

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

I. HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST YEAR

Dr. Sabrina Fallavollita joined the division in April 2010 as a new rheumatology staff. Her major interest will be in the area of recent onset inflammatory arthritis and musculoskeletal ultrasound. Dr. Genevieve Gyger joined in January 2011. Her major interest is in scleroderma and she has developed an expertise in video-capillaroscopy. She will be the only person at McGill using this technique.

II. EVALUATION OF PAST ACADEMIC YEAR

1) Teaching activities

We participate in medical student, resident and fellow teaching at all levels.

2) Research

Dr. Baron, Chief of the Division, created a group called the Canadian Consortium of Rheumatology Research Cohorts (CANCoRC) of which he is the first director. This group of directors of multiple research groups will try to pull together resources and ideas from multiple research cohorts in Canada to improve the efficiency of each of the cohorts in their research activities. He also received a grant from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation to harmonize databases between research cohorts. This is a very novel use for infrastructure funds and may ultimately help CANCoRC reduce their research costs and permit better cross-disease projects. The group led by Dr. Baron has become a leader on the world stage of scleroderma research, thanks in large part to the incredible productivity of Dr. Marie Hudson, an academic rheumatologist on staff who spends 80% of her time in research activities.

3) Clinical activities

The staff continue to be busy with out- and in-patients and in fact likely have the highest burden of inpatient consultations within McGill.

4) Academic Staff

As mentioned above, Drs. Sabrina Fallavollita and Genevieve Gyger have joined our staff which now comprises 5 full time physicians. Dr. Morton Kapusta who has spent many years on active staff, has retired from that position but will continue as a consultant staff. Dr. Kapusta's contributions to our division have been extensive over a long period

of service. In fact he originally had a laboratory in the LDI and was long recognized as a leader in rheumatology research. He continues to be active in the weekly problem rounds in our division and at the weekly McGill rheumatology rounds and his input will continue to be valued.

5) **Consulting activities***

None outside the institution

6) **Honours, Awards and Prizes**

Dr Marie Hudson, Young Investigator Award, Canadian Rheumatology Association

III. OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

We look forward to integrating Drs Fallavollita and Gymer in our team and to be able to provide quicker and more extensive coverage of rheumatology problems in the community. Research is a priority and we look forward to the participation of our new staff in that domain as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Murray Baron, MD, FRCPC
Chief, Division of Rheumatology