Highlights

The past year has again presented challenges to the JGH Division of Internal Medicine. Our Internists continue to provide most of the hospital's functions caring for more than 100 inpatients on a daily basis outside the Clinical Teaching Units. The division is responsible for more than 10 daily medical consults in the Emergency Room and provides the gate keeping role for all admissions to medical beds. Each morning the division addresses the needs of nearly 20 patients in the Emergency Room that require medical reassessments and likely admission to the hospital. In addition to serving the vital functions of the hospital, the division has a tremendous responsibility to teaching students and residents both in the inpatient and outpatient setting.

In spite of the many obligations, our division is one of the most accomplished in research with four of our members devoting more than 50% of their time in highly productive research activities.

Over the years we have developed expertise in many domains and organized specialty clinics to deliver this expertise to the community. Examples of these domains include thrombo-embolic disease, which led to the establishment of multi-specialty Thrombosis Clinic under the leadership of Dr. Susan Kahn. This year, the activity was extended to an inpatient Thrombosis consultation service. Dr Susan Kahn and Vicky Tagalakis run the Thrombosis Clinic at the JGH. A new fellowship position has been funded. The Hypertension Clinic developed by Dr. Trudeau has been expanded in the new Nun’s Pavilion to a more comprehensive Cardiovascular Prevention Unit under the direction of Dr. Schiffrin. Dr. Hoffer continues to offer expertise in Nutrition to both outpatients and inpatients. Dr. Chang provides expertise in palliative care as the Director of the Palliative Care Unit and Dr. Janice Cohen provides primary care to patients with neurological diseases, particularly stroke patients.

The division members also carry major roles in administrative functions. Dr Schiffrin, world-renowned internist, acts as our Chief of Medicine. Dr. Raffoul is the Director of 7west CTU, the Medical Short Stay Unit and the Medical Gatekeeper. Dr. Elizov is the site Program Director for core Internal medicine residents. Dr. Tagalakis is the McGill Program Director for Internal Medicine fellowship training program. Dr. Vicky Tagalakis and Dr Kaberi Dasgupta have designed a clinical scholars program with an exciting curriculum for the 6 general internal medicine fellows who will begin in July 2008. Dr. Kahn is Director of the Thrombosis Clinic and one of the Associate Directors of the Lady Davis Institute. Dr. Becker is the Chief of the Division as well as Medical Director at Mount Sinai and Chief of Medicine at the Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital.

It is with a great deal of pride that I present the many functions and accomplishments of our division members.
Many of our Internists have been recipients of this award in past years. Dr Vicky Tagalakis was
promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine, GFT-H. Our 4 outstanding researchers, Drs Schiffrin, Kahn, Tagalakis and Hoffer have all been recipients of numerous peer-reviewed grants, publications and awards for their strong scientific contributions.

In summary, the Division of Internal medicine, provides exemplary service in the 4 domains which include research, teaching, clinical service and administration.

II Evaluation of Past Academic Year

1) Teaching Activities

IIM (Link), 7 weeks/year: Dr. V. Tagalakis

CTU Ward Attending, 1 month/year: Drs. R. Becker, R. Bunea, M. Elizov, J. Hoffer, S. Kahn, J. Raffoul, E. Schiffrin, L. Trudeau, V. Tagalakis

AIMC for residents and students: Preceptor for residents in Internal Medicine Clinic (4 clinics/week, 4-5 residents/students per clinic): Drs. R. Becker, J. Raffoul, L. Trudeau, M. Elizov, Dr. R. Bunea, Dr. J. Hoffer, Dr. V. Tagalakis

Consult Service: Resident supervision: Drs. R. Becker, R. Bunea, M. Elizov, J. Hoffer, S. Kahn, J. Raffoul, V. Tagalakis, L. Trudeau

ER/MSTU: Resident supervision: Drs. R. Bunea, J. Hoffer, S. Kahn, J. Raffoul, V. Tagalakis L. Trudeau, M. Elizov,

Core Lectures: Core Lecturer in Internal Medicine, Internal Medicine Residency Program (10 hours/year): Drs. R. Becker, M. Elizov J. Hoffer, S. Kahn, J. Raffoul, L. Trudeau, V. Tagalakis


Drs Tagalakis and Dasgupta have designed an excellent curriculum that will promote academic internal medicine called the Clinical Scholars Program. The efforts of several members of General Internal Medicine have led to the recruitment of 6 GIM fellows who will start in July 2008.

2) Research Activities

Hoffer, L. John

Outside McGill

Montreal, QC: Cancer Treatment by Intravenous Vitamin C. 5th Meeting of the Canadian Oxidative Stress Consortium, May 3, 2007
National


International

Prague, Czech Republic: Malnutrition is under-recognized and under-treated: where should we focus? 29th European Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Congress, Satellite Symposium on Malnutrition in Hospitals and the Community, September 9, 2007


Bethesda, Maryland: Ascorbic acid in cancer treatment. US National Institutes of Health (NIDDK) Research Workshop, October 24, 2007


Kahn, Susan R

McGill

Dr Kahn is a leader in research in the field of thromboembolic diseases. She is principal investigator on major studies focused on the epidemiology of venous thrombotic disorders, and on a CIHR multicentre clinical trial of interventions to prevent the post-thrombotic syndrome after venous thrombosis. This year she became Chair of the CIHR Clinical Trials Committee.


Update on optimal duration of anticoagulation for venous thromboembolism in 2008. MUHC, Division of Hematology, Montreal General Hospital, June 11, 2008.
The art and science of getting a randomized clinical trial funded. Psychiatry Research Rounds, Institute of Community and Family Psychiatry, Jewish General Hospital, April 9, 2008.


Venous thrombosis: when do you look further? Internal Medicine Rounds, Jewish General Hospital, February 7, 2008.


Outside McGill

National


Tips for effective navigation of the rocky road from great idea to funded RCT: grantsmanship and beyond. GRISIM (Groupe de Recherche Interuniversitaire en Sciences Infirmières de Montréal), Montréal, QC, April 29, 2008.
Tips for effective navigation of the rocky road from great idea to funded RCT. Clinical Epidemiology Seminars, University of Ottawa Department of Epidemiology and Ottawa Health Research Institute, Ottawa, ON. January 25, 2008.


International


Research Grants:

CIHR  Randomized Clinical Trials Program
Vendittoli PA  2007-2012: $1,018,819

CIHR The effect of sex on the epidemiology of venous thromboembolic disease
Tagalakis V, Kahn SR (Co-Principal Investigator), Boivin JF, Moride Y, Opatrny L (co-applicants): $150,000

CIHR Randomized Controlled Trials Program
Exercise training for the treatment of post-thrombotic syndrome: The EXPO pilot trial
Kahn SR (Principal Investigator)/Shrier, Wells, Rodger, Kearon, Anderson, Kovacs, Reid, Shapiro: 2007-2009: $351,040

Schiffrin, Ernesto L

Outside McGill

National


International


Dr Schiffrin received the 2007 Irvine Page - Alva Bradley Lifetime Achievement Award of the High Blood Pressure Research Council of the American Heart Association at the council meeting in Tucson, Arizona, USA, in September 2007.

Research Grants:

Canada Foundation for Innovation: Canada Research Chair in Vascular and Hypertension Research (2006-2013): $1,400,000

CIHR 37917 Role of endothelin in hypertension and vascular injury (2005-2010): $730,000

Trudeau, Luc
McGill

Update in Hypertension. JGH, Family Medicine Teaching Rounds, Herzl Clinic. September 2007

Hypertension in the Elderly. Workshop at the 58th Annual Refresher Course for Family Physicians, Montreal, Quebec. November 26, 2007

Introduction to Internal Medicine. JGH, Senior Physician Rounds. March 27, 2008

The Role of Tramadol in the Treatment of Neuropathic Pain. JGH, Endocrinology Rounds. May 15, 2008

The ONTARGET Trial. JGH, General Internal Medicine Division Rounds. May 29, 2008

Outside McGill

National

Les IECA ne sont pas tous les mêmes. Hickson Medical Clinic (Verdun, QC). April 2, 2007

Troubles cardiovasculaires; quoi de neuf? Quebec Association of Vietnamese Pharmacists (Montreal, Quebec). April 22, 2007

Tout sur le MAPA. Saint-Laurent Medical Clinic. April 27, 2007

La prévention cardiovasculaire. Mercier Medical Clinic. May 17, 2007


La blouse, l’artère et la pression. Pointe-Claire, Quebec. June 8, 2007

L’étude OPTIM. Terrebonne, Quebec. June 19, 2007

La blouse et l’hypertension. Clinique Jean-Talon, Montreal, Quebec. June 20, 2007

L’étude OPTIM. Charles-Lemoyne Hospital, Cardiology Rounds, Greenfield Park, Quebec. August 29, 2007

Sleep Apnea – Hypertension; the Situation, the Solution. Montreal, Quebec, October 2, 2007
Mise à jour en médecine cardiovasculaire. Boehringer-Ingelheim Training Session, Brossard, Quebec. December 17, 2007

Masked Hypertension: all you need to know. Lakeshore General Hospital, Medicine Grand Rounds. Pointe-Claire, Quebec. January 14, 2008

L’étude SAALT. Investigator Meeting, Montreal, Quebec. February 2, 2008


Nouvelles frontières en hypertension: vers une meilleure atteinte des valeurs cibles de la tension artérielle et une protection accrue des organes cibles. Gatineau, Québec. February 7, 2008


McCEMATO (McGill Collaborative Effort on Microalbuminuria and Treatment Outcome); Signification clinique de l’albuminurie. Boucherville, Québec. March 28, 2008

Étude ONTARGET et hypertension masquée. Amos, Québec. April 22, 2008


What’s new in cardiovascular protection: making the right choice based on evidence. Kirkland Clinic, Kirkland. May 1, 2008

Étude ONTARGET. Val d’Or, Québec. May 13, 2008

Protection cardiovasculaire: le coeur sous toutes ses coutures! Internal Medicine Rounds, Centre hospitalier Rouyn-Noranda, Québec. May 14, 2008

Hypertension and ABPM : My patient is taking 3 medications and he’s still not controlled. Access Med Clinic, Kirkland. May 23, 2008


Tagalakis, Vicky

McGill
Thrombosis-related complications in cancer patients. Internal Medicine Division Rounds, Jewish General Hospital, McGill University, Montréal, Canada, 2007.

Thrombophilia testing. Family Medicine Lecture Series, Jewish General Hospital, McGill University, Montréal, Canada, 2007.

Lung cancer and thrombosis. Pulmonary Grand Rounds, Sir Mortimer B. Davis - Jewish General Hospital, McGill University, Montréal, Canada, 2007

Outside McGill

National


3) Clinical Activities

Internal Medicine Out-Patient Clinic:
5 1/2 day clinics per week
Drs. R. Becker, R. Bunea, M. Elizov, J. Raffoul, L. Trudeau, V. Tagalakis, Dr. J. Hoffer

Cardiovascular Prevention Center
1-2 clinics per week
Dr. E. Schiffrin, Dr. L. Trudeau

Resident’s Hypertension Clinic:
1 clinic per week
Dr. L. Trudeau

Thrombosis Clinic:
2 day clinic per week
Drs. S. Kahn, V. Tagalakis

MSTU/ER Inpatient Consultations:
Drs. R. Becker, R. Bunea, M. Elizov, J. Hoffer, S. Kahn, J. Raffoul, V. Tagalakis, L. Trudeau

Nutritional Support Team Consultation: Dr. John Hoffer
2 Main, 4 Main, 4NW Intermediate and Palliative Care:
Dr. Harvey Chang, Dr. Janice Cohen & Dr. Ruxandra Bunea

Internal Medicine Consults for Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital:
Dr. Rubin Becker and Dr. Joe Raffoul

Link with Mount Sinai Hospital Palliative Care:
Dr. Rubin Becker

4) Academic Staff

Dr. Rubin Becker, Director, Division of General Internal Medicine
Dr. Ruxandra Bunea
Dr. Harvey Chang
Dr. Janice Cohen
Dr. Michelle Elizov
Dr. John Hoffer
Dr. Susan Kahn
Dr. Joseph Raffoul
Dr. Ernesto L. Schiffirin
Dr. Luc Trudeau
Dr. Vicky Tagalakis

5) Consulting Activities:

Schiffirin, E.L.: 6 hours for BMS on weekend; 6 hours for Novartis on weekend, 6 hours for Boehringer-Ingelheim on weekend; 3 hours for Merck-Frosst

6) Honors & Awards

Dr. Schiffirin received the 2007 Irvine Page - Alva Bradley Lifetime Achievement Award of the High Blood Pressure Research Council of the American Heart Association at the council meeting in Tucson, Arizona, USA, in September 2007. This award is presented each year to an individual who has had a lifetime of outstanding achievements in the field of hypertension and has served as a role model through service, research and teaching. In general, the recipient of this award must have had a career spanning at least 25 years.

Dr. Vicky Tagalakis: SMBD Jewish General Hospital Department of Medicine Research Award

7) Publications

Hoffer, L. John

--Hoffer LJ. Nutrition supplements in adults. IN: Grey J, ed, Therapeutic Choices, 5th


Kahn, Susan R


Kahn, Susan


**Schiffrin, Ernesto L.**


--De Ciuceis C, Amiri F, Iglarz M, Cohn JS, Touyz RM, **Schiffrin EL**. Synergistic vascular protective effects of combined low doses of PPARα and PPARγ activators in Ang II-induced hypertension. *Brit J Pharmacol* 2007;151:45-53.

--Pu Q, Brassard P, Javesghani DM, Iglarz M, Webb RL, Amiri F, **Schiffrin EL**. Effects of combined AT1 receptor antagonist/NEP inhibitor on vascular remodeling and


--Savoia C, Schiffrin EL. Angiotensin Type 2 Receptors in the Cardiovascular System. High Blood Pressure & Cardiovascular Prevention, 14:63-68, 2007


Other Publications:


Manuscripts Submitted

Comprehensive Hypertension. Eds. G. Lip and J.E. Hall. Section on Clinical Hypertension (Section Editor EL Schiffrin). Elsevier. 2007


Schiffrin EL. The flame that lights the fire: Oxidative stress, inflammation and renal damage in Ang II-induced hypertension. Editorial. Hypertension. 2008; in press.

Tagalakis, Vicky


Trudeau, Luc


---Tamilia M, Sami M, Lipman M, Trudeau L, McCEMATO, the McGill Collaborative Effort on Microalbuminuria and Treatment Outcome. Power Point Workshop, Jewish General Hospital. January 2008 (peer reviewed)

Trudeau L, La dyslipidémie : les habitudes de vie. Power Point Workshop, Université Laval (Québec), Faculté de Médecine. March 2008 (peer reviewed)

Trudeau L, Hypertension in the Elderly. Perspectives in Cardiology, 24:5:24, 2008 (peer reviewed)

III OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

The Division of Internal Medicine will continue to provide exemplary service in research, teaching, clinical service and administration to the hospital and the university.