

**Annual Report
Division of Gastroenterology
Department of Medicine - Jewish General Hospital
January 1 - December 31, 2013**

SUMMARY

-In July of 2013, we started a rapid access clinic in IBD. The goal of this clinic is to permit prompt evaluation of patients with IBD who are experiencing an exacerbation of their illness. Ultimately, we hope to reduce patient visits to the emergency room thereby reducing unnecessary initiation of corticosteroids, unnecessary imaging including CT scans and MRI. We clearly also hope to demonstrate and improve patient outcomes.

-In Hepatology, we recently acquired the fibroscan. This is a tool for measurement of liver elasticity which is a surrogate for cirrhosis. This allows extensive evaluation of liver parenchyma while avoiding the invasiveness of a liver biopsy.

Evaluation of the Past Academic Year**a. Faculty**

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.

b. Clinical Activities**Office visits**

Dr. A. Cohen	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm	
Dr. G. Friedman	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm	24 583 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	7557 procedures/year
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Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)

Mondays and Thursdays	1-4 pm	324 procedures/year (included in Endoscopy)
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Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinics

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

Rapid Access IBD Clinics: Monday to Thursday, 2-4 pm: 400 patients/year.

Hepatology clinic

Dr. N. Hilzenrat	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm	5037 visits/year (included in office visits)
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Maria Stavarakis 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.

1. Research & Publications

a. Research

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 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. Szilagyi, 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.

Chronic Hepatitis C infection Genotype 3 – Do All Subjects Response 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.

b. Publications

Cohen, Albert

Dora Liu, Alexandra Ahmet, Leanne Ward, Preetha Krishnamoorthy, Efrem D. Mandelcorn, Richard Leigh, Jacques P Brown, **Albert Cohen**, Harold Kim. A Practical Guide to Monitoring and Management of the Complications of Systemic Corticosteroid Therapy. Liu et al. Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology 2013, 9:30.

Feagan BG, McDonald JW, Panaccione R, Enns RA, Bernstein CN, Ponich TP, Bourdages R, Macintosh DG, Dallaire C, Cohen A, Fedorak RN, Paré P, Bitton A, Saibil F, Anderson F, Donner A, Wong CJ, Zou G, Vandervoort MK, Hopkins M, Greenberg GR. Gastroenterology. 2013 Nov 21. pii: S0016-5085(13)01671-5. doi: 10.1053/j.gastro.2013.11.024. [Epub ahead of print

Dr. A. Szilagyi

Carlo A. Fallone MD, Alan N. Barkun MD, MSc (Epidemiology), Andrew Szilagyi MD, Karl M. Herba MD, Maida Sewitch PhD, Myriam Martel BSc, Stefanie S. Fallone. Prolonged duration is required in Canada for successful Helicobacter pylori eradication with proton pump inhibitor triple therapy. Can J Gastroenterol 2013;27:397 – 402.

Avigyle Grunbaum, Christina Holcroft, Debra Heilpern¹, Stephanie Gladman, Barry Burstein⁴, Maryse Menard, Jasim Al-Abbad, Jamie Cassoff, Elizabeth MacNamara, Philip H Gordon, Andrew Szilagyi. Dynamics of vitamin D in patients with mild or inactive inflammatory bowel disease and their families. Nutrition Journal 2013, 12:145. <http://www.nutritionj.com/content/12/1/145>

Szilagyi A: Milk, Lactose, Lactase: the Medical Adventure. In Lactose: Structure, Food Industry Applications and Role in Disorders. Editors: David Green and Emma Lee. Nova Science Publishers Inc. New York, 2013; 51-90. **ISBN**:978-1-62808-198-5

3. Involvement in the community

None.

4. Partnerships

5. Milestones: None to report.

6. New hires, promotions, and retirements: None to report.

7. Honours, awards, and prizes – None to report

8. Fundraising - None to report

Objectives and Priorities

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

- Expanding the Rapid Access clinic to 4 days/week.
- Pursue our objective for the recruitment of Dr. Penny D'Souza in interventional endoscopy.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dr. Albert Cohen