

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

We continue to direct research projects at McGill in early inflammatory arthritis and in Canada we direct the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. We have also been very involved in developing programs for musculoskeletal teaching for residents internal medicine.

Under the direction of Dr Baron, the Canadian Scleroderma Research group has submitted and presented multiple abstracts in its first year. Manuscripts are under preparation and several grant applications have been submitted. Similarly, we have been very active in our research projects in early inflammatory arthritis. We have been working on a large project in cooperation with Drs Looper, Zelkowitz and Purden concerning the role of family distress in our patient group and have submitted and presented multiple abstracts.

Laeora Berkson continues to be supported by the Arthritis Society Clinician Teacher Award. In this capacity, she has been developing and delivering a rheumatology curriculum for the internal medicine trainee. In 2005-2006, the curriculum was converted from a site (hospital)-specific series of seminars to a McGill-wide series of six half-day educational sessions. There will be eight half-day sessions in 2006-2007.

Dr. Marie Hudson will join our staff in October 2006. She has completed post-doctoral training in epidemiology and will be doing research in several areas including scleroderma.

We would like to expand to 4 full-time rheumatologists. The heavy clinical load requires this if we are to continue our academic activities. To this end we are in the process of designing new space to accommodate 4 full-time rheumatologists and multiple clinical research assistants. Fund raising will be necessary to cover all the costs of this expansion.

Grants:

Understanding Care Trajectories in Early Inflammatory Arthritis

Source: - Canadian Initiative for Outcomes in Rheumatoid Arthritis

The Development of Classification Criteria for Scleroderma: Source: The Arthritis Society

Mental Health and Family Functioning In Early Inflammatory Arthritis (Santé mentale et fonctionnement familial chez les patients souffrant d'arthrite)

Source: FRSQ Recherches Cliniques Ou Recherches En Santé Des Populations

Refining Methods to Assess Adherence to Multidisciplinary pain Treatment

Source: SSHRC – Standard Research Grants

An economic analysis of cognitive-behavioral therapy as an adjunct to standard care in early rheumatoid arthritis: Source: CIHR

Articles and Abstracts Presented, Published and Submitted 2005-06:

1. Baron M. Scleroderma. Canadian Journal of CME 2005(solicited article).
2. Baron M. Development of the McGill Range of Motion Index. Submitted 2005

3. Baron M, Bell M, Bookman A, Jerome D, Kaminska E, Lupton T, Pope J, the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Reliability and Validity of Ophthalmoscopic Capillaroscopy. Submitted 2005
4. Baron M, Buchignani M, Dunne J, Hudson M, Johnson S, Jones N, Mathieu J, Steele R, Taillefer S, the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Reliability Of The Dermlite® Dermatoscope For Nailfold Capillaroscopy. submitted 2005
5. Baron M, Buchignani M, Dunne J, Hudson M, Johnson S, Jones N, Mathieu J, Steele R, Taillefer S, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research group Reliability Of The Dermlite® Dermatoscope For Nailfold Capillaroscopy. In: Canadian Rheumatology Association Meeting; 2005; Mexico: abstract 2005
6. Baron M, Fritzler M, Hudson M, Taillefer S, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Anti-chromatin antibodies in systemic sclerosis (SSc). In: EULAR; 2005; Vienna, Austria: abstract; 2005
7. Baron M, Hudson M, Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Predictors Of Function And Health Related Quality Of Life (HRQoL) In Systemic Sclerosis (SSc). Arthritis and Rheumatism 2005;52(9(suppl)):S586 (abstract).
8. Baron M, Hudson M, Canadian Scleroderma Research Group Correlation Between Patient Global Assessment Of Health And Physician Global Assessments On Numerical Rating Scales In Systemic Sclerosis (SSc). Arthritis and Rheumatism 2005;52(9(suppl)):S585(abstract).
9. Baron M, Hudson M, Canadian Scleroderma Research Group The Effect Of Different Definitions Of Extent Of Maximum Cutaneous Involvement In Systemic Sclerosis (SSc). In: Canadian Rheumatology Association; 2006; Mexico: abstract 2006
10. Baron M, Hudson M, Caron J, Buchigniani M, Taillefer S, Demers L, Panopalis P, McGill Early Arthritis Research Group. Canadian French Version of the World Health Organization Disease Assessment Schedule II (WHODAS II) : Translation, Test-Retest Stability, and Internal Consistency in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis. In: Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Meeting (abstract); 2005; Mont Tremblant Quebec; 2005
11. Baron M, Hudson M, Caron J, Buchigniani M, Taillefer S, Panopalis P, McGill Early Arthritis Research Group. Preliminary Study of the Validity of the World Health Organization Disease Assessment Schedule II (WHODAS II) in Patients with Early Inflammatory Arthritis. In: Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Meeting (abstract); 2005; Mont Tremblant Quebec; 2005
12. Baron M, Hudson M, Caron J, Buchigniani M, Taillefer S, Panopalis P, McGill Early Arthritis Research Group. Preliminary Validity Studies of the Early Inflammatory Arthritis Self-Administered Co-Morbidity Questionnaire (EIA-SCQ) in Early Inflammatory Arthritis. In: Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Meeting (abstract); 2005; Mont Tremblant Quebec; 2005
13. Baron M, Hudson M, Steele R, Bajaj D, Berkson L, Bernatsky S, Buchignani M, Fitzcharles M, Gagne M, Garfield B, Gutkowski A, Kang H, Kapusta M, Krasny J, Menard H, Pineau C, Schultz J, Starr M, Stein M, Watts C. Construct Validity Of The McGill Range Of Motion Index In: American College of Rheumatology; 2006; Washington, D.C.: abstract submitted; 2006
14. Baron M, Hudson M, Taillefer S, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Preliminary study of the validity of the world health organization disease assessment schedule II (WHODAS II) in patients with scleroderma (SSc). In: EULAR; 2005; Vienna: abstract; 2005

15. Baron M, Hudson M, Taillefer S, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Preliminary study of the predictors of the world health organization disease assessment schedule II (WHODAS II) in patients with scleroderma (SSc). In: EULAR; 2005; Vienna, Austria: abstract; 2005
16. Baron M, Hudson M, Taillefer S, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. The validity of the medical outcomes study short form version 2 (SF36v2) in patients with scleroderma (SSc). In: EULAR; 2005; Vienna, Austria: abstract; 2005
17. Baron M, Hudson M, Taillefer S, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Preliminary study of the validity of 2 estimates of co-morbidity in systemic sclerosis (SSc). In: EULAR; 2005; Vienna, Austria: abstract; 2005
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21. Bernatsky S, Early M, Arthritis Research Group., Feldman D, Baron M. Demographics And Co-Morbidity In Early Arthritis: Comparison Of A Clinical Registry Sample With A Population-Based Sample. In: Canadian Rheumatology Association Meeting; 2006; Mexico: abstract; 2006
22. Dobkin P, De Civita M, Abrahamowicz M, Baron M, Bernatsky S. Predictors of Health Status in Women with Fibromyalgia : A Prospective Study. International J of Behavioral Medicine 2005;in press.
23. Dobkin P, De Civita M, Bernatsky S, Filipski.M., Sita A, Baron M. Understanding Treatment Adherence by Combining Quantitative and Focus Group Data submitted 2006
24. Dobkin P, Filipski M, Bernatsky S, Looper K, Baron M, and The McGill Early Inflammatory Arthritis Research Group. Determining Empirically Components of Treatment for Depressed Early RA Patients. In: Canadian Rheumatology Association; 2006; Mexico: abstract 2006
25. Dobkin P, Filipski M, Looper K, Baron M, and the Early Arthritis Research Group. Identifying Target Areas of Treatment for Depressed Early Arthritis Patients. submitted 2006
26. Hashim Gazi B, Pope J, including Baron M. Outcome Measurements In Scleroderma. submitted 2005
27. Hazel E, Hudson M, Taillefer S, Baron M, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Measurements of Hand Range of Motion Correlate with Function in Systemic Sclerosis. In: American College of Rheumatology Meeting; 2005; San Diego: abstract 2005
28. Hazel E, Hudson M, Taillefer S, Baron M, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Measurements of Hand Range of Motion Correlate with Function in Systemic Sclerosis. In: Canadian Rheumatology Association Conference; 2006; Mexico: abstract 2006

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30. Hirsch AM, Baron M, Hudson M, Taillefer S, and the Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. A simple high resolution computed tomography, of the lungs, scoring system correlates with pulmonary function in scleroderma patients. In: *EULAR*; 2005; Vienna, Austria: abstract; 2005
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32. Hudson M, Baron M, McGill Early Arthritis Research Group. Morning Stiffness is a Better Predictor of Function in Early Inflammatory Arthritis than are Swollen and Tender Joints. *Arthritis and Rheumatism* 2005;52(9(suppl)):S402 (abstract).
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34. Hudson M, Taillefer S, Steele R, Baron M, Canadian Scleroderma Research Group. Ability of Commonly Used Outcome Measures to Distinguish Subsets of Skin Involvement in Systemic Sclerosis In: *American College of Rheumatology*; 2006; Washington, D.C.: abstract submitted; 2006
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