

Annual Report
Division of Gastroenterology
Department of Medicine - Jewish General Hospital
January 1 - December 31, 2017

SUMMARY:

Introduction

We have been planning the creation of the new IBD center of excellence. Dr. R. Battat is completing his IBD fellowship in San Diego.

Clinical Activities

Office visits

Dr. A. Cohen	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm	
Dr. G. Friedman	Monday to Friday	8-4 pm	16 608 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:

Monday to Friday 8-4 pm

Endoscopy volume for 12 months was 11,700 in total. This includes both in and out patients.

Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)

Mondays and Thursdays 1-4 pm 303 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 nurses, Stefania D'Aleo and Marguerite Labelle-Kemp

Rapid Access IBD Clinics:

Monday to Thursday 2-4 pm 168 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. A. Gologan	
Dr. Olga Aleynikova, Dr. Mona Alladin	
GI Radiology Conference	Wednesdays 8-9 am (alternate week)
Dr. J. Cassoff	
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:

Dr. Robert Battat is completing an IBD fellowship with Dr. W. Sandborn in San Diego. He is scheduled to start in July of 2019.

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

7. Fundraising:

Several generous donors played a major role in helping the GI Division raise in excess of 2 million dollars for the creation of a new IBD center of excellence at the Jewish General Hospital.

SECTION I - DIVISION STATUS UPDATE

1. Mission and objectives of the Division

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

- Finalize plans for the creation of the IBD center of excellence.
- Support the recruitment of Dr. Robert Battat who is 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

Dr. Robert Battat, Gastroenterologist. Completing his fellowship.

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

1. Grants and Awards

Dr. Albert Cohen

“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 certolizumab 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

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)

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 deficit 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. Polymnia Galiatsatos

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

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 and Dr. A. Szilagyi

Heron V, Fortinsky KJ, Spiegle G, **Hilzenrat N** and **Szilagyi A**. Resected hepatocellular carcinoma in a patient with Crohn's diseases on azathioprine. *Case Rep Gastroenterol* 2016;10:50-56.

Dr. P. Galiatsatos

Bossé D, Ng T, Ahmad C, ...**Galiatsatos P** (15/35),... Asmis T. Eastern Canadian Gastrointestinal Cancer Consensus Conference 2016. *Curr Oncol* 2016;23:e605-e614.

Hosseina M, Probst S, **Galiatsatos P**. Colonic manifestation of a hematologic disorder. *Arab J Gastroenterol* 2016; 17:191-192.

Szilagyi A, **Galiatsatos P**. Systematic review and meta-analysis of lactose digestion, its impact on intolerance and nutritional effects of dairy food restriction in inflammatory bowel diseases. *Nutr J* 2016;15:67.

Galiatsatos P. Ecchymotic Back Lesions. *The Canadian Journal of Diagnosis* 2016;33:38.

SECTION III

1. Consulting activities: None reported

Respectfully submitted,

Albert Cohen, MD
Chief, Division of Gastroenterology