ANNUAL REPORT

DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE

JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL

January 1 – December 31, 2017

Ruby Friedman, M. D.
Site Director

José A. Morais, MD, FRCPC
Director
McGill Division of Geriatric Medicine

May 2018
SUMMARY

We continue to fulfill the mandate of 1) delivering high-quality care to our elderly patients, 2) providing excellent teaching milieu to medical students and residents, 3) performing relevant clinical research on aging by our division members and 4) innovating in services to the elderly population. We are particularly proud of the achievements in reducing waiting time to access our outpatient services and the success so far of the Elderly Friendly Hospital implementation program at the JGH (Approche adaptée pour personnes âgées, APA).

The Division of Geriatric Medicine continues to respond to the increasing demands for clinical services. The Division of Geriatrics has agreed to care for 27 patients who require relocation to a LTC facility on a dedicated ward. This newly renovated ward is now on 6West. It has been integrated with the acute Geriatrics ward 6NW. At any given time, the Division is responsible for over 70 admitted patients. This should improve the care required for these patients. Patients are identified on every medical/surgical unit for transfer to this ward. Access to the acute wards from the ED should be improved. The Division’s areas of clinical activities include the Geriatric’s Ward 6NW, the outpatient Geriatric Assessment Unit, Memory Clinic, Senior Oncology Clinic, the Geriatric Consultation Services in the Emergency Room, and in the hospital. Dr Olivier Beauchet has introduced a Mobility Disorders/Fall Clinic. To improve the efficiency of the Division’s many activities, we have assigned a physician coordinator for each of them. Thus, for the 6NW Ward, the Medical Director will remain Dr. Ruby Friedman; for consultation services, Dr. Olivier Beauchet; for out-patient clinics, Dr. Susan Gold; for Memory Clinic, Dr. Susan Vaitekunas and Dr. Howard Chertkow (Neurology); for Geriatric Oncology Clinic, Dr. Doreen Wan-Chow-Wah & Dr. Johanne Monette. Dr Haibin Yin has assumed the responsibility of the Undergraduate Geriatrics Clerkship program at McGill. There have been major changes in the administration and teaching of this clerkship. Dr Yin provides an important link to the Department of Family Medicine.

The Division continues to be jointly run by Dr. Ruby Friedman, JGH Site Director, and by Dr. José A. Morais, Director, McGill Division of Geriatric Medicine.

Admissions to the Geriatrics ward have increased by 40%.

Consultation requests from the hospital wards have increased by 30%.

Evaluations in our Outpatient Clinics including Geriatrics Assessment Unit, Memory Clinic and Senior Oncology Clinic have increased by 35% in the last 5 years.

The implementation in 2015 of Bill 10 and Bill 20 will result in major changes across the healthcare system. Division members sit on several committees in the hospital and at McGill that
are dealing with these issues. With regards to Bill 10 and the realignment of healthcare institutions, the Division of Geriatrics is well positioned. Division members already have cross-appointments to several of the institutions in the newly formed Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux (CIUSSS) du Centre-Ouest-de-l’Île-de Montréal (Maimonides Hospital, Jewish Eldercare, CSSS Cavendish). The implications of Bill 20 are not known at this time. The implications of Bill 130 on medical staffing in our Division is a concern.

The RUIS McGill Centre of Excellence on Longevity (previously known as the RUIS McGill Centre of Excellence on Aging and Chronic Disease –CEViMaC), under the leadership of Dr. Olivier Beauchet has developed markedly in the last 2 years.

1. **Research and publications:**

Dr Elise Levinoff’s research on the prevalence and management of hospitalized orthopedic patients with delirium continues to progress.

Research in neurobiology and dementia, health services, frailty, pharmacoepidemiology, long term care, and education continue to represent the existing strengths of the Division with programs that cross hospital, department and university lines and in some cases integrate bench-to-bedside-to population. Oncology and older persons, as well as empowering primary care to manage elderly patient with chronic diseases are emerging interests. There is increasing collaboration with colleagues from Quebec, Canada and internationally. Members of the Division lead major research programs with funding from the Canadian Institutes on Health Research (CIHR) and the Fonds de la recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS). Doctor Howard Chertkow is the coordinator of the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration and Aging(CCNA). This program coordinates the research across memory clinics in Canada and is based at the Jewish General. The list of publications and grants for our Division members are included in Section II.

2. **Teaching and learning (undergraduate and graduate):**

*Number of degrees awarded; particular initiatives and achievements and innovations related to teaching programs; initiatives with respect to graduate supervision; and extraordinary student success stories should be included.*

Geriatrics is a mandatory rotation during the 4th year of medical clerkship. Our teaching responsibilities have increased markedly since we have 50% more medical students on rotation. This year, we had 2 residents in the Geriatric Fellowship program and in the Care of the Elderly Program (Family Medicine stream) rotating at the JGH. We also have many Internal Medicine and Family Medicine residents spending a month rotating in the Division. The student evaluations have been very good to excellent and an increasing number of students have expressed interest in geriatric medicine as a career. Those of the Residents are also very positive. These positive evaluations are a testimony to the hard work and dedication of all the teachers in our Division. An annual Prize is given to a Medical Student with a superior performance in the rotation during the Graduation Day in May of each year.
3. **Involvement in the community:**

*Involvement in both the academic field of the unit and involvement in the larger non-academic community by either the unit or individuals (faculty, staff, and students) should be included. Examples are: conferences organized; outreach programs (local, national, and international) related to the academic mission of the unit as well as volunteer activities not directly related to teaching and research.*

The McGill Division of Geriatrics held 3 Grand Rounds that are open to public as well as to physicians of all backgrounds and allied health professionals. The conferences were held by Visioconference across the McGill sites which include the Jewish General Hospital, the Montreal General Hospital, the Royal Victoria Hospital-Glen, and St. Mary’s hospital. Some of our physicians act as consultants at Long Term Care Institutions and Rehabilitation Centers of the CSSS Cavendish and de la Montagne.

4. **Partnerships:**

At the level of the JGH, we continue working with the Departments of Nursing and Social Services in the implementation of the Approche adaptée à la personne âgée (AAPA). Significant progress in the implementation of the AAPA (Approche adaptée à la personne âgée) throughout the JGH has been made. The goal of this program is to introduce principles of elder care throughout the hospital. The leaders of this program are Dr. Ruby Friedman, Isabelle Caron (Director of Nursing) and Maxine Lithwick (Social Services).

Isabelle Lamontagne is the coordinator of the H. E. L. P. Program (Hospital Elder Life Program). This program, developed at Yale University, utilizes specially trained volunteers to assist the elderly in maintaining cognition, mobility and nutrition. This program has been in over 200 hospitals in the USA for the last 20 years. The program has been shown to reduce the incidence of delirium and to reduce length of stay. The JGH is the first hospital in Quebec and the second in Canada to implement this program. Our gratitude to the JGH Auxiliary for supporting this program.

We continue to collaborate with the Department of Family Medicine, as part of the provincial Plan Alzheimer, to implement a memory clinic in their UMF/GMF. The Division works also in partnership with the Solidage Research Group (Dr. Johanne Monette, co-director) to innovate in the services and care to elderly patients.

At the level of the RUIS McGill, several members of the Division participate in the Subcommittee of Aging and the Center of Excellence to assist in their orientations and to collaborate in projects.

At the provincial level, we are also participating in the orientation of the MSSS-Table Nationale of Aging to improve the services and care to elderly patients and the Working group on the Implementation on the provincial Alzheimer Plan.

5. **Milestones:**
For the first time since its founding in 1993, the Memory Clinic has secured funding from the Minister of Health. This will allow the Memory Clinic to continue in its internationally recognized role as a leader in cognitive disorders, diagnosis, treatment and management.

The Geriatric Ward 6 NW is a fully renovated 32-bed unit which incorporates the principles of an “elderly friendly hospital”. Access for admissions from the Emergency Room has improved since the introduction of the 27 bed unit on ward 6C for patients who are awaiting relocation to nursing homes.

In response to the increasing request from the community, the hospital and the Emergency Room, the Outpatient Geriatric Clinics have markedly reduced waiting times for patient evaluation. The Outpatient Clinics include the Geriatric Assessment Unit, the Memory Clinic, and the Senior Oncology Clinic. The waiting period for new requests for consultation has been reduced to 2-4 weeks. Furthermore, the Rapid Response Clinic has been established whereby patients who require urgent follow-up from the Emergency Room, or are post-discharge, can be evaluated within days.

In the past year, the Geriatric consultation services in the Emergency Room and for the hospital Wards have been reorganized. For hospital ward consultations, 90% are completed within 48 hours. A similar percentage is achieved for ER consultations but within 24 hours.

6. New hires, promotions, and retirements:

The Division of Geriatrics extends to Judy Bianco, Director of Nursing for Medicine and Geriatrics, best wishes on her retirement. Her devotion and passion for geriatrics for over 20 years has inspired many. The Division of Geriatrics has developed and grown markedly during her leadership.

7. Honours, awards, and prizes:

NA

8. Fundraising:

Funding has been secured from a private donor to completely renovate our outpatient department. We hope to begin renovations in 2019.

SECTION I - DIVISION STATUS UPDATE

1. Mission and objectives of the Division

The Mission of the Division is to provide comprehensive, compassionate, client-centered care to frail older persons and their caregivers to enhance their health and quality of life.

Our objectives are:
• To provide exemplary geriatrics comprehensive assessment, consultation and direct care to our inpatient and outpatient elderly population
• To provide excellent education and training of students and residents to enhance their capacity to take care of future older persons
• To provide leadership in ongoing research to advance knowledge of aging and aging related diseases and their management

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

Dr. José Morais, Director, McGill Div. of Geriatric Medicine, Associate Professor, Active
Dr. Ruby Friedman, Site Director, JGH, Div of Geriatric Medicine, Associate Professor, Active
Dr. Olivier Beauchet, Professor, Active
Dr. Nacera Belkous, Faculty Lecturer, Active
Dr. Susan Gold, Assistant Professor, Active
Dr. Paul Heilpern, Assistant Professor, Active
Dr. Elise Levinoff, Assistant Professor, Active
Dr. Johanne Monette, Assistant Professor, Active
Dr. Sanda Popescu-Crainic, Active
Dr. Susan Vaitekunas, Faculty Lecturer, Active
Dr. Haibin Yin, Faculty Lecturer, Active
Dr. Sylvia Marques, Faculty Lecturer, Leave

Associate Members
Dr. Yves Bacher, Active
Dr. François, Béland, Active
Dr. Howard Bergman, Active
Dr. Catherine Brodeur, Active
Dr. Howard Chertkow, Active
Dr. Shek Fung, Active
Dr. Francine Gaba, Active
Dr. Gary Inglis, Active
Dr. Vladimir Khanassov, Active
Dr. Andréa Leblanc, Active
Dr. Ziad Nasreddine, Active
Dr. Hyman Schipper, Active
Dr. Patrice Tremblay, Active
Dr. Isabelle Vedel, Active
Dr. Doreen Wan-Chow-Wah, Active

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

1. Grants and awards received

Honours and Awards
**Beauchet, Olivier**  
Clinical research award, Department of Medicine, Jewish General Hospital

**Levinoff, Elise**  
Clinical research award, Department of Medicine, Jewish General Hospital

**Grants**

**Bergman, Howard**  

Assessing care models implemented in primary health care for persons with Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders. Canadian Team for Healthcare Services/System for Improvement in Dementia Care/Canadian Consortium on Neurodegenerative Disease of Aging (CCNA). Bergman H & Vedel I (PI), et al. CIHR, $1, 200, 000. 2014-2019


**Chertkow, Howard**  
Developing tDCS as a therapy for Alzheimer Disease and Frontotemporal dementia. Chertkow, H. (P. I. ), Roncero, T. , & Thiel, A. The W. Garfield Weston Foundation - $149, 325. 00. 2017-18

Broad and deep analyses in neurodegeneration (BRAIN). Chertkow, H. , Hogan, D. , Smith, E. , Rockwood, K. , Phillips, N. et al. CIHR (Canadian Institutes of Health Research) New Directions in Dementia Research: Big Data on Dementia Grant of $4, 750, 000. 00. 2016-21


Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA). Chertkow, H. (Scientific Director). CIHR (Canadian Institutes of Health Research) and Partners - 34. 5 million/5 years. 2014-19

The impact of beta-amyloid burden on cognition in normal aging. Joubert, S (P. I.), Bocti, C., Chertkow, H., Holcroft, C. CIHR (Canadian Institutes of Health Research) operating grant of $645,866. 2012-17

Morais, José
Grants as Co-Principal Applicant
FRQS Provincial Network Funding Program to the Quebec Network for Research on Aging (RQRV). PI: Pierette Gaudreau, José A. Morais, Co-applicants: 15 researchers from various Quebec institutions. $800,000/yr. 2017/04 – 2021/03


FRQs - RQRV-Pilot projects. Nutritional supplement to improve physical performance in MUHC-Geriatric Day Hospital participants: a pilot study. PI: Chevalier S. Co-applicants: José A. Morais; Mélanie Plourde; Olivier Beauchet. 15,000. 2016/09 - 2017/12


Grants as Co-investigator


MUHC-RI - Helen Hutchison Geriatric Research Fund. Nutritional supplements to improve physical performance in MUHC-Geriatric Day Hospital participants: a pilot study. PI: Chevalier S. Co-investigators: Beauchet, Olivier; Morais, José A. 40,000. 2015/12 - 2017/12

MUHC-RI - Helen Hutchison Geriatric Research Fund. LC-MS isotope enrichment analysis of
skeletal muscle in frail elderly women. PI: Morais, José A. $10,000. 2017/6 - 2017/08

2. Scholarly works published in the 2017 calendar year

Beauchet, Olivier


Bergman, Howard


Chertkow, Howard


**Leblanc, Andrea**

Déry MA, **LeBlanc AC**. Luman Regulates Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress-Induced Prion Protein Gene PRNP Expression by Interacting with the Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress Response Element 26. Scientific Reports. 2017 Feb 13;7:42285. doi: 10.1038/srep42285.


**Monette, Johanne**


**Morais, José A**


Pion C, Barbat-Artigas S, St-Jean Pelletier F, Chevalier S, Gaudreau P, Gouspillou G, **Morais JA**, Bélanger M, Aubertin-Leheudre M. Muscle strength and force development in high- and


3. Academic and community engagement service outside of McGill by individual members of the unit

Beauchet, Olivier
International Academic Presentations

Emergency room & older patients: To be or not to be at risk of adverse outcomes? International Conference on Development of Integrated Team Care for Older People – Kaohsiung, Taiwan, October 05, 2017

Hippocampal volume, early cognitive decline and gait variability: Which association? International Conference of New concept to thinking cognitive problems and multi-dimensional care for people with dementia – Kaohsiung, Taiwan, October 06, 2017

Alzheimer disease & home support: The telehealth web platform of Centre of Excellence on Longevity of McGill university – International Conference of New concept to thinking cognitive problems and multi-dimensional care for people with dementia – Kaohsiung, Taiwan, October 06, 2017


**Bergman, Howard**

**International Academic Presentations**

Identifying and Understanding the Health and Social Care Needs of Older Adults with Multiple Chronic Conditions and their Caregivers: A Scoping Review Aging. Shenzhen Community Health Service Development - 20th Anniversary and Academic Exchange Conference. Shenzhen, China (January 13)

The Development of Academic Family Medicine for Primary Care and Public Health. Colloque IUMSP. Lausanne, Switzerland (June 9)

National Alzheimer Plans and Initiatives: Lessons Learned from Implementation. 21st IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics – Global Aging and Health: Bridging Science, Policy, and Practice. San-Francisco, USA (July 23-27)

The Management of Hypertension in Primary Care: the Canadian Approach. 2017 International Cardiovascular Frontiers-Futian Forum. Shenzhen, China (August 19-20)

**Chertkow, Howard**

**Formal Presentations, Rounds, Lectures and Invited Talks**


"Translating cognitive neuroscience research on dementia into progress for patient care"


Public Lectures:


Media Presentations and Coverage:

Featured article in Lady Davis Institute Research Newsletter entitled “Targeting dementia with electrical stimulation”. September 2017, 6 (5).

Morais, José
Invited Speaker Scientific Meetings
2017 Canadian Nutrition Society Annual Conference. Symposium on Muscle and fat contributions to health and physical function. Relationship between muscle and fat and their implications for health and mobility. Hotel Bonaventure, Montreal, May 27, 2017


International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) 2017. Sarcopenia: Revisiting Criteria Definition and Association with Protein Intake and Insulin Resistance. Predictors of Insulin Resistance in Community-Dwelling Older Adults of the NuAge Study. Mascone Centre, San Francisco, CA. July 24, 2017

VIIth Annual Symposium of the Quebec Network of Research on Medication (RQRM). The insulin resistance of protein metabolism with aging is linked to body protein loss. Chateau Laurier, Quebec. September 30, 2017
Invited Speaker Non-scientific Meetings


Committee Work

Beauchet, Olivier
Executive Committee, McGill Division of Geriatric Medicine

Member of the McGill Research Center for Physical Activity and Health.

Member of the Canadian Falls and Memory Impairment Network.

Chair of the Scientific Planning Committee of The Canadian Geriatrics Society’s Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) 2018

Chair of the “Comité Mesure, Évaluation et Systèmes information – programme provincial «Usage approprié des antipsychotiques en Centre d’Hébergement de Soins de Longue Durée chez les résidents ayant des symptômes comportementaux et psychologiques de la démence»

Chertkow, Howard
Scientific Director, Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA). A considerable effort in the next five years will go into my coming position as Scientific Director of the Canadian Consortium for Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA). This is an administrative position, but the CCNA is being established as a 34.5 million dollar five-year grant via CIHR. I submitted the LOI in May 2013, which was approved, and the full grant was approved in March 2014. As PI of the CCNA application, I am Scientific Director of CCNA and the administrative centre has been established at McGill at the Lady Davis Institute. There are 40 co-applicants from across Canada, and 340 researchers (the entire Canadian neurodegenerative diseases research community!) involved in this application.

Executive member (elected), ISTAART (Alzheimer's Association International Society to Advance Alzheimer's Research and Treatment, a professional society for individuals interested in Alzheimer's and dementia science).

Member of the Executive committee (representing CIHR and Canada), Alzheimer’s Disease NeuroImaging Initiative (ADNI).
Friedman, Ruby
Policy Committee and Clinical Services Committee, Department of Medicine, Jewish General Hospital
Executive Committee, McGill Division of Geriatric Medicine
Co-Chair, Approche adaptée à la personne âgée (AAPA) Committee, Jewish General Hospital

Levinoff, Elise
Program Director, Post graduate fellowship in Cognitive disorders at McGill University
Fall Prevention Committee, Jewish General Hospital
Approche adaptée à la personne âgée (AAPA) Committee, Jewish General Hospital
Boardmember, Société Québécoise de Gériatrie

Yin, Haibin
Program Director: Undergraduate Geriatrics Clerkship program at McGill

Morais, José A
Chair of the Executive Committee of the Division of Geriatric Medicine
Chair of the Education & Training Committee of the Division of Geriatric Medicine
Member of the Undergraduate Committee of the Division of Geriatric Medicine
Member of the Scientific Committee of CIFGG 2018 Montreux, Switzerland.
Member of the Organizing Committee of the 38th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Geriatrics Society (CGS) in Montreal 2018.
Associate Director, FRQS – Quebec Network for Research on Aging
Member of the Steering Committee of the Regroupement des Unités de courte durée gériatriques et des services hospitaliers de gériatrie du Québec (RUSHGQ). Six Periods of 2 hours.
Chair, Central Organizing Committee of the ASM of the CGS
Member of the CGS Foundation

Reviewer
External Reviewer of the Division of Geriatric Medicine of The Ottawa Hospital. Ottawa,
January 9&10, 2017

Reviewer of abstracts for the Journées Francophones de Nutrition 2017

Reviewer for Abstracts of the 14th Research Day of the Quebec Network for Research on Aging CIHR Foundation Grant Competition Fall 2017

Journals:
Frontiers in Endocrinology -1
European Geriatric Medicine -1

Submitted by:

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