New hires, promotions, and retirements:

No new faculty has been added.

6. Honours, awards, and prizes: None to report.

7. Fundraising: None to report.

SECTION I - DIVISION STATUS UPDATE

1. Mission and objectives of the Division

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

- Optimize the physical spaces of the GI division. Our current location at E-110 was a temporary move in 2011. With the opening of Pav. K and the availability of spaces in the old wings, this is an opportune time for our division to optimize its clinical space. Our waiting room is virtually non-existent rendering the patient experience deplorable.
- Recruitment of Dr. Robert Battat who will be doing a two-year fellowship in inflammatory bowel diseases under the supervision of Dr. William Sandborn in San Diego. He is expected to return in July of 2019.

2. A nominative list of academic staff, their academic rank

Full-time (GFT) members:

Dr. Albert Cohen, Director, Division of Gastroenterology, Associate Professor, McGill University

Dr. Nir Hilzenrat, Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, Associate Professor, McGill University

Dr. Gad Friedman, Gastroenterologist, Assistant Professor, McGill University

Dr. Polymnia Galiatsatos, Gastroenterologist, Assistant Professor, McGill University

Dr. Jonathan Wyse, Gastroenterologist, Assistant Professor, McGill University

Dr. Andrew Szilagyi, Gastroenterologist, Assistant Professor, McGill University

SECTION II - GRANTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND SERVICE OUTSIDE OF MCGILL

1. Grants and Awards

Dr. Albert Cohen

Protocol No. G1C13-01: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Phase IIa Proof of Concept Study of G1C-1001 in the Management of Visceral Pain in Subjects undergoing Sedation - Free Full colonoscopy. Sponsor: GICARE Pharm Inc.

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)

Open-label Adalimumab S/C in Ulcerative Colitis, M10-223

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 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. Szilagyi, Dr. G. Friedman, Dr. S. Blum, Dr. N. Hilzenrat

2003 to present

“Prediction of response to Ustekinumab in anti-TNF-resistant Crohn's disease, using trough concentrations and the present of anti-ustekinumab antibodies”

Principal investigator: Dr. Waqqas Afif

Principal site investigator: Dr. A. Cohen

Etro in UC (GA28950)

Phase III, double blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter study of the efficacy and safety of etrolizumab during induction and maintenance in patients with moderate to severe active ulcerative colitis who are refractory to or intolerant of TNF inhibitors.

Principal site investigator: Dr. A. Cohen

Etro in UC open-Label Extension (GA28951)

An open label extension and safety monitoring study of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis patients previously enrolled in etrolizumab phase III studies.

Principal site investigator: Dr. A. Cohen

IBD Genomic Medicine Consortium (iGenoMed): Translating genetic discoveries into a personalized approach to treating the inflammatory bowel diseases- Development of a tool predictive of response to anti-TNF in a prospective Crohn's Disease patient cohort.

Principal Site investigator: Dr. Albert Cohen

Dr. Polymnia Galiatsatos

Impact of Lynch syndrome on career pursuits, professional development, and academic studies: JGH Department of Medicine Clinical Research Award 2014-2016

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.

Chronic Hepatitis C infection Genotype 3: Do All Subjects Respond Equally to the Current Therapy?

Site principal investigator: Hilzenrat Nir

Funding: SMBD- Jewish General Hospital, GI Research Group
2009-date

The role of different biological systems in the etiology of interferon alpha induced depression.

Principal Investigator: Marie-Josée Brouillette

Site principal investigator: Hilzenrat Nir

Co-investigator: Deschenes M

Funding: CHIR- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
2008-date

Short term memory defect in HCV patients treated with Interferon.

Site principal investigator: Hilzenrat Nir

Funding: SMBD- Jewish General Hospital, GI Research Group
2011-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.

Dr. Jonathan Wyse

The value of Botox-A in Acute Radiation Proctitis: JGH Department of Medicine Clinical Research Award 2013-2016

2. Publications

Dr. N. Hilzenrat

Bhat M, Wyse J.M, Moodie E, Ghali P, Hilzenrat N, Wong P and Deschenes M.
Prevalence and predictors of sleep disturbance among liver diseases in long-term transplant survivors. Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology 2015; 29: 440-444

Dr. A. Szilagyi

Szilagyi A, Adult lactose digestion status and effects on disease. Can J Gastroenterol Hepatol, 2015; 29:149-56 (IF 1.97)

Szilagyi A, Adaptation to Lactose in Lactase Non Persistent People: Effects on Intolerance and the Relationship between Dairy Food Consumption and Evaluation of Diseases. Nutrients 2015, 7, 6751-6779. (IF 3.27)

SECTION III

1. Consulting activities: None reported

Respectfully submitted,

Albert Cohen, MD
Chief, Division of Gastroenterology