

Annual Report
Division of Medical Biochemistry
April 1, 2005 - March 31, 2006

I. Highlights

The last year has been a very active year for the Division of Medical Biochemistry. The laboratory required major structural work to continue to function and so for most of the past year it has been functioning in a construction site. This has resulted in significant stress on all the staff to ensure the laboratory users got the same quality services. The extra-ordinary team work on behalf of every member of the Division needs to be recognised. Even during this time the laboratory continued to be a showcase in Canada receiving professionals from across the country to visit it.

Unfortunately the need for Medical Biochemists is our top priority. With only 1-2 per year qualifying in Canada and the limitations of the Quebec government it will be difficult to recruit one in the foreseeable future.

In addition to the above the laboratory has been preparing for the ISO 15189 accreditation. This is an industry level quality standard and requires enormous work to achieve. It is a European standard of excellence.

Finally the laboratory is working closely with Dr Hyman Schipper to develop the first Redox specialty laboratory in Canada. This is one of the latest areas of research in agents which may protect the body from such diverse areas as cancer, ageing, cardiac disease, memory problems. It will be the only routine laboratory to offer these specialised tests and brings together the expertise of many specialists in the Lady Davis Institute as well as our laboratory.

II. Evaluation of Past Academic Year

A. Faculty

The division is small, but active, being very well represented at the hospital, provincial and national levels.

B. Clinical Care Services

Mac Namara, Elizabeth, MD FRPC(C)

CTU attending: 7 North West - 4 weeks

Consultation Service: Total Parenteral Nutrition - 4 months

Eintracht, Shaun MD FRPC(C)

Consultation Service: Total Parenteral Nutrition - 4 months

C. Teaching

Mac Namara, Elizabeth MD FRPC(C)

Undergraduate, McGill University

IIM Teaching

May 8 – June 23, 2006 -7 week period (6 hours teaching per week and 5 hours of exams)

Senior Physician Rounds

6 hours of tutorials per year

Practice of Medicine

12 hours of exam review/year

Observership in Internal Medicine

Dr. Samir Chandra Ray (January 13 – January 31, 2006 – 3 week period)

Postgraduate, McGill University

Resident Supervision/One-on-One Teaching

McGill Medical Biochemistry Residents

Drs. Maha Al-Amri, Khalid Al-Rasadi, Zuhier Awan, Khalid Al-Waili, Heba Kary, 12 month period (2005-2006) 1 to 8 hours per week

Journal Club Ad hoc basis

Invited Lectures

McGill University

Life as a Physician: McGill Panel Discussion, Med-1 and Med-2 students November, 2005

Eintracht, Shaun, M.D., FRCPS(C)

ICMA Teaching

January 3 –January 27, 2006 (8 hours)

Residents' Teaching

Journal Club, 1 hour per week, (10 months per year)

D. Committees and Hospital Administrative Appointments

Mac Namara, Elizabeth, MD FRPC(C)

Jewish General Hospital

Credentials Committee - Member

Medical Advisory Committee - Chair

Medical Executive Committee - Member

Department of Diagnostic Medicine-Chief

Undergraduate Education, (Department of Medicine, JGH) - Associate Director

Diagnostic Medicine Directors' Committee - Chair

Diagnostic Medicine Executive Committee - Chair

Teaching and Development Steering Committee -Chair

Committee for Implementation of Bill 90 – Chair

Committee on Complimentarity between the MUHC and CHUM -Member

Internal Medicine Residency Training Committee - Member

Management Committee - (Department of Medicine) - Member

Physician Committee Development: Jewish General Hospital Designation
 Policy Committee - (Department of Medicine) - Member
 Search and Selection Committee for Chief of Genetics - Member
 Search and Selection Committee for Chief of Surgical Services - Member
 Teaching and Development Project Committee - Member

McGill University

Ad-Hoc Committee of the Central Executive Committee of the Council of Physicians,
 Dentists and Pharmacists on MUHC Practice Plans - Representative (Jewish General
 Hospital) – Member
 Residency Program in Medical Biochemistry - Director
 Simulation Centre Advisory Committee - Member
 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee - Member

Québec

Programme Réseau Medical Biochemistry Directors Committee - McGill Representative
 Comité aviseur de biochimie, Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux ;
 Representante pour les quatre RUIS

Canadian

Canadian Association of Medical Biochemists: Accrediting Committee for CPD
 Activities - Chair
 Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists, Councillor
 Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Specialty Committee

International

Editorial Committee “Biologie et Santé” (Morocco) - Member
 Editorial Board of the Brazilian Journal of Pathology - Member

E. Publications

Peer Reviewed Journals

Payne, R.J. Hier, M.P., Tamilia, M., Young, J., **MacNamara, E.**, Black, M.J.
*Same Day Discharge after Total Thyroidectomy: The value of 6-hour serum parathyroid
 hormone and calcium levels.* Head and Neck 27(1): 1-7 (2005)

Payne, R.J. Hier, M.P., Tamilia, M., Young, J., **MacNamara, E.**, Black, M.J.
*Reply to Letter to the Editor, Same Day Discharge after Total Thyroidectomy: The value
 of 6-hour serum parathyroid hormone and calcium levels.* Head and Neck. 27(12):
 1112-1113 (2005)

Payne, R.J. Hier, M.P., Cote, V., Tamilia, M., **MacNamara, E.**, Black, M.J.
*Postoperative parathyroid hormone levels in conjunction with corrected calcium values
 as a predictor of post-thyroidectomy hypocalcemia: review of outcomes 1 year after the
 implementation of a new protocol* J. Otolaryngology 34(5):323-7 (2005)

Abstracts/non-peer reviewed journals

Thibeault, D., Djiana, R., Silva, J.E., **MacNamara, E.**, *Reference Range for Androstenedione on Immulite (DPC) compared with RIA (DSL)*, 16th IFCC-FESCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, Glasgow, Scotland (2005)

Djiana, R., Thibeault, D., **MacNamara, E.** *Optimization and cost analysis of a semi-automated pipette verification system in a clinical laboratory*, The IFCC/AACC Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida (2005)

Christopoulos, S., Djiana, R., Lipman, M., Sampalis, J.S., Thibeault, D., **MacNamara, E.**, Karaplis, A.C. *Influence of Phosphate Levels on FGF-23 in Hemodialysis Patients*, The Endocrine Society Meeting, San Diego, California (2005)

III. Objectives and Priorities

The major priority for the Division is to recruit more medical staff. In the past 5 years the number of services that the Division is responsible for has grown enormously and with recent changes in the law we are now responsible for all of the glucometers and near patient testing at CLSCs, long term care institutions, etc. We need to replace much of the equipment in the next two to three years. This will impose another huge burden on the staff to evaluate, choose and implement them. The lack of technologists in Quebec and most of North America will mean we have to automate more tests to be able to keep up with the increasing demand.

However, the biggest challenge for us will be to ensure that the regional reorganizations of the laboratories now going on do not impact on the quaternary nature of the JGH and McGill laboratories. This will require an integrated approach of all the McGill laboratories.