

**Annual Report**  
**Division of Medical Biochemistry**  
**April 1, 2007 - May 31, 2008**

**I. Highlights**

- A new position (Quality Officer) has been defined. The designated person will be responsible for the Quality Management System of the Department of Diagnostic Medicine, will ensure that we publish much of our innovative methods and ensure we continue to meet our ISO-15189 requirements
- Two safety officers have been selected:  
    Dr. Denis Thibeault who is responsible for chemical related safety issues and,  
    Dr. André Dascal who is responsible for biological related safety issues.
- The laboratory received a new pre-analytical system recently. This is a robotic system which automatically sorts, centrifuges, aliquots, bar-codes, archives and triages specimens. It will save four technologist positions which will allow increase in our performance indicators and to recruit a quality officer and extend our Microbiology molecular diagnostics section..
- We are the major centre for training technologists within the McGill hospitals. We now have four Clinical Instructor positions to ensure high quality training. It allows us to meet our departments needs in this very competitive climate for laboratory technologists.
- Our laboratory has been a showcase for efficiency and we have had visitors from public and private laboratories across Eastern Canada including much of Quebec.

**II. Evaluation of Past Academic Year**

**1) Teaching activities**

- MacNamara, Elizabeth, M.D., FRCPS(C)

Undergraduate, McGill University

IIM Teaching

January 28 - March 14, 2008 – 7 week period (42 hours)

Senior Physician Rounds

6 hours of tutorials per year

Practice of Medicine

12 hours of exam review/year

Development and implementation of the Phlebotomy Training Sessions:

1st year Medical Students for McGill Medical Simulation Centre –

14 hours teaching plus 30 hours designing the process

Development and Implementation of Capillary Blood Glucose Monitoring and other Near Patient Testing Sessions:

1st year Medical Students for McGill Medical Simulation Centre  
39 hours teaching

Postgraduate, McGill University  
Resident Supervision/One-on-One Teaching  
McGill Medical Biochemistry Residents  
Drs. Zuhier Awan, Heba Kary,  
12 month period (2007-2008), 1 to 8 hours per week.

Residents' Teaching  
Journal Club (Ad hoc basis)

Invited Lectures  
2008  
Chulalongkorn University Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand  
From Central Lab to Point of Care Testing

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

Undergraduate, McGill University  
ICMA Teaching  
January 2 – January 25, 2008 (15 hours)

Postgraduate, McGill University  
Resident Supervision/One-on-One Teaching  
McGill Medical Biochemistry Resident  
Drs. Zuhier Awan, Heba Kary,  
12 month period (2007-2008), 1 to 8 hours per week.

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

## **2) Clinical activities**

- MacNamara, Elizabeth, M.D., FRCPS(C)  
CTU attending: 7 North West – 2 weeks  
Consultation Service: Total Parenteral Nutrition – 4 months

- Eintracht, Shaun, M.D., FRCPS (C)  
Consultation Service: Total Parenteral Nutrition – 4 months

### 3) Consulting activities

Name of Faculty Member	Private Sector Consulting (# of days)	Public Sector Consulting (# days)	Other (# of days – please explain)	Total
Dr. E. MacNamara		8		8

### III. Objectives and Priorities

The major priority for the Division remains the same in that we need more medical staff to help support the academic mission of the hospital. The academic demands on the laboratory continue to increase with the growth of the hospital's academic mission. In addition, the division is now responsible for all of POCT (point of care testing) in the hospital and all affiliated CSSS and hospitals such as Maimonides Health Center, which has placed in increased burden on the current medical staff.

In addition we need to replace much of the equipment in the next one to two years. This will impose another huge burden on the staff to evaluate, choose and implement them. The lack of technologists in Québec and most of North America will mean we have to automate more tests to be able to keep up with the increasing demand.

A further demand on all the staff will occur later this year with the implementation of electronic records and ward ordering.

However, the biggest challenge for us remains as last year, to ensure that the regional reorganizations of the laboratories currently underway do not impact on the quaternary nature of the Jewish General Hospital and McGill laboratories. This will require an integrated approach of all the McGill laboratories.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth MacNamara, MD  
Chief, Division of Medical Biochemistry