RESEARCH AWARDS CEREMONY

October 3, 2019

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THE MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

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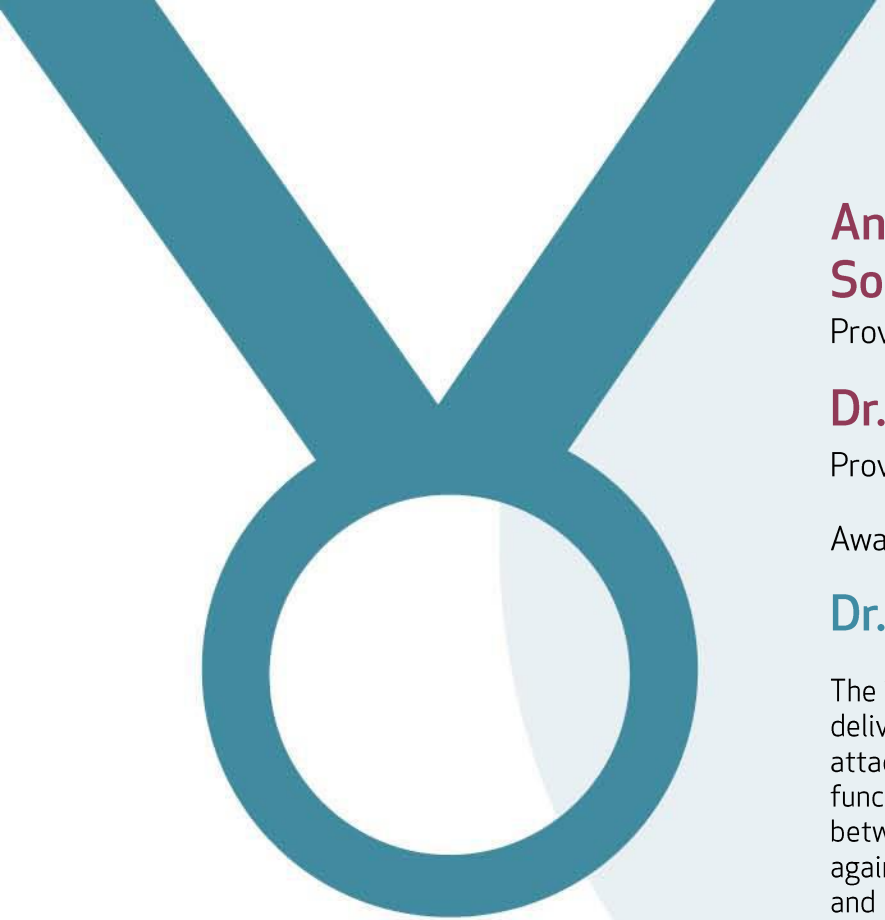
Fondation du Centre universitaire de santé McGill
McGill University Health Centre Foundation

la fondation de l'hôpital de montréal pour enfants
the montreal children's hospital foundation

Allergy & Immunology

Research Awards Ceremony



Anita Garbarino Girard/Anna Maria Solinas/Dr. Phil Gold Award of Distinction

Provided by Mrs. Anna Maria Solinas Laroche

Dr. Phil Gold Fellowship

Provided by Dr. Phil Gold

Awarded to:

Dr. Geneviève Genest

The immune system is implicated in pregnancy from conception until delivery. It plays a pivotal role in recognizing the embryo, helping it attach to the wall of the uterus and aiding in placenta formation and function. The immune system must maintain a delicate balance between tolerating the fetus and defending the pregnant mother against pathogens. Immune system dysfunction may thus underlie and trigger pregnancy complications such as infertility, recurrent pregnancy loss, preeclampsia and preterm birth. Dr. Genest aims to elucidate the nature of this immune dysfunction to be able to identify, diagnose and treat such patients to improve reproductive outcomes.

Anna Maria Solinas Laroche Career Award in Immunology

Provided by Mrs. Anna Maria Solinas Laroche

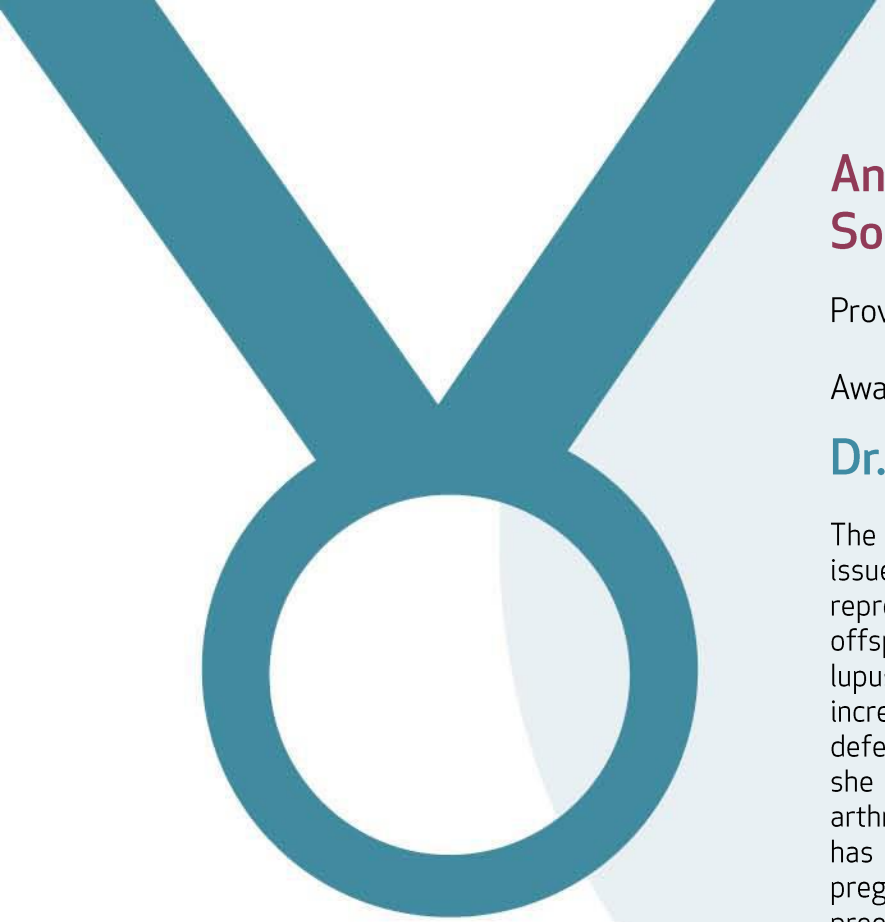
Dr. Phil Gold Fellowship

Provided by Dr. Phil Gold

Awarded to:

Dr. Ghislaine Isabwe

Dr. Isabwe will have clinical duties at the MUHC, where she will be involved in teaching students and supervising medical residents. She will also continue to advance her research in the field of drug allergy, more specifically in relation to hypersensitivity to chemotherapies and biologic therapies.



Anita Garbarino Girard/Anna Maria Solinas/Dr. Phil Gold Award of Distinction

Provided by Mrs. Anna Maria Solinas Laroche

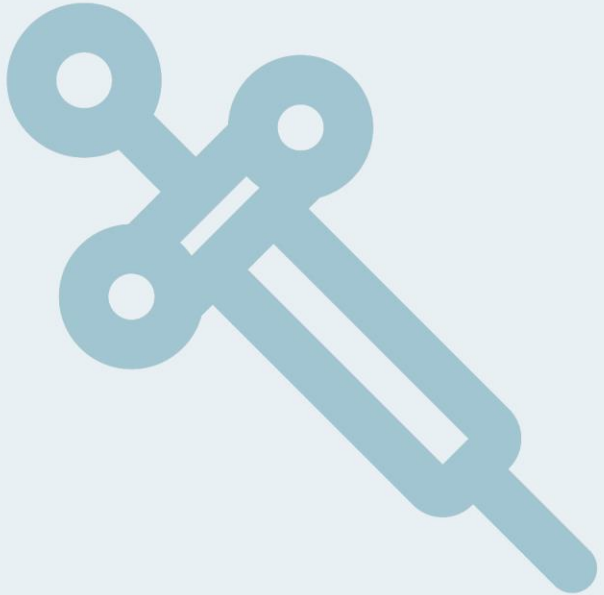
Awarded to:

Dr. Évelyne Vinet

The general focus of Dr. Vinet's research program is reproductive issues in women with rheumatic diseases, with the goal of improving reproductive outcomes in women with rheumatic disease and their offspring. She has created the world's largest cohort of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) offspring, leading to novel findings on the increased risk of autism spectrum disorders, congenital heart defects, and stillbirths in SLE offspring. Using a large US database, she has also assessed the risk of serious infections in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) offspring exposed to TNF inhibitors. More recently, she has been working to establish an international cohort of SLE pregnancies, conducting a randomized controlled trial to improve preeclampsia knowledge and aspirin adherence in pregnant SLE women, and creating a large population-based cohort to assess biologic drug safety in pregnancy.

Anaesthesia

Research Awards Ceremony



Louise and Alan Edwards Foundation Award in Pain Research

Provided by Mrs. Jane Edwards

Awarded to:

Dr. Marc O. Martel

Dr. Martel's research program aims at exploring the biological and psychological determinants of prescription opioid misuse and addiction among patients with chronic pain prescribed long-term opioid therapy. As a parallel line of research, Dr. Martel's research program aims at testing the effectiveness of treatment interventions designed to minimize prescription opioid misuse among patients with chronic pain. The bulk of his research projects are conducted in collaboration with clinicians and researchers from the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit.

Louise and Alan Edwards Foundation Award in Pain Research

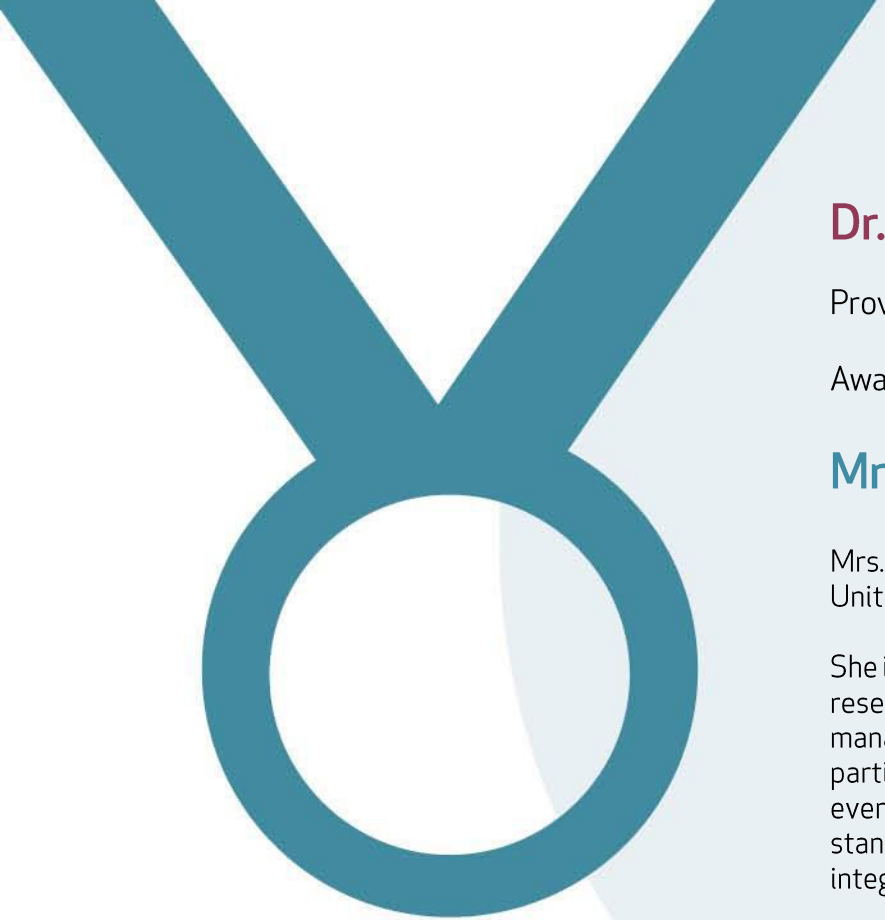
Provided by Mrs. Jane Edwards

Awarded to:

Dr. Laura Stone

The overall objective of Dr. Stone's research is to enhance quality of life for individuals with chronic pain by improving pain diagnosis and treatment.

Dr. Stone is the Director of the Quebec Back Pain Consortium, a province-wide initiative to facilitate research on the persistence and recovery from back pain. In collaboration with the MUHC, she has identified 'signatures' that chronic pain leaves on our DNA. Understanding these signatures will reveal potential new drug targets and may ultimately may allow clinicians to match individual patients to the best personalized treatment option, allowing for rapid and effective pain relief.



Dr. Joe Stratford Award for Study of Pain

Provided by Mrs. Leslie Stratford Laury & Mr. Huntly Stratford

Awarded to:

Mrs. Sylvie Toupin

Mrs. Toupin has been working at the Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit as a study nurse and coordinator for several years.

She is involved in investigator-initiated as well as industry-sponsored research projects on pain. She is also responsible for account management, human resources as well as meeting with study participants. She always makes it her personal goal to ensure that every project they take on is conducted according to the ethical standards in research for the safety and respect of patients and the integrity of the data.

Millennium Research Award

Awarded to:

Dr. Yannis Trakadis

Dr. Trakadis' research program aims to advance the field of clinical psychiatric genetics, taking advantage of machine learning analysis of genomic and biochemical data. His goal is to use these state-of-the-art approaches to advance the understanding of psychiatric disease and enable more personalized medical approaches in this field of medicine.

Louise and Alan Edwards Foundation Award in Pain Research

Provided by Mrs. Jane Edwards

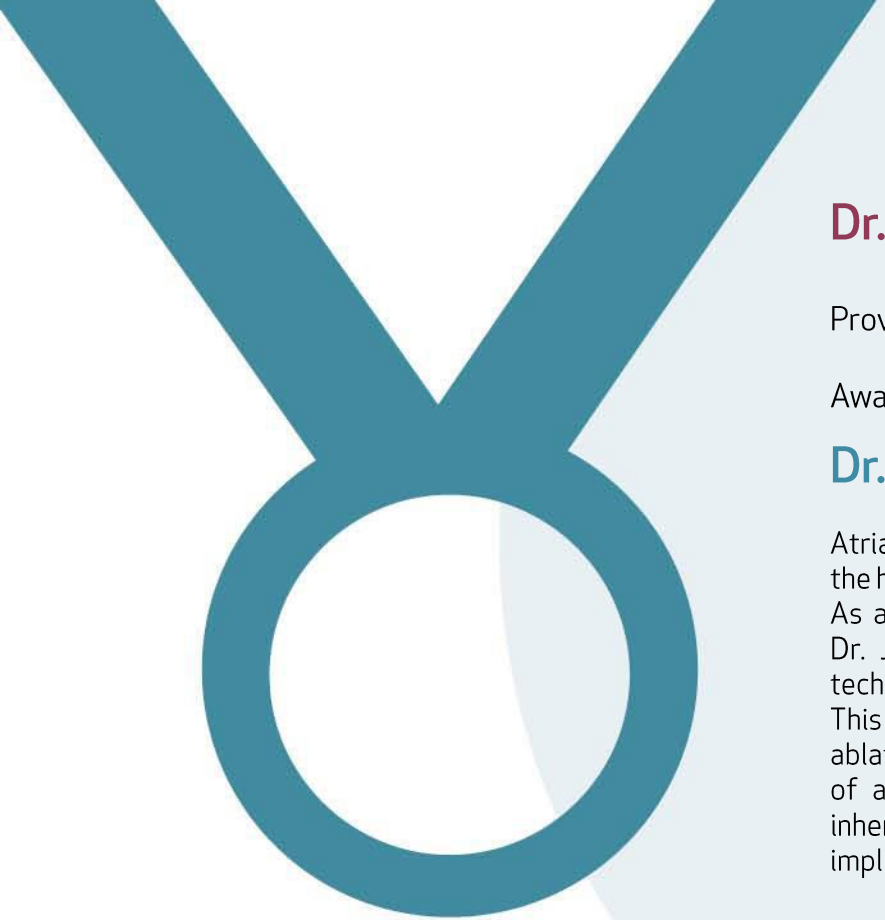
Awarded to:

Ms. Regina Visca

Ms. Visca has been co- leading the development, implementation and evaluation of a *Learning Health System* for chronic pain to support the delivery of personalized and digital patient-centered pain care. The *Learning Health System* includes an infrastructure and network of patients, researchers, clinicians, decision-makers and policy-makers as well as various innovative approaches to the management of chronic pain including interdisciplinary programs in primary care, electronic consultation, collaborative learning, virtual care through a patient portal and an open-source informatics platform that brings together clinical data and patient-reported outcomes measures to inform the optimization of patient trajectories, shared decision-making, decision support and program evaluation.

Cardiology

Research Awards Ceremony



Dr. Chris Lui Parents Award for Cardiology

Provided by Mrs. Linda Lui

Awarded to:

Dr. Jacqueline Joza

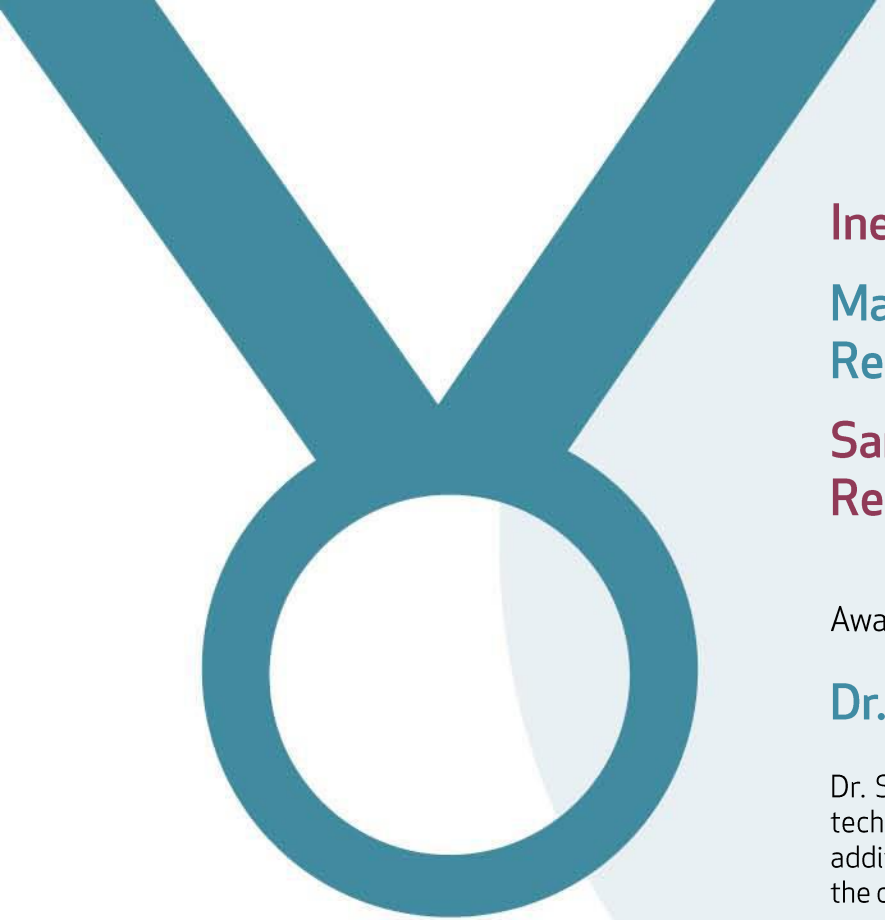
Atrial fibrillation is the most common sustained rhythm disorder of the heart and can lead to stroke, heart failure and increased mortality. As a staff interventional electrophysiologist, the primary focus of Dr. Joza's research program is the assessment of interventional techniques to treat atrial fibrillation in special patient populations. This includes the direct assessment of new technologies in catheter ablation, evaluation of mapping techniques to predict the recurrence of atrial arrhythmias and/or need for a pacemaker focusing on inherited conditions, and database research to assess the long-term implications of catheter ablation on the Canadian population.

John and Adrienne Peacock Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Stéphane Rinfret

Dr. Rinfret has been appointed as Chief of interventional cardiology at the MUHC. His research plan over the next 5 years is to develop hybrid and innovative surgical and percutaneous revascularisation strategies to improve outcomes of patients with multivessel and complex coronary artery disease.



Inez and Willena Beaton Award in Cardiology,

Marjorie Cadham Award in Cardiology Research

Sara Louise King Award in Cardiology Research

Awarded to:

Dr. Abhinav Sharma

Dr. Sharma is evaluating how we can use digital and mobile health technologies to prevent and treat cardiovascular diseases. In addition, he is also evaluating how these technologies can improve the conduct of clinical trials.

Gastroenterology

Research Awards Ceremony

Kimberly Sue McCall Memorial Award in IBD Research

Provided by Mr. Thomas E.F. Brady

Awarded to:

Dr. Peter Lakatos

Dr. Lakatos' research at the MUHC primarily covers optimization of patient management, patient access, treatment and monitoring strategies in patients suffering from inflammatory bowel diseases, including identification of predictors (clinical or laboratory factors) of disease severity, response to therapy and outcomes. His current research interest is the harmonization of patient care pathways, improving quality of care by offering rapid access clinic and evaluation of the selected quality of care indicator sets, assessment of colorectal cancer surveillance strategies, adherence to objective patient monitoring and patient's feedback in the everyday practice during the management of inflammatory bowel diseases.

Owen Catchpaugh Grant for Innovative IBD Research

Provided by Dr. Brian and Mrs. Rolande Catchpaugh

Awarded to:

Dr. Corinne Maurice

Research in the Maurice lab aims to understand how bacteriophages, viruses specific to bacteria, interact with bacterial communities in the human gut. Bacteriophages are central to the maintenance and dynamics of all known bacterial communities, yet their role in the human gut remains unclear. Recent evidence suggests they could have active roles in maintaining health. We are currently working on a project using mouse models to (1) determine how phages from healthy volunteers and Ulcerative Colitis patients change bacterial communities; and (2) explore the immune response to these phages. Determining if phages contribute to the severity of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases will be key to developing informed and preventive phage-based therapies.

Michael Karaguezian Research Grant in IBD

Provided by Mr. Michael Karaguezian

Awarded to:

Dr. Yasi Xiao

Dr. Yasi Xiao's research currently focuses on the clinical efficacy and dose optimization of biologic agents for inflammatory bowel disease.

Geriatric Medicine

Research Awards Ceremony

Helen McCall Hutchison Award in Geriatric Medicine

Awarded to:

Dr. Stéphanie Chevalier

Dr. Chevalier is a registered dietitian, Associate Professor at the School of Human Nutrition, Associate Member in the Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics, and Medical Scientist at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre.

Her research program is aimed at understanding and tackling the loss of muscle mass, strength and function as we age, and with the additional burden of cancer, particularly lung cancer. She is working at optimizing nutrition to improve muscle health to maintain an independent life and to improve muscle function for a faster recovery after lung cancer surgery.

Helen McCall Hutchison Award in Geriatric Medicine

Awarded to:

Dr. Donald Doell

Dr. Doell will conduct a quality improvement initiative to evaluate the implementation of a protocol adapted to the emergency department that uses a set of proven methodologies to detect, prevent and treat delirium. We will compare the current state with the results after the use of the new protocol and evaluate how well it works and what adaptations might need to be made.

Delirium is a sudden, usually reversible state of disorganized thinking, inattention and alteration in level of consciousness that can arise in the context of serious medical illness. Delirium is prevalent in emergency department and disproportionally impacts the frail elderly. Delirium is associated with prolonged length of stay, delayed diagnosis, unnecessary interventions, functional decline, distress and increased mortality.

Helen McCall Hutchison Award in Geriatric Medicine

Awarded to:

Dr. Young-Sang Kim

Dr. Kim is spending a year doing research in the Division of Geriatrics with Dr. Morais, Chief of the Division. They are working on a study entitled: "The relationship between serum osteocalcin and muscle ma ss, physical function and cognition".

The objective of this study is to investigate whether a bone-derived protein called osteocalcin may be related to body muscle mass and physical function in older people and how it affects their change over several years using the NuAge Cohort of healthy older people from Quebec. The influence of this bone-derived protein on cognitive function will also be assessed. To achieve the aims of the study, the clinical measurements of muscle, physical performance and cognition are going to be related to osteocalcin which will be measured in the subjects' blood.

Helen McCall Hutchison Award in Geriatric Medicine

Awarded to:

Dr. Kedar Mate

Dr. Mate is a post-doctoral fellow at the Mayo Clinic, Arizona, USA, with an affiliation at the McGill University Health Centre. He is a Physical Therapist and has a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Science from McGill University, supervised by James McGill Professor Dr. Nancy Mayo. His doctoral thesis was aimed at exploring concordant and discordant information from different sources; self-reported questionnaires, physical tests, and technologically-measured outcomes in gait vulnerable populations. His post-doctoral work is to build-up on his skills gained during the doctoral program and establish himself as a researcher in the field of patient-reported outcomes research.

Hematology

Research Awards Ceremony

Carine & Stuart Townsend Fellowship in Haematology Award

Provided by Mrs. Anne Marie Townsend

Stewart Fellowship in Research/Clinical Haematology & Oncology

Presented by Ms. Kathryn Stewart, Mr. David Stewart and Mr. Peter Stewart

Awarded to:

Dr. Véronique Naessens

Dr. Naessens is a Hematologist at the MUHC and has been directly involved in the care of patients affected with sickle cell disease and thalassemia, as Director of Apheresis and Co-Director of the MUHC Adult Hemoglobinopathy Clinic. In addition to clinical care, she has had the opportunity to develop and lead local research projects as well as create a benign hematology elective for fellows to increase their exposure to relatively rate benign disorders, as well as develop their interest and expertise.

Stewart Fellowship in Research/Clinical Haematology & Oncology

Provided by Ms. Kathryn Stewart, Mr. David Stewart and Mr. Peter Stewart

Awarded to:

Dr. Michael Sebag

Dr. Sebag is involved in developing state-of-the-art clinical trials in multiple myeloma patients.

Carine & Stuart Townsend Fellowship in Haematology Award

Provided by Mrs. Anne Marie Townsend

Ian And Helgi Soutar Research Award

Presented by Mrs. Helgi Soutar

Awarded to:

Dr. Chantal Séguin

Dr. Séguin's specific area of research involves the study of bone death called osteonecrosis. She is looking at the effect of certain drugs such as corticosteroids used extensively in cancer patients as part of their chemotherapy treatment. It is known that 10-25% of cancer patients taking corticosteroids will develop bone death following their exposure to the drug, which has a huge impact on their quality of life. She is studying the mechanism of action and the negative impact of corticosteroids on bone tissue and its blood vessels, with the intention of preventing the disease and/or finding a cure.

Medicine & Nursing

Research Awards Ceremony

Nesbitt-McMaster Award for Excellence in Medicine and Surgery

Provided by Mr. A.R. Deane Nesbitt

Awarded to:

Dr. Waqqas Afif

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a chronic inflammatory condition that affects the gastrointestinal tract and is comprised of two diseases: Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Approximately 250,000 Canadians have a diagnosis of IBD and Quebec has one of the highest rates of IBD in the world. The treatment of IBD has changed dramatically over the last decade with the introduction of biologic medications. Although they are the most effective medications available, complete remission with biologic treatment approaches only 30% and are very costly. The main aim of Dr. Afif's research program is to optimize the use of biologic treatment in IBD and decrease healthcare costs associated with these medications.

Nesbitt-McMaster Award for Excellence in Medicine and Surgery

Provided by Mr. A.R. Deane Nesbitt

Awarded to:

Dr. Alex Amir

The funding provided by this award is supporting a new project created to help ongoing education for practicing physicians as well as new trainees, in the hope of improving patient outcomes. This new course in ultrasound education will help train physicians to more accurately diagnose and treat patients with life threatening medical problems, using a tool that is painless, non-invasive, rapid and portable. Projects like this one, with the generous support of our benefactors, will allow us to push the limits of our care and prioritize patient safety in a meaningful way.

David Laidley and Ellen Wallace Fellowship

Maria Rosa Saderra Award

Awarded to:

Dr. Nicole Bernard

Dr. Bernard investigates the mechanisms that underlie resistance to HIV infection and viral control without treatment in a rare subset of HIV-infected Elite Controllers, and protection from HIV infection in persons who remain HIV seronegative despite multiple exposures to HIV. Her research aims to inform the development of protective HIV vaccines and how to achieve a functional HIV cure.

Nesbitt-McMaster Award for Excellence in Medicine and Surgery

Provided by Mr. A.R. Deane Nesbitt

Awarded to:

Dr. Talat Bessissow

In the upcoming year, Dr. Bessissow will continue working on defining predictors of disease relapse as well as the role of mucosal healing in patients with inflammatory bowel disease. In addition, using advanced endoscopic imaging, he will continue to provide insight in the use of novel endoscopic techniques for the detection of pre-cancerous cells.

Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Research Award for Emergency Medicine

Awarded to:

Dr. Brett Burstein

Dr. Burstein is a Pediatric Emergency Physician and FRQ-S Clinical Research Scholar. He is the first-ever Clinician Scientist recruited to the Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at the Children's. He completed the combined MD-PhD program at McGill, and recently completed a Master of Public Health at Harvard. He has authored nearly 30 publications, 50 peer-reviewed abstracts and three book chapters. Dr. Burstein's primary research interest is the management of fever in infants younger than three months. Dr. Burstein's research focuses on diagnostic testing and clinical decision tools, with the aim of balancing the risk of under-diagnosis and the potential harms of over-investigation. His work in this area has received awards from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the Canadian Paediatric Society and The Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians.

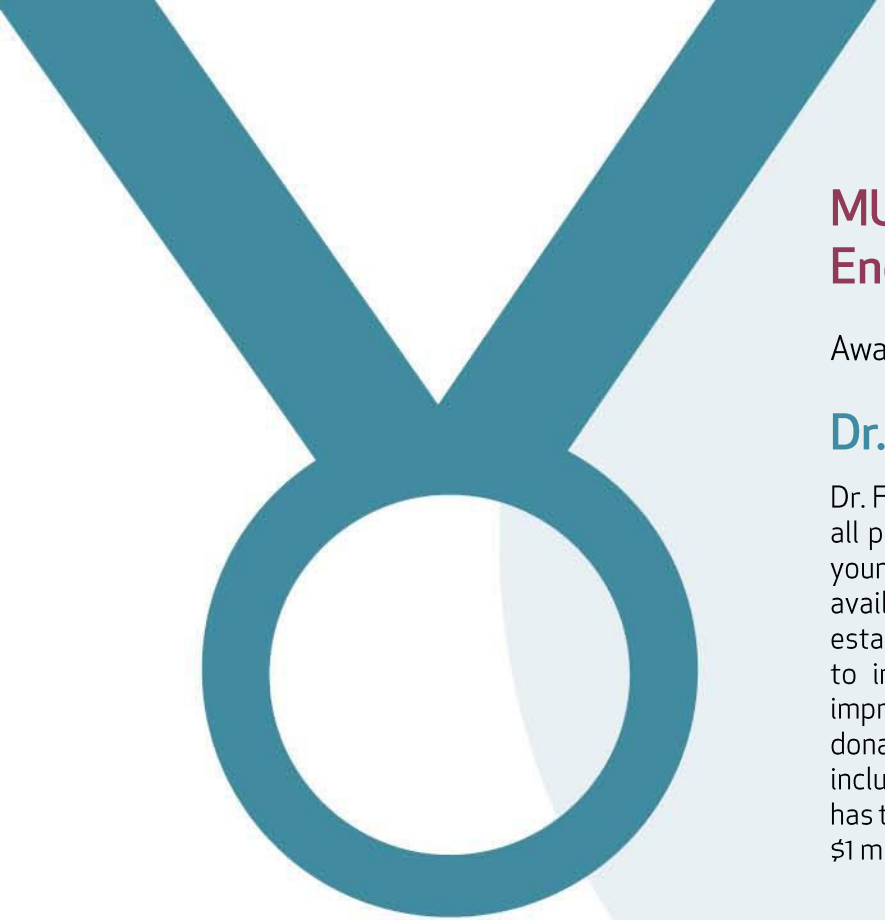
Strauss Chair in Respiratory Medicine

Provided by Mr. Richard and Mrs. Edith Strauss

Awarded to:

Dr. Maziar Divangahi

Dr. Divangahi's research program focuses on immunity against two major pulmonary infectious diseases, Influenza and Tuberculosis and investigates how to harness the power of innate immunity in vaccine via reprogramming of stem cells.



MUHC Foundation Research Award for Endocrinology & Metabolism

Awarded to:

Dr. George Fantus

Dr. Fantus' research has focused on improving the care of patients in all phases of their trajectory by using emerging technologies, hiring young researchers and leveraging the vast academic resources available at the MUHC and in Montreal. Though collaborations with established laboratories he has been able to better understand how to improve treatments, personalize care, empower patients and improve patient safety throughout their trajectory. Starting with a donation from a generous private foundation, he has built a team including a Lead Researcher, Research Assistant, two post-docs and has trained several graduate students. They have attracted almost $1 million dollars in peer-reviewed and industry sponsored grants.

Stevenson Family Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Isabel Fortier

Dr. Fortier leads the Maelstrom Research Platform which provides the international research community from diverse disciplines with resources (expertise, methods, and software) to leverage and support data harmonization and integration across studies. The Maelstrom team develops methods and software; conducts methodological research; generates catalogues of study metadata; and creates infrastructures supporting data management, harmonization and co-analysis.

Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Research Award for Nephrology

Awarded to:

Dr. Indra Gupta

Dr. Gupta is a Pediatric Nephrologist as well as the Director of Child Health at the MUHC Research Institute. She is also a Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine at McGill University. Her research focuses on understanding the basis for congenital defects in the kidneys and urinary tracts. These disorders account for 40% of all cases of kidney failure in children and result in dialysis and transplantation for those affected children. Her laboratory is using cell lines, animal models and samples from affected children to understand these defects and eventually identify new therapeutic possibilities.

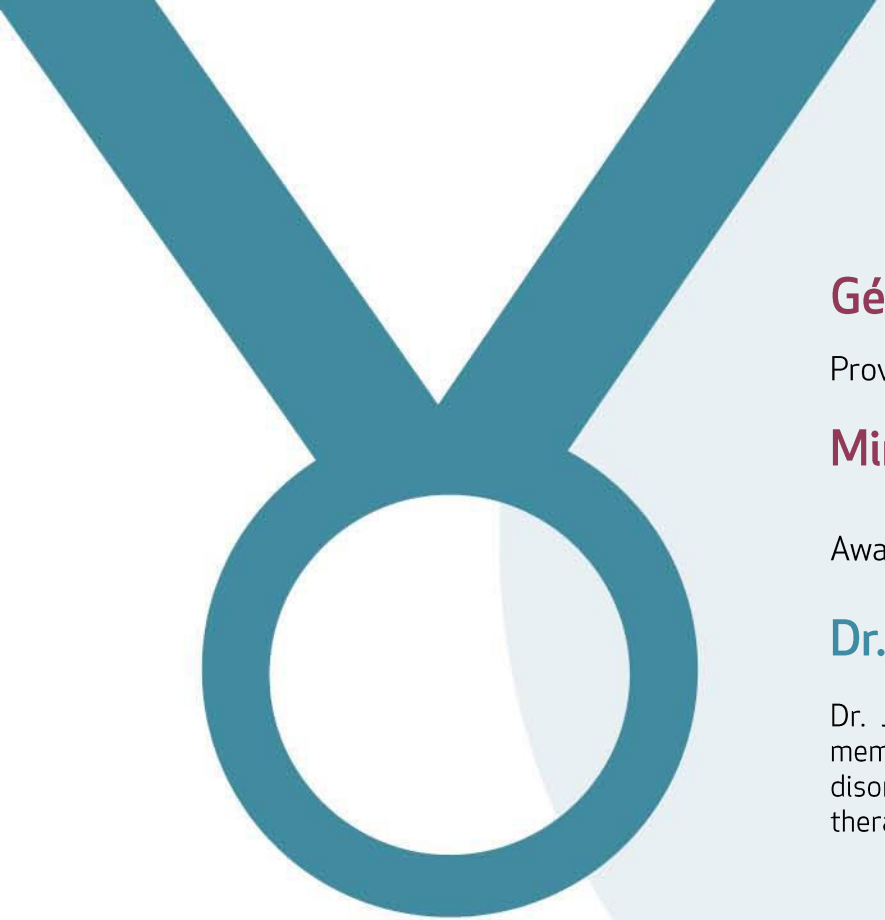
Honourable Hartland Molson Fellowship

Provided by The Molson Family

Awarded to:

Dr. Wei Huang

Dr. Huang's research lab at the department of Neurology and Neurosurgery studies how copy number variants, the most common form of human genetic variation, impact brain development and cause diseases such as autism spectrum disorders.



Gérard R. Douville Award

Provided by Mr. Gérard R. Douville

Mimi Dupuis Benjamin Award

Awarded to:

Dr. Carolyn Jack

Dr. Jack's research involves characterising populations of resident memory T cells present in inflammatory and autoimmune cutaneous disorders with a focus on treatment with targeted and biological therapies.

Nesbitt-McMaster Award for Excellence in Medicine and Surgery

Provided by Mr. A.R. Deane Nesbitt

Awarded to:

Dr. Faiz Khan

Dr. Kham is studying whether artificial intelligence-based computer programs can be used to read chest x-rays to detect tuberculosis in places where access to radiologists is limited or non-existent; working with the Inuit health authority to develop a program of training for community health workers to provide tuberculosis care and prevention services in remote villages in Northern Quebec. He is also studying the effectiveness of shorter regimens for treating drug resistant tuberculosis to inform international treatment guidelines.

Deane Nesbitt Award

Provided by Mr. A.R. Deane Nesbitt

Robert and Mary Hewitt Horizons Award

Presented by Mr. James W. Hewitt

Awarded to:

Dr. Thomas Kitzler

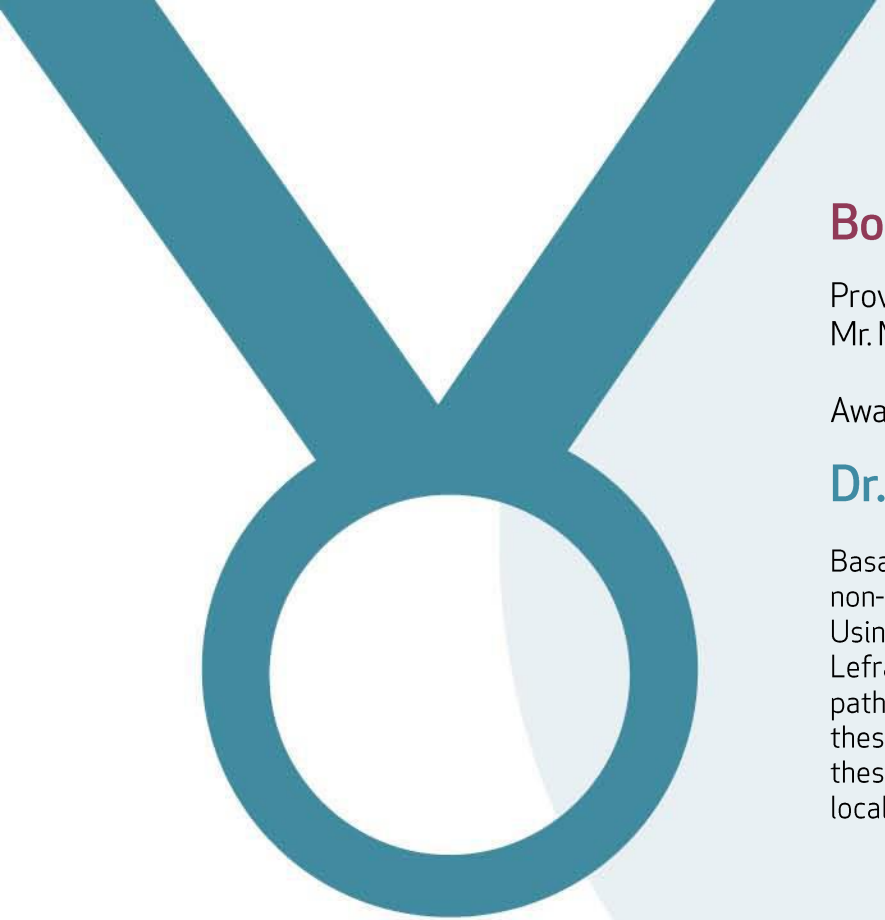
Chronic kidney disease affects one in ten Canadians. In children, about 20% is due to a genetic disorder; in adults, it falls to 10%. Genetic kidney disease in children is a particular devastating disease that often presents with an unremitting course towards complete loss of kidney function. Treatment is either hemodialysis or kidney transplant. Both carry significant health risks and are very costly to the healthcare system. Dr. Kitzler's research program aims to improve the diagnosis of genetic kidney disease and to understand the disease mechanisms. This knowledge will enable the development of novel personalized treatment strategies.

Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Research Award for Respiratory Medicine

Awarded to:

Dr. Larry Lands

Dr. Lands is Professor of Pediatrics at McGill University's Faculty of Medicine, Director of Pediatric Respiratory Medicine and the Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Clinic at the Montreal Children's Hospital, and senior researcher at the Translational Research in Respiratory Diseases Program (RESP) and the Center for Translational Biology (CTB) at the RI of the MUHC. He is Chair of CF Canada's Research Advisory Council, Chair of the Research Committee of the Canadian Thoracic Society, and outgoing Associate Director of the Quebec Respiratory Health Research Network. Dr. Lands has published over 120 peer-reviewed publications and is the recipient of the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award in Pediatric Respirology from the Canadian Thoracic Society.



Bob Lavoie Research Award

Provided by Mrs. Jane Hope, Mr. Paul Lavoie,
Mr. Michel Lavoie and Ms. Marie Claude Lavoie

Awarded to:

Dr. Philippe Lefrançois

Basal cell carcinomas and squamous cell carcinomas, two types of non-melanoma skin cancers, are the most common cancers in humans. Using genome technologies and computational biology, Dr. Lefrançois' research aims to identify new genes and molecular pathways important for the diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of these skin cancers. Ultimately, novel therapies directly targeting these pathways may provide less invasive alternatives to surgery for local disease, and more effective treatments for advanced disease.

Grete Roggenburg Research Award

Awarded to:

Dr. Chelsea Maedler

Dr. Maedler's academic program at the MUHC centers on collaborative research with pediatric and adult gastroenterology teams. Her focus is translational research that looks at cellular inflammation in the bowel to help predict how patients suffering from inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) will respond to treatments. Given the high incidence of IBD in Canadian children, this research will have significant impact in determining when to start and stop a child's IBD treatment. Her other focus is to introduce novel evidence-based teaching methods to the McGill Medical community that promote a learner-centric environment focused on improving patient care.

MGHF Board Emeritus Research Award

Provided by Members of the Board Emeritus, the Montreal General Hospital Foundation

Nesbitt-McMaster Award for Excellence in Medicine and Surgery

Awarded to:

Dr. Katherine McKendy

The focus of Dr. McKendy's research program is in the field of surgical education. Her main interests involve curriculum development, feedback, and assessment. With the current adoption of a competency-based residency training model across Canada, there has been an increased recognition of the importance of developing objective measures of resident performance. This is especially challenging in surgery, where assessment of surgical skill involves a complex interplay of technical ability, knowledge of disease processes, and decision-making. Her research involves the development of tools to help develop and assess resident's technical and cognitive skills, in both the simulated and clinical environment.

F. Ann Birks Fellowship

Provided by Mrs. F. Ann Birks

Awarded to:

Dr. Arielle Mendel

Dr. Mendel is in her second year of a clinical fellowship in vasculitis (a subspecialty of rheumatology focusing on inflammatory disorders of blood vessels) at the University of Toronto. She is completing a master's degree in quality improvement and patient safety, where her project aims to improve timely glucocorticoid (steroid) reduction in patients with vasculitis. She will be joining the division of rheumatology at the MUHC in July 2020, where she will continue to collaborate with the Canadian Vasculitis Research Network and will focus her academic interests in the field of quality improvement and patient safety in the rheumatic diseases.

Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Research Award for Endocrinology and Genetics

Awarded to:

Dr. John Mitchell

Dr. Mitchell is a pediatric endocrinologist and biochemical geneticist at the Montreal Children's Hospital. He is also an Associate Professor of Human Genetics and Pediatrics at McGill University. Dr. Mitchell is interested in the treatment of rare metabolic diseases known as orphan diseases. These disorders affect the way we process nutrients and chemicals in our body. Inability to break these chemicals down (usually due to a non-working enzyme) can lead to toxicity to the brain or other organ systems. His research is involved in trying to reverse this process with innovative therapies including chaperone therapies, enzyme replacement therapies and gene therapies in diseases such as lysosomal storage disorders and phenylketonuria. He is also interested in how the Canadian and Quebec government evaluate and decide on approval and coverage of orphan therapies.

Lucy Riddell Award

Awarded to:

Dr. Momar Ndao

Dr. Ndao is internationally recognized for his work on the diagnosis, vaccine and drugs screening for parasitic infectious diseases.

Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Research Award for Endocrinology and Genetics

Awarded to:

Dr. Constantin Polychronakos

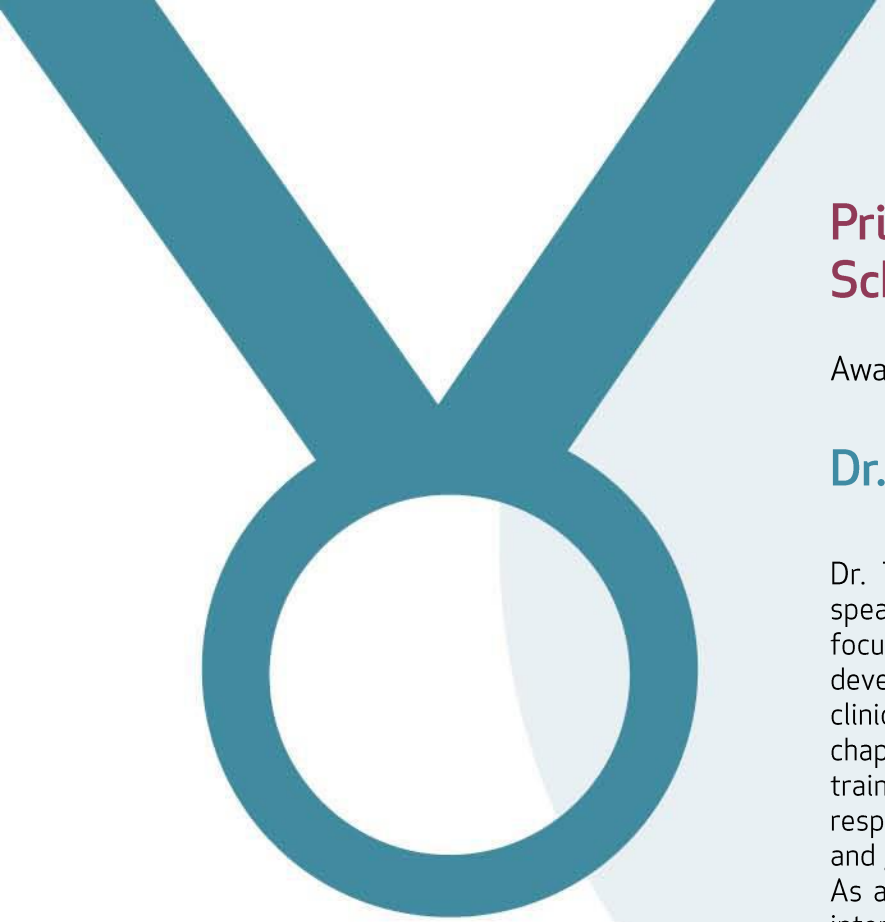
Dr. Polychronakos is a pediatric endocrinologist with a research interest in type 1 (juvenile) diabetes (T1D). He is a Professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Human Genetics at McGill and director of the Endocrine Genetics Laboratory at the MUHC Research Institute. He has pioneered genome-wide studies to discover multiple genetic variants that contribute to T1D risk, hoping that knowledge of the disease's fundamental causes will help in developing preventive interventions. He is currently focusing on precision medicine, in a project that will examine 5,000 Canadian children for rare genetic causes that can be treated with alternatives to insulin injections.

Honourable Hartland Molson Fellowship

Provided by The Molson Family

Awarded to:

Dr. Laila Samy



Prix d'excellence Marie Pineau et François Schubert

Awarded to:

Dr. Daniel Thirion

Dr. Thirion's research and clinical practice activities have been spearheading antimicrobial stewardship for the past 20 years. He focuses on the impact of antimicrobial use on emerging diseases and development of resistance, and appropriate use of antimicrobials in clinical practice. He has published over 100 articles and book chapters, served as invited speaker for over 400 conferences, and trained numerous pharmacy graduate students. His teaching responsibilities include ID pharmacotherapy for the undergraduate and graduate programs and development of the Pharm.D. program. As a recognized expert, he devotes time and effort in his field of interest for committees, juries, and advisory boards up to the international level. Numerous awards demonstrate the quality of practice and excellence in research, clinical practice, and education.

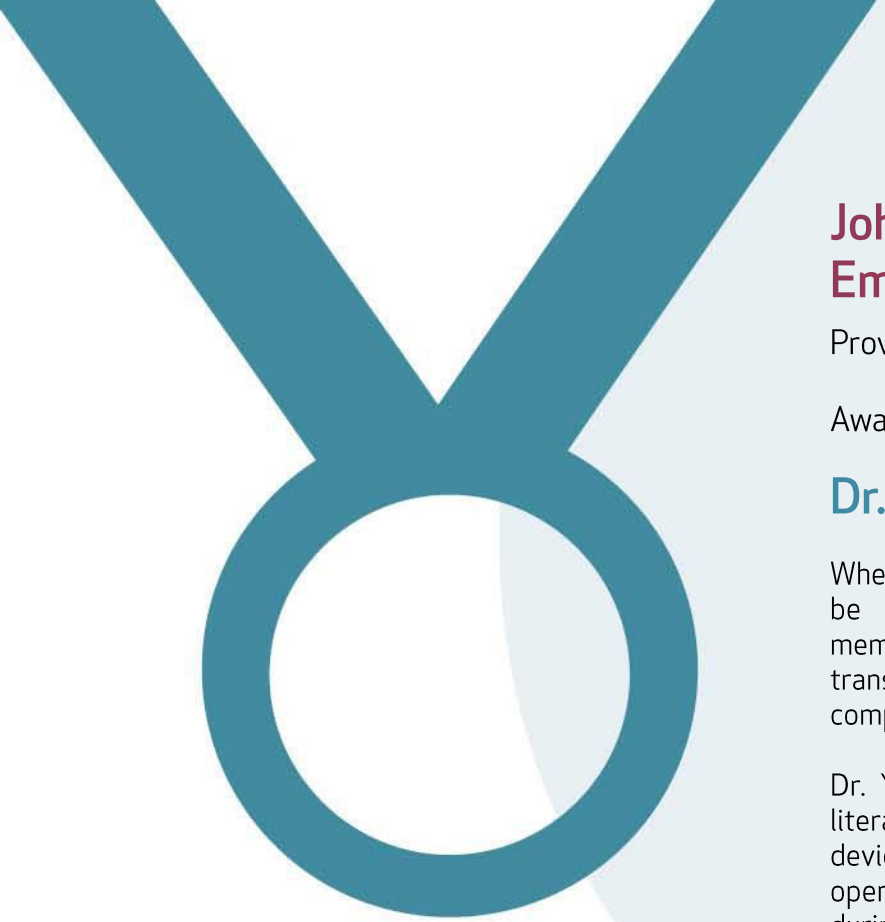
Charles Scriver Research Award

Provided by Mr. John Blachford

Awarded to:

Dr. Yannis Trakadis

Dr. Trakadis' research program aims to advance the field of clinical psychiatric genetics, taking advantage of machine learning analysis of genomic and biochemical data. His goal is to use these state-of-the- art approaches to advance our understanding of psychiatric disease and enable more personalized medical approaches in this field of medicine.



John Churchill-Smith Education Fund for Emergency Medicine

Provided by Dr. Michael Churchill-Smith

Awarded to:

Dr. Han Yao

When all other treatments fail, patients with severe heart failure can be supported with mechanical hearts and/or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. In rare instances, these patients require air transportation between hospitals. Such transports can be prone to complications and requires meticulous preparation.

Dr. Yao's published work is a systematic review of the medical literature on air medical transport of mechanical circulatory support devices. He and his team determined that such complicated transport operations can be done safely. They outlined specific considerations during the pre-flight and in-flight period to minimize potential complications and improve patient safety.

Claudio and Diane Bussandri Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Anthony Zeitouni

Neurology & Psychiatry

Research Awards Ceremony

Senator W. David Angus Award For Research Into Major Psychiatric Diseases

Provided by Senator W. David Angus

Awarded to:

Dr. Marie-Josée Brouillette

Dr. Brouillette and her team study the determinants of poor brain health in HIV, bridging biological and psychosocial aspects. Her work has been presented at several international conferences and published in peer-reviewed scientific journals, and she was recently awarded $2.5M to continue this line of investigation.

Senator W. David Angus Award For Research Into Major Psychiatric Diseases

Provided by Senator W. David Angus

Awarded to:

Dr. Simon Ducharme

Dr. Ducharme conducts clinical and brain imaging research on dementia. My projects aim to develop novel neuroimaging biomarkers for the early diagnosis of fronto-temporal dementia (FTD). He also leads several clinical trials on innovative treatments for Alzheimer's disease and FTD.

Dr. Robert Ford Award in Neuro Trauma (MGH)

Provided by Mr. Andrew Ford and Mrs. Leslie Ford

Awarded to:

Dr. Guido Ivan Guberman

Mild brain trauma, or concussions, are a major clinical challenge because they are virtually invisible to conventional medical imaging. However, their effects can be debilitating, variable, and occasionally, lifelong. Detecting these subtle yet nefarious injuries requires specialized machines that can explore the structure of the brain in fine detail. Dr. Guberman's research consists of combining these specialized imaging tools with advanced statistical techniques, to develop ways of objectively and reliably detecting brain damage after concussions. With this work, it may one day be possible to develop more effective treatments, and more accurately predict how individuals will recover from brain trauma.

Senator W. David Angus Award For Research Into Major Psychiatric Diseases

Provided by Senator W. David Angus

Awarded to:

Dr. Howard Margolese

Dr. Margolese's research interests are varied but all are centered in helping psychiatric patients and especially those with psychosis. He is interested in clinical trials so that the Hospital can offer new medications and treatments to patients. He is also interested in knowledge translation and how knowledge is imparted to others so that best practices can become routine care. He is interested in how practitioners approach patients and how they discuss their treatment options in a way that helps them to understand the benefits so that they are more likely to adhere to what is recommended. He was the lead in developing and disseminating a tool (named OPTIMA) to engage patients in a discussion about LAI (long-acting injectable) medications using a systematic approach that is being used in many hospitals across Canada.

Senator W. David Angus Award For Research Into Major Psychiatric Diseases

Provided by Senator W. David Angus

Awarded to:

Dr. Gail Myhr

The MUHC CBT Unit has a fully integrated research component in all of its clinical and teaching activities. All patients referred for services fill out questionnaires before and after treatment with CBT, to see which psychological characteristics, diagnoses, and personality types predict the best outcomes. This aids in selecting those patients most likely to benefit from treatment. Clinical interventions – such as virtual reality assisted exposure - are also measured to see which produce most improvement. The Unit also studies aspects of clinical supervision of therapy trainees, with the view to improving satisfaction and learning of both trainee and patient.

Senator W. David Angus Award For Research Into Major Psychiatric Diseases

Provided by Senator W. David Angus

Awarded to:

Dr. Jesse Renaud

Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) is the gold standard psychological intervention for most psychiatric disorders. However, not all patients benefit equally from CBT. The aim of this project is to evaluate the assessment of patient suitability for CBT. It is anticipated that this research will provide clinicians with a more efficient and cost-effective approach to suitability assessments. The ability to identify and select those patients most likely to benefit from CBT should result in greater treatment adherence and outcomes, reduced wait-times, and increased patient satisfaction for individuals seeking care in hospital clinics.

Ocular Pathology & Ophtalmology

Research Awards Ceremony

Dr. Miguel Burnier Ocular Pathology Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Jacqueline Coblentz

Dr. Coblentz is a post-doctoral fellow at the MUHC-McGill University Ocular Pathology & Translational Research Laboratory, under the supervision of Dr. Miguel Burnier. She is involved in several research projects at the lab, most of them related to cancer. One of the projects aims to provide new treatment options for patients with uveal melanoma, which is a rare but lethal intraocular tumor. Another project consists in the evaluation of ocular side effects of cancer treatment, in patients undergoing any treatment modality for any cancer type.

Leonard Ellen Ocular Pathology Fellowship

Provided by Mrs. Bina Leonard

Awarded to:

Dr. Paulina Garcia de Alba Graue

Uveal melanoma is the most frequent and aggressive eye cancer in adults. Despite advances in the initial local therapies, up to 50% of patients develop metastasis. The protein CysLTR1 is highly present in uveal melanoma tumours. It is believed that this protein plays an important role in tumour growth and metastasis. Since 1997 a drug known as Montelukast, which specifically goes against the CysLTR1 protein, has been used to treat asthmatic patients with little to no side effects. The purpose of Dr. Garcia de Alba Graue's research is to test Montelukast and see if it can prevent tumour growth and metastasis in uveal melanoma.

Henry C. Witelson Ocular Pathology Laboratory Award

Provided by Mrs. Bina Leonard

Awarded to:

Dr. Alicia Goyeneche

Dr. Goyeneche is a research scientist originally from Argentina. She was initially trained in the field of clinical biochemistry to work in the laboratory of pathology, but subsequently obtained a PhD degree in reproductive endocrinology. Her most important mission in Dr. Miguel Burnier's lab is to provide training to medical doctors and graduate students on the fundamental technological and scientific approaches necessary to operate a biomedical research laboratory. Her personal research project involves the study of the arrangement of ocular cancer cells as tri-dimensional structures.

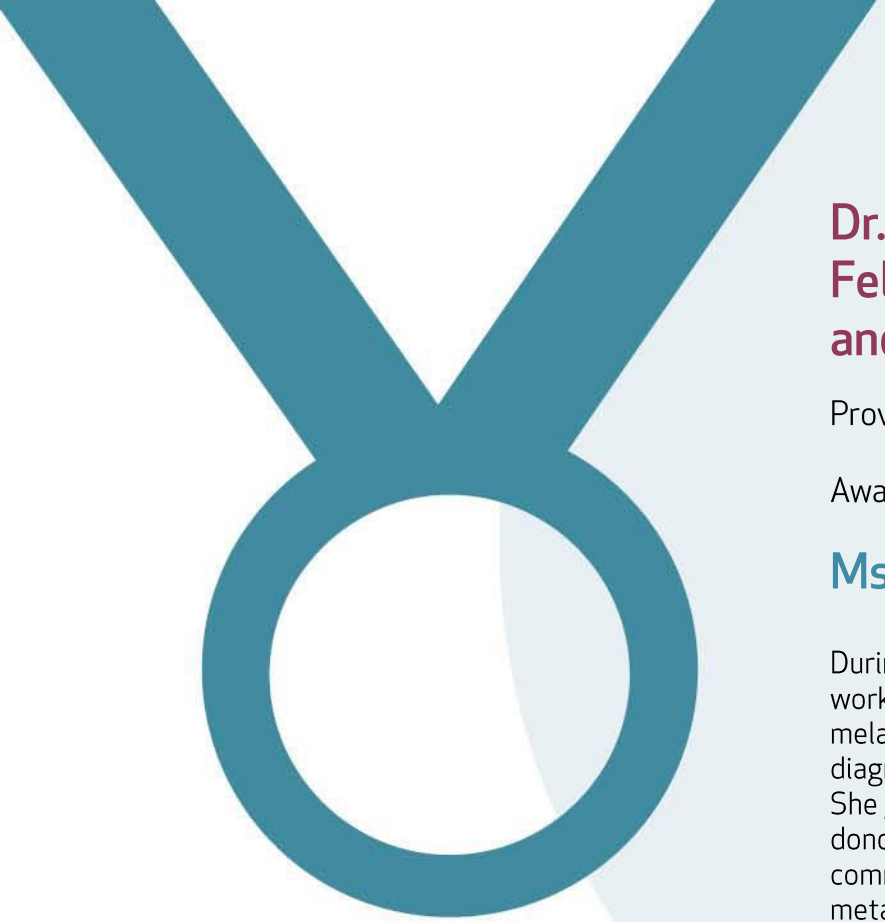
Shibata-Ingram Japanese Master's in Ocular Pathology

Provided by Mr. Richard S. Ingram and Mrs. Satoko Shibata

Awarded to:

Dr. Hiroaki Ito

Dr. Ito conducts research as a fellow at the MUHC-McGill University Ocular Pathology & Translational Research Laboratory under the supervision of Dr. Miguel Burnier, Jr. The objective of his academic program at the MUHC is to research and use novel imaging and diagnostic techniques in the field of ocular pathology.



Dr. Miguel Burnier, Jr. Ocular Pathology Fellowship dedicated by colleagues, patients and friends

Provided by Dr. Miguel Burnier

Awarded to:

Ms. Sabrina Parent

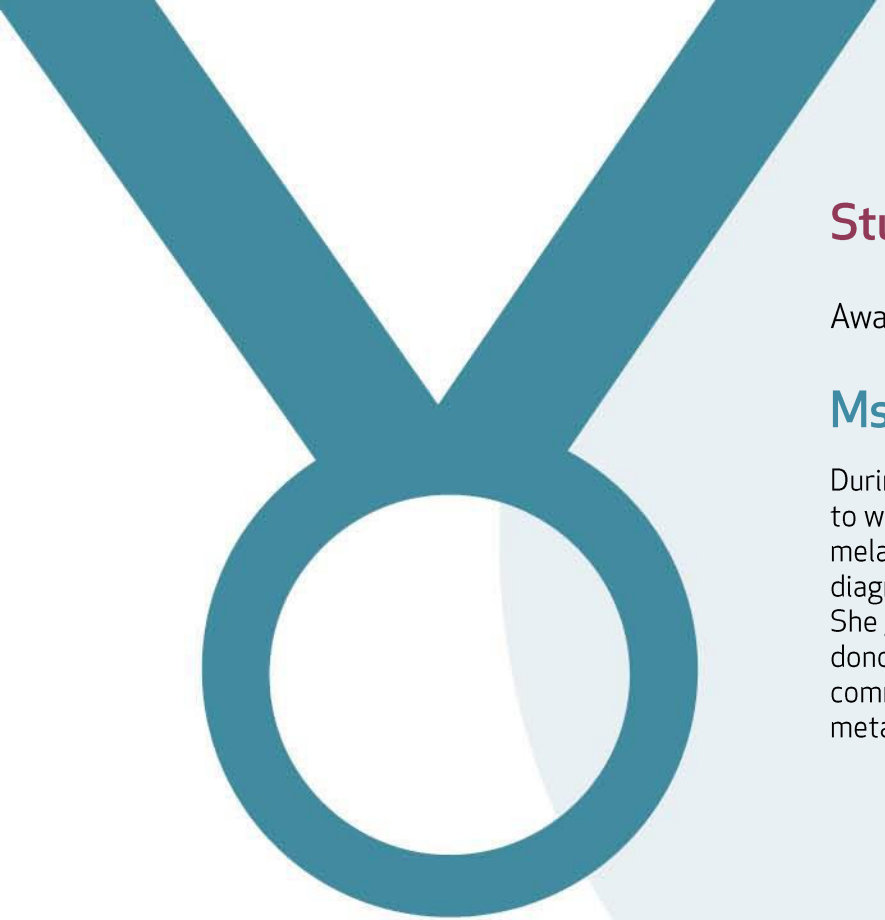
During her summer research internship, Ms. Parent had the chance to work on various projects, all centered around understanding uveal melanoma, an intraocular tumor, that despite the progress in diagnosis and treatment in the last 30 is still prone to metastasize. She grew uveal melanoma cells, extracting normal melanocytes from donor eyes and isolating extracellular vesicles. She also offered commentary on recent editorial discussing uveal melanoma metastasis and the Zimmerman Effect.

Wendell & Margaret Laidley Memorial Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Christina Wolfson

Dr. Wolfson's research interests are in aging and population neuroscience. She co-leads Canada's largest aging study, the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA). More than 50,000 participants aged 45-85 at recruitment are being followed for 20 years. Collecting data on the biological, social, psychological and economic changes over the life course for more than 50,000 people the CLSA is providing essential high-quality evidence to inform clinical, public health and social policy decision-making directed towards improving the health and well-being of Canada's aging population. I also conduct population based research in multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease and epilepsy.



Student Vision Canada Award

Awarded to:

Ms. Camille Zeitouni

During her summer research internship, Ms. Zeitouni had the chance to work on various projects, all centered around understanding uveal melanoma, an intraocular tumor, that despite the progress in diagnosis and treatment in the last 30 is still prone to metastasize. She grew uveal melanoma cells, extracting normal melanocytes from donor eyes and isolating extracellular vesicles. She also offered commentary on recent editorial discussing uveal melanoma metastasis and the Zimmerman Effect.

Oncology

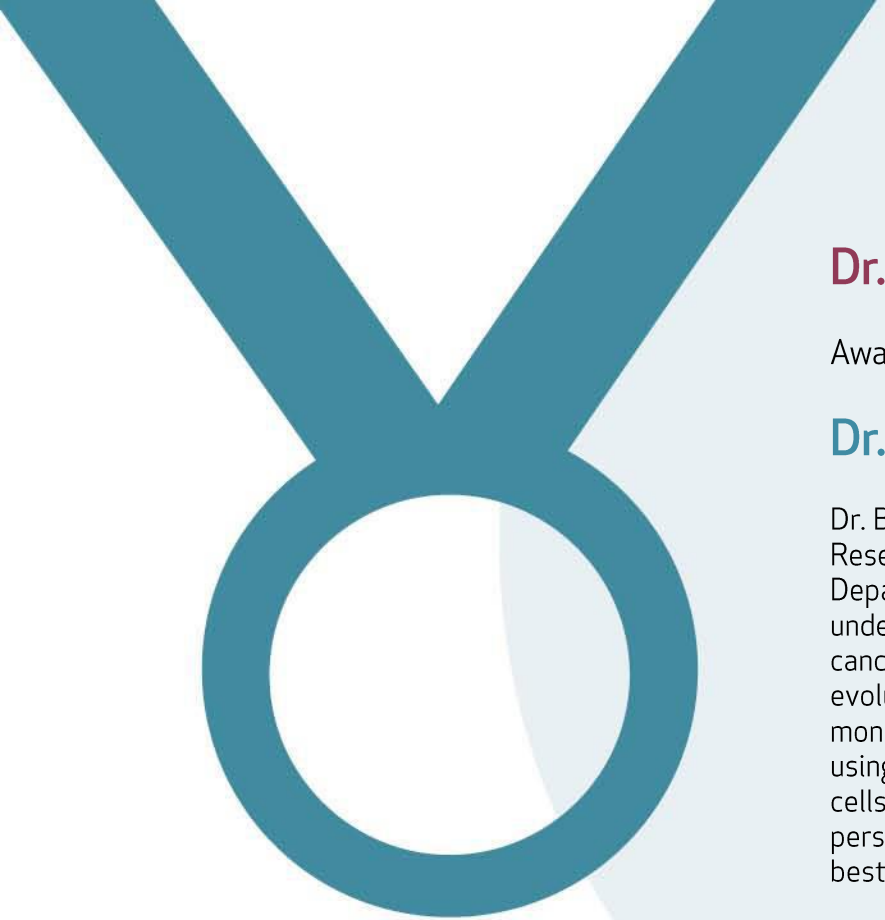
Research Awards Ceremony

Dr. Henry R. Shibata Fellowship

Awarded to:

Mr. Diogo Bessa de Medeiros

DOvEEgene is a multifaceted project, that aims to develop a screening test to diagnose ovarian/endometrial cancer using genomics. Most of these cancers are diagnosed only when they are already spread. It is known that the quality of life (QOL) is better on survivors who were diagnosed on earlier. However, the impacts of a screening test are not yet understood. Therefore, my objective is to demonstrate that offering a screening test for early diagnosis is associated with substantial clinical and socioeconomic benefits for the women affected, their family and for society at large, always aiming to improve the quality of life of survivors of this terrible illness.



Dr. Henry R. Shibata Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Julia Burnier

Dr. Burnier is a newly-appointed Principal Investigator in the Cancer Research Program of the MUHC-RI and an assistant professor in the Departments of Oncology and Pathology. Her lab focuses on understanding the dynamic molecular changes that occur during cancer progression and metastasis. To do this, her lab tracks cancer evolution through a “liquid biopsy”, a minimally invasive approach to monitor disease progression, recurrence and treatment response using a blood sample or other biofluid. Detection of circulating cancer cells, DNA and other molecules can contribute to early diagnosis and personalized management, thereby helping to guide therapy that is best suited for a particular patient.

Dr. Henry R. Shibata Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Arielle Elkrief

Dr. Elkrief is currently completing her specialty training in Medical Oncology at McGill University. Throughout her residency, Dr. Elkrief has worked on several research projects in the field of the microbiome and other precision therapies. These projects lead to her acceptance at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre to pursue a specialized Research Fellowship. There, she will train in cancer genomics, specifically, in next generation sequencing. These techniques help Oncologists quickly find out whether a tumor has changes that make the cancer vulnerable to particular drugs (precision therapy). She will also work on liquid biopsy techniques to detect cancer cells that are still present after cancer surgery (minimal residual disease) and to determine response to anti-cancer treatment.

Thelma L. Adams Fellowship (Oncology)

Awarded to:

Dr. Pierre-Oliver Gaudreau

Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer-related death worldwide. With the advent of a type of immunotherapy referred to as "immune checkpoint blockade", previously unseen survival benefits have been achieved. However, the majority of patients will relapse or present primary resistance to these agents. Therefore, Dr. Gaudreau's research efforts are oriented towards the understanding and reversal of resistance to these immunotherapies, but also to combination therapies which are still not achieving complete cures. Using animal models as well as patient-derived tumor samples (called "organoids"), he is working to unveil mechanisms of response and resistance to different immunotherapeutic treatment combinations (e.g., immunotherapy and chemotherapy combinations). Findings from these models can then be transferred directly in early-phase clinical trials. He hopes that this research will bring insights which will apply not only to lung cancer, but to other tumor types as well.

Dr. Henry R. Shibata Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Tenzin Gayden

The Canadian College of Medical Geneticists (CCMG) is the national organization that certifies individuals (physicians and scientists) who provide medical genetics services in Canada. I will be undertaking a two-year CCMG training program in clinical molecular genetics that will provide the competence to apply molecular diagnostic testing for rare diseases and cancer diagnosis. The training will take place at McGill University's affiliated clinical molecular genetics laboratory, which is located at the MUHC Glen site. The laboratory is a CCMG accredited centre in clinical molecular genetics (one of the only two training sites in Quebec province).

Michel Lessard Cancer Research Award

Awarded to:

Dr. Lucy Gilbert

Dr. Lucy Gilbert is a Professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and the Department of Oncology at McGill University. She is the Director of Gynecologic Oncology at McGill University and McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), which is a designated level-IV (supra-regional) unit that provides gynecological cancer care for the entire province and is also referred cases from all over Canada. Dr Gilbert strongly believes in research to improve outcomes in patients with cancer and heads the Women's Health Research Unit of the MUHC. Her main area of interest is the early detection of uterine and ovarian cancer in a stage when it is curable. To this end, she has set up a network of satellite clinics called the D.Ov.E.E. (Diagnosing Ovarian and Endometrial Cancers Early) clinics. These clinics provide free, open access and fast-track investigations to postmenopausal women with symptoms associated with ovarian cancer. The Women's Health Research Unit is also very active in multinational clinical trials for gynecologic cancer.

Inez and Willena Beaton Award in Oncology

Awarded to:

Dr. John Kildea

Dr. Kildea is a medical physicist in the Cancer Research Program who is studying the carcinogenic effects of radiation and using informatics to improve the experiences and outcomes of cancer patients. With Dr. Tarek Hijal, Dr Kildea co-leads development of the Opal patient portal (opalmedapps.com), which is been used by patients at the Cedars Cancer Centre and will be rolled out across the MUHC over the next 18 months. Dr. Kildea is vice-chair of the Canadian Partnership for Quality Radiotherapy.

Susan Fitzpatrick Award

Awarded to:

Dr. Richard Kremer

Dr. Richard Kremer is Professor and Director of the Bone and Mineral Unit in the Department of Medicine of McGill University. He is also the co-leader of the Musculoskeletal Axis of the McGill University Health Centre. Over the past 20 years research in his laboratory has focused on the role of calcium regulating hormones in health and disease. Their most recent research activities have been focused on elucidating the role of circulating tumor cells in breast cancer progression in view of identifying specific markers of skeletal metastasis in breast and prostate cancer. The goal of these studies is to develop targeted therapies in cancer based on the unique profile of cancer cells that are refractory to most chemotherapeutic interventions.

Simone & Morris Fast Award for Oncology

Provided by Miss Louise Fast

MUHC Foundation Cancer Research Award

Awarded to:

Dr. David Labbé

Dr. Labbé's academic program at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre is centred on the impact of diet on prostate cancer initiation and progression with research focused on the specific role of metabolism and epigenetics. His research theme is built upon the expertise that he has acquired during four years of postdoctoral studies at the Harvard Medical School / Dana-Farber Cancer Institute as well many other institutions during my training, including McGill University, CHU Sainte-Justine, Laval University and Polytech Montpellier in France. His overreaching goal is to identify mechanisms that could be used as a therapeutic target in combination with a precision nutrition approach to impede prostate cancer progression and improve treatment options.

Kate McGarrigle Sarcoma Fellowship

Awarded to:

Ms. Joanne Lapointe

Elaine T. & Charles H. Peters Award in Medical Oncology

Provided by Mr. Gordon Peters

Awarded to:

Dr. Christine Legler

Dr. Christine Legler is a medical oncologist at the McGill University Health Centre, in charge of the chemotherapy treatment center where over 100 patients per day. New cancer treatments are constantly being developed, and they need to master the intricacies of each new type of treatment. She is developing an improved chemotherapy prescribing process, with built in safeguards, to ensure that chemotherapy prescriptions are clearer and safer than ever before and that a younger generation of nurses, pharmacists and oncologists is trained.

Kate McGarrigle Sarcoma Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Kedar Mate

Dr. Mate is a post-doctoral fellow at the Mayo Clinic, Arizona, USA, with an affiliation at the McGill University Health Center. He is a Physical Therapist and has a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Science from McGill University, supervised by James McGill Professor Dr. Nancy Mayo. His doctoral thesis was aimed at exploring concordant and discordant information from different sources; self-reported questionnaires, physical tests, and technologically-measured outcomes in gait vulnerable populations. His post-doctoral work is to build-up on his skills gained during the doctoral program and establish himself as a researcher in the field of patient-reported outcomes research.

Simone & Morris Fast Award for Oncology

Provided by Miss Louise Fast

Awarded to:

Dr. Victor McPherson

Dr. McPherson's research focus is on bladder cancer, and is in the generation of clinical trials and the utilization of targeted therapeutics to shut down critical cancer cell signaling processes. He has completed research training through a MSc in Biochemistry at Queen's University, and subsequently in bladder cancer genetics at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Dr McPherson's research at McGill will focus on targeting gene mutations in bladder cancer via targeted drugs, and will focus on creating model systems to test bladder instillations of these agents with the intent to generate phase I/II clinical trials to test promising new drug regimens.

Dr. Henry R. Shibata Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Stephanie Mourad

Dr. Mourad is pursuing a one-year fellowship in Pediatric Leukemia-Lymphoma at the Hospital for Sick Children, in Toronto. She is specifically focusing her clinical experience on the management of relapsed refractory leukemia, while also concentrating on clinical research in the field of CAR-T cell therapy, an innovative treatment modality for leukemia and lymphoma. Presently, there are limited indications for such immunotherapies in Quebec, but this is expected to change over the next few years. With her experience, she will develop and increase accessibility of these therapies for pediatric patients in Quebec.

Henry and Margaret Johnson Award in Oncology

Provided by Mr. Robert Johnson

Awarded to:

Dr. Derek Rosenzweig

Dr. Rosenzweig's multidisciplinary research program combines materials science, engineering, bioengineering, surgical oncology and cell biology approaches for biofabrication and 3D printing scaffolds for anti-cancer therapeutic delivery. These devices are intended for tissue repair and regeneration following tumor resection and/or bone trauma. He also focuses on modeling the human bone tumor microenvironment using lab-on-a-chip bioprinting technology. The lab uses clinically relevant patient-derived bone metastases cells arising from breast, lung and prostate cancer.

Elizabeth & Arnie Vered Cancer Research Scholarship

Provided by Mrs. Elizabeth Vered

Awarded to:

Dr. Sonia Skamene

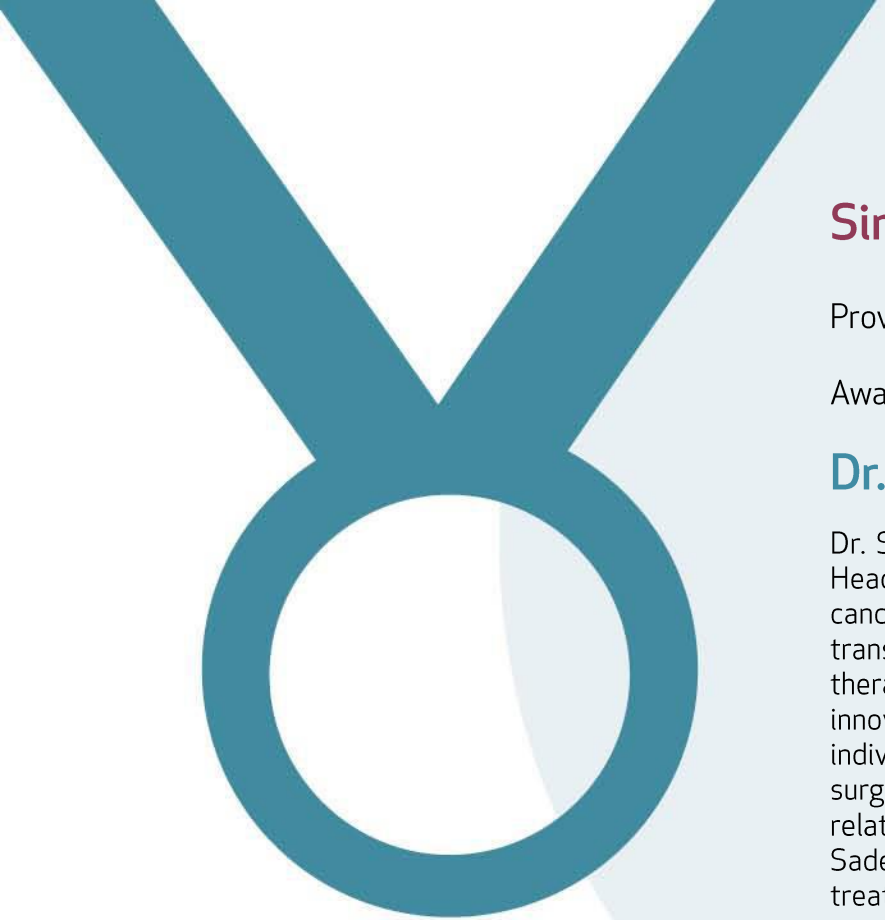
Dr. Skamene is a radiation oncologist at the MUHC dedicated to pediatric, palliative and hematological malignancies. She is also working towards a Master's in Healthcare Quality, and is committed to ensuring high quality delivery of cancer care. As member of several Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Committees, Sonia participates in several academic initiatives aiming to improve the patient experience within radiation oncology by evaluating departmental processes and policies and assuring that the highest standard is reached. She is also working to transmit this knowledge and by leading and rigorously evaluating a QI curriculum for all oncology trainees.

Dr. Henry R. Shibata Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Jordan Stosky

Dr. Stosky is pursuing a one year fellowship in sarcoma radiation oncology at the Cedars Cancer Centre. His clinical duties involve him with the multidisciplinary care of both pediatric and adult patients with sarcomas, which are rare and aggressive cancers of muscle, bone, and fat cells. His research projects are focused on evaluating the use of MRI in radiation therapy treatment planning for extremity sarcomas, the use of palliative radiation therapy in sarcomas, and the use of precision, high dose and short course (hypofractionated) radiation therapy in sarcomas prior to surgery.



Simone & Morris Fast Award for Oncology

Provided by Miss Louise Fast

Awarded to:

Dr. Nader Sadeghi

Dr. Sadeghi is a head and neck surgical oncologist and director of McGill Head and Neck Cancer Program. His research focus is on head and neck cancer and in particular oropharyngeal (throat) cancer. He has established transoral robotic surgery (TORS) at MUHC. His research has led to aa novel therapeutic approaches for oropharyngeal cancer that combines surgical innovation with TORS and utilizes neoadjuvant treatments for an adaptive individualized surgical planning. This approach allows for minimizing the surgical ablation optimizing functional outcome and reducing the treatment related chronic side effects, improving quality of life after cancer care. Dr. Sadeghi's lab at RI-MUHC investigates the molecular markers of response to treatment, and cancer progression for head and neck cancer..

Simone & Morris Fast Award for Oncology

Provided by Miss Louise Fast

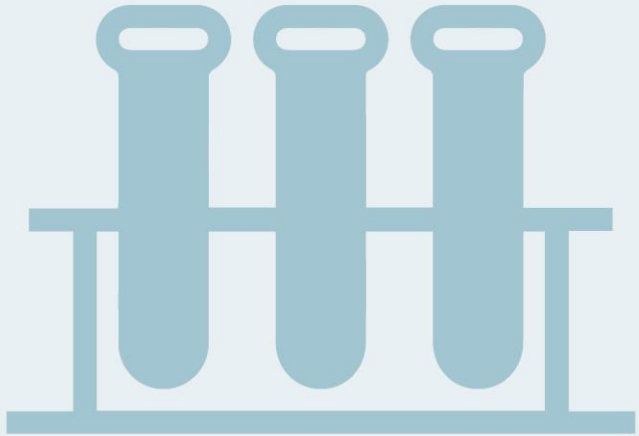
Awarded to:

Dr. Norma Ybarra

The main objective of Dr. Ybarra's academic program is to improve the efficiency of radiation therapy to treat cancer patients, and also to reduce the side effects caused by this type of therapy, which is one of the most widely used therapies to treat cancer.

Pathology

Research Awards Ceremony

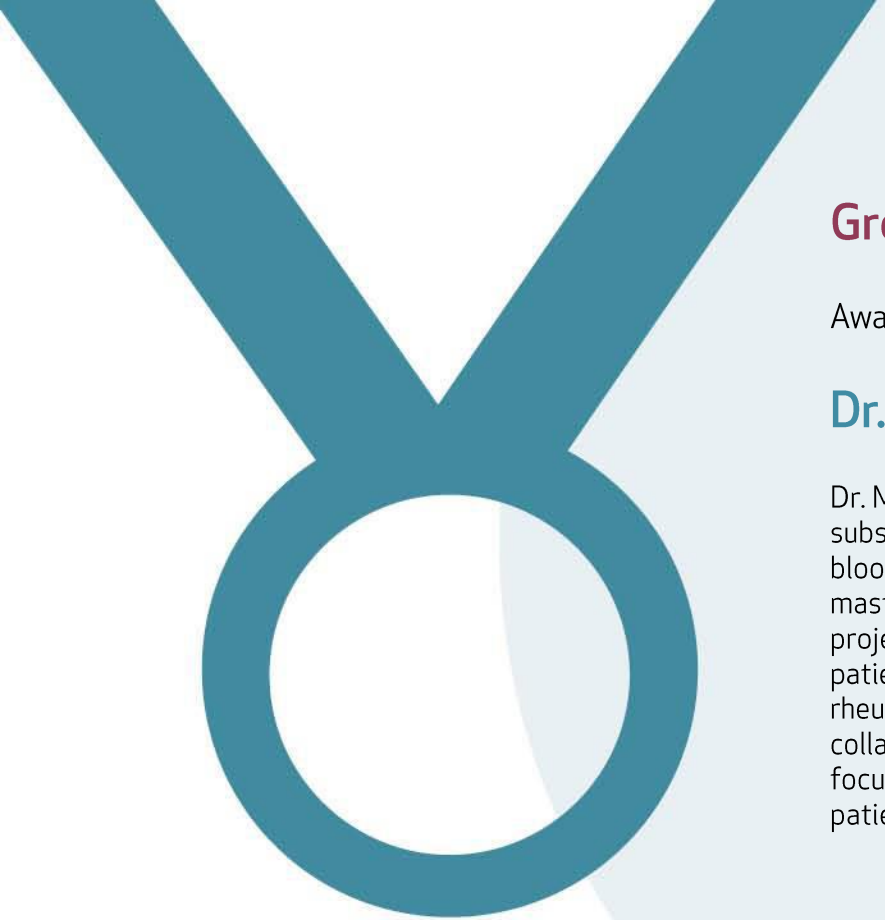


Brigadier-General Herbert Stanley Birkett Memorial Research Award (MGH)

Awarded to:

Dr. Chelsea Maedler

Dr. Maedler's academic program at the MUHC centers on collaborative research with pediatric and adult gastroenterology teams. Her focus is translational research that looks at cellular inflammation in the bowel to help predict how patients suffering from inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) will respond to treatments. Given the high incidence of IBD in Canadian children, this research will have significant impact in determining when to start and stop a child's IBD treatment. Her other focus is to introduce novel evidence-based teaching methods to the McGill Medical community that promote a learner-centric environment focused on improving patient care.



Grete Roggenburg Research Award

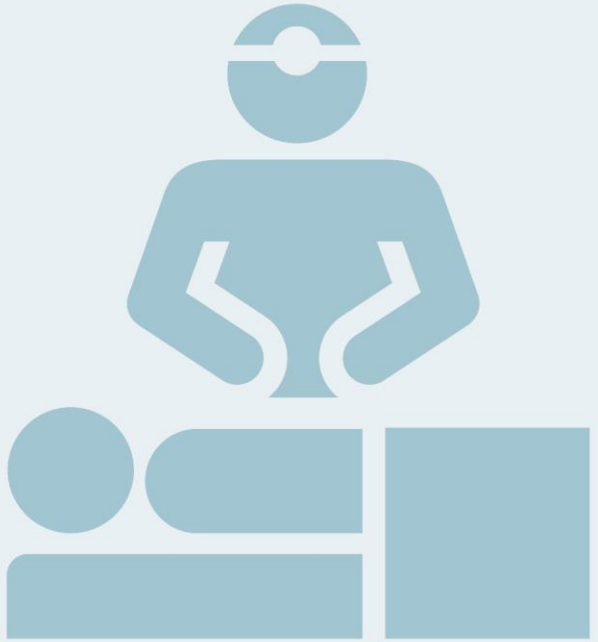
Awarded to:

Dr. Arielle Mendel

Dr. Mendel is in her second year of a clinical fellowship in vasculitis (a subspecialty of rheumatology focusing on inflammatory disorders of blood vessels) at the University of Toronto. She is completing a master's degree in quality improvement and patient safety, where her project aims to improve timely glucocorticoid (steroid) reduction in patients with vasculitis. She will be joining the division of rheumatology at the MUHC in July 2020, where she will continue to collaborate with the Canadian Vasculitis Research Network and will focus her academic interests in the field of quality improvement and patient safety in the rheumatic diseases.

Surgery

Research Awards Ceremony

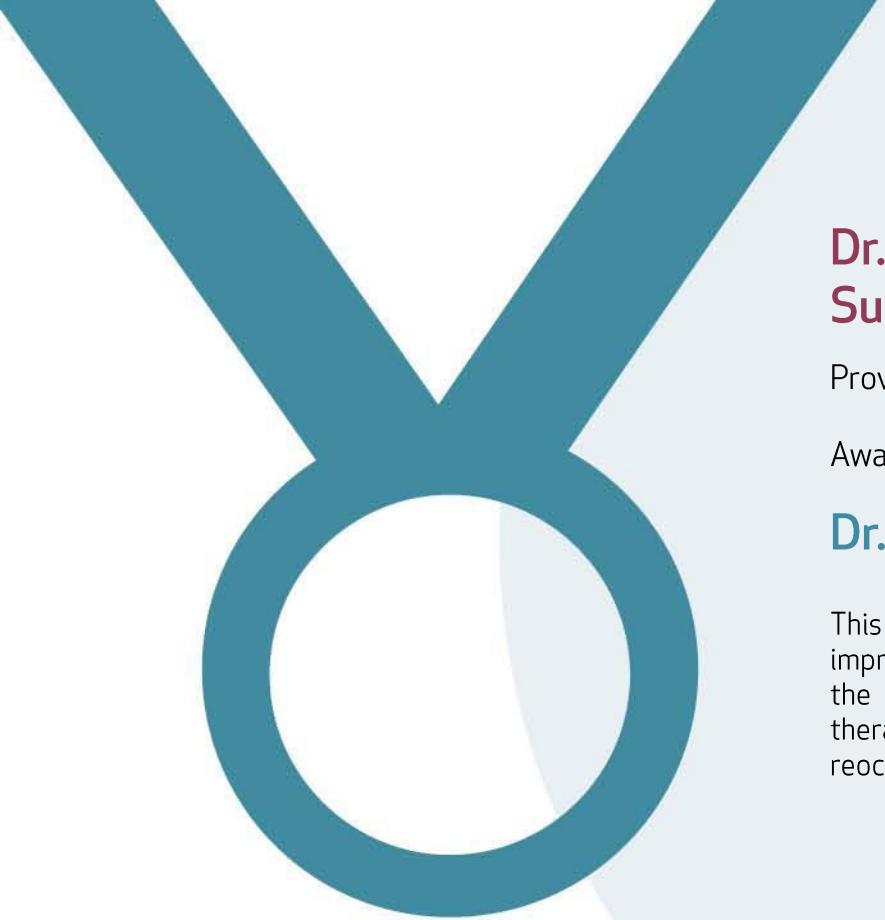


Cools-Gagnon Fellowship in Thoracic Surgery

Awarded to:

Dr. Ali Aboalsaud

Dr. Aboalsaud's group demonstrated that a phenomenon called NETosis occurs in patients with inflammatory processes including infection, trauma, and cancer. This process facilitates the spread of cancer to other organs. The aim is to block this using a medication that would target and block this process. If the pathway could be blocked, it would improve patients' outcome by blocking one of the mechanisms in which cancer spreads to other organs.



Dr. Ray Chiu Distinguished Scientist in Surgical Research Award

Provided by Dr. Wendy Chiu

Awarded to:

Dr. Swneke Bailey

This award will assist Dr. Bailey and his team in achieving their goal of improving the survival of cancer patients through their research into the discovery of genomic biomarkers for use in diagnostic and therapeutic decision-making to manage patients at risk of reoccurrence following the surgical removal of their primary cancer.

Dr. Phil Gold Fellowship In Cancer Research

Herbert S. Lang Award in Oncology and Surgery

Provided by Mrs. Elizabeth Lang

Awarded to:

Dr. Jonathan Cools-Lartigue

Dr. Cools-Lartigue's clinical interests include general thoracic oncology with a focus on the management of esophageal malignancies. From a clinical standpoint, he hopes to implement minimally invasive techniques to facilitate the enhanced recovery approach developed to a large extent at the MGH. His research interests focus on the interaction between tumor cells and the immune microenvironment. His group is a leader in treatment with immune based therapies including checkpoint inhibitors and adoptive cell therapies, personalized genetic characterization and targeted therapy.

Dr. Douglas Avrith Scholarship

Provided by Dr. Douglas Avrith

Awarded to:

Dr. Sinziana Dumitra

Dr. Dumitra is a Surgical Oncologist at the McGill University Health Center and the Sir Mortimer B. Davis Jewish General Hospital as well as associate member to the McGill University Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health since 2018. Her practice and research interest focus on sarcoma and melanoma. After finishing her medical school at Université de Montréal, she completed her residency training at McGill University along with a Masters degree in Epidemiology. She pursued fellowship training in Surgical Oncology at City of Hope in California as well as in Milan, Italy. Dr. Dumitra is involved in research as well as in education in both the General Surgery and Surgical Oncology programs of the Department of Surgery at McGill University.

Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Research Award for General Surgery

Awarded to:

Dr. Sherif Emil

Dr. Emil is Professor of Pediatric Surgery and Pediatrics, Associate Chair of Education in the Department of Pediatric Surgery, and the Mirella and Lino Saputo Foundation Chair in Pediatric Surgical Education and Patient and Family-Centred Care at the McGill University Faculty of Medicine. He also directs the Division of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery at the Montreal Children's Hospital and the Chest Wall Anomalies Center at the Shriners Hospital. Dr. Emil has published over 140 manuscripts and several book chapters on many topics in pediatric surgery and is the author of a recent textbook, *Clinical Pediatric Surgery: A Case-Based Interactive Approach*. He currently serves as the Chair of the Canadian Consortium for Research in Pediatric Surgery (CanCORPS).

Auxiliary of MGH Research Award

Provided by Mr. Bob Gaudreau and Mrs. Yvonne Masse

T.H.P. Molson Fellowship

Provided by The Molson Family

Awarded to:

Ms. Vanessa Ferreira

Ms. Ferreira's research involves investigating the effects of using a multi-disciplinary prehabilitation program to improve the outcomes of cancer patients undergoing elective surgery.

Herbert S. Lang Award in Oncology and Surgery

Provided by Mrs. Elizabeth Lang

Awarded to:

Dr. Pierre-Oliver Gaudreau

Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer-related death worldwide. With the advent of a type of immunotherapy referred to as "immune checkpoint blockade", previously unseen survival benefits have been achieved. However, the majority of patients will relapse or present primary resistance to these agents. Therefore, Dr. Gaudreau's research efforts are oriented towards the understanding and reversal of resistance to these immunotherapies, but also to combination therapies which are still not achieving complete cures. Using animal models as well as patient-derived tumor samples (called "organoids"), he is working to unveil mechanisms of response and resistance to different immunotherapeutic treatment combinations (e.g., immunotherapy and chemotherapy combinations). Findings from these models can then be transferred directly in early-phase clinical trials. He hopes that this research will bring insights which will apply not only to lung cancer, but to other tumor types as well.

Molson Brothers Award in Trauma

Provided by The Molson Family

Awarded to:

Dr. Jeremy Grushka

Dr. Grushka is studying the socioeconomic determinants of health impacting the hidden mortality of trauma in indigenous populations of northern Quebec.

Satoko Shibata Japanese Collaborative

Provided by Mr. Richard S. Ingram and Mrs. Satoko Shibata

Awarded to:

Dr. Tomonori Hada

Dr. Hada is developing skills to facilitate the education of surgeons to perform minimally invasive surgery. A gynecologist from Japan, he will export the concepts of surgical education from McGill to his colleagues in Asia, particularly with regard to assessment tools for surgical performance.

L. Edmond Ricard Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. Adam Hart

Hip and knee replacement surgeries are among the most effective medical interventions, relieving pain and restoring function to over 160,000 Canadians each year. The ubiquitous adoption of smartphones and increasingly technology-savvy elderly population presents a tremendous opportunity to improve perioperative care for these patients. Dr. Hart's research objective is to develop and an electronic platform, centered on each patient's individual needs, to potentially assist in their preparation and recovery from surgery. The application could help deliver pre- and postoperative exercise programs, interface with an activity monitor, facilitate tele-rehabilitation, and offer a means of communicating with health providers.

Honourable Hartland Molson Fellowship

Provided by The Molson Family

Nesbitt-McMaster Award for Excellence in Medicine and Surgery

Provided by Mr. A.R. Deane Nesbitt

Awarded to:

Dr. Lawrence Lee

Dr. Lawrence Lee's academic program is focused on the evaluation of the recovery process after major abdominal surgery in order to maximize the benefits provided to patients and to insure that healthcare resources are used effectively. This includes the clinical and economic evaluation of new surgical technologies and interventions that are advocated to improve recovery after surgery. In addition, she will be investigating new methods to measure outcomes from the patients' point of view in order to properly assess the impact of these interventions. Lastly, her research program will also determine how to change physician behaviors to maximize the value of healthcare delivery.

Bell Media Fellowship

Provided by Bell Media

Dobson Foundation Support For Surgical Innovation

Provided by The John Dobson Foundation

Dr. Douglas Avrith Scholarship

Provided by Dr. Douglas Avrith

T.H.P. Molson Fellowship

Provided by The Molson Family

Awarded to:

Dr. Geraldine Merle

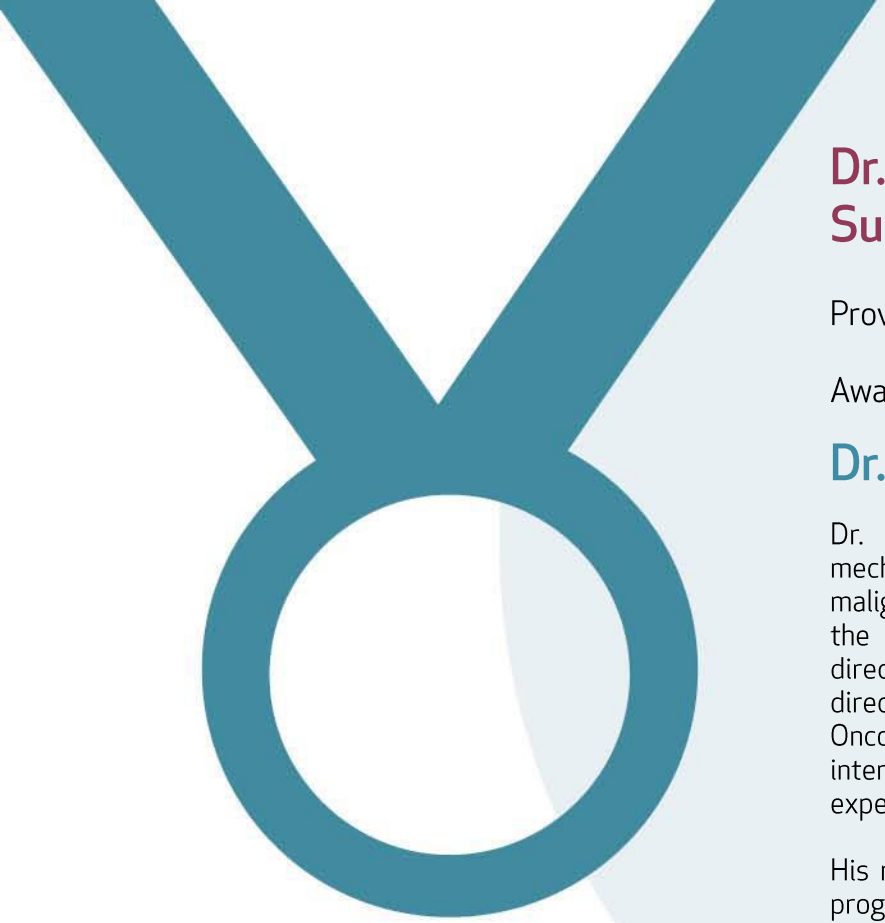
Dr. Merle's research program aims to turn surgical tools into powerful and simple analytic devices. As an expert in the synthesis of functional nanomaterials, and conductive substrate, she develops new chemical and electrochemical processes to modify the surface and properties of surgical tools applied in 1) Deep tissue infection diagnostic, 2) In vivo monitoring of early changes in physiological variables after injury, and 3) Intraoperative analytical devices for tumor resection.

Auxiliary of MGH Research Award

Awarded to:

Dr. Enrico Minnella

Dr. Minnella has just finished a PhD in Experimental Surgery showing the positive effect of exercise and good nutrition in patients awaiting cancer surgery. He is now trying to understand how the type of exercise, together with nutrition interacts with the whole body and muscle metabolism before and after the stress of surgery. Identifying the mechanism will allow practitioners to optimize the preparation of patients for major surgery and to facilitate their recovery. By personalizing specific nutrition, exercise and psychological interventions for each patient, a better quality of care is ensured.



Dr. Ray Chiu Distinguished Scientist in Surgical Research Award

Provided by Dr. Wendy Chiu

Awarded to:

Dr. Jonathan Spicer

Dr. Spicer conducts research in the areas of neutrophil-based mechanisms of cancer metastasis, inflammation and cancer, thoracic malignancy clinical trials, airway surgery, and thoracic trauma. He is the Rossy Cancer Network Lung Cancer Disease site co-lead, the director of the McGill Thoracic Oncology Biobank, and the program director for the McGill Advanced Thoracic and Upper GI Surgical Oncology Fellowship Program where he is responsible for the training of international trainees to ensure a high level of cognitive and technical expertise in thoracic and upper GI oncology.

His research has long focused on the role of neutrophils in cancer progression allowing for one of his most significant contributions - to establish the functional link between neutrophils and neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs) as key players in the metastatic cascade.

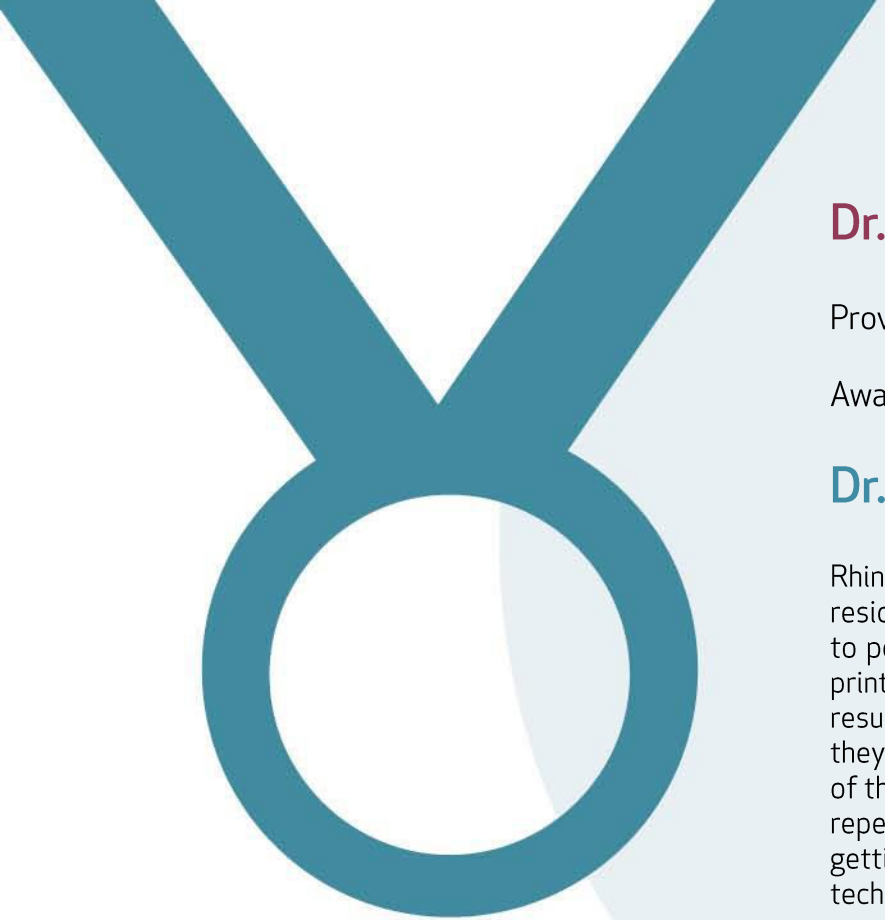
T.H.P. Molson Fellowship

Provided by The Molson Family

Awarded to:

Dr. Sofia Valanci Aroesty

During medical school and residency training, education is based on coaching and mentoring but, once we finish our formative years and formal training ends, we are essentially left to fend for ourselves and learn new techniques or improve our practice based on trial and error. Dr. Valanci Aroesty's research is based on investigating what the barriers and real needs are for establishing a coaching program for surgeons. Her team will establish a pilot program, in which they will train surgeons to become coaches in their areas of expertise so they can in turn help other surgeons improve.



Dr. Harvey C. Brown Award

Provided by Mrs. Nancy Brown

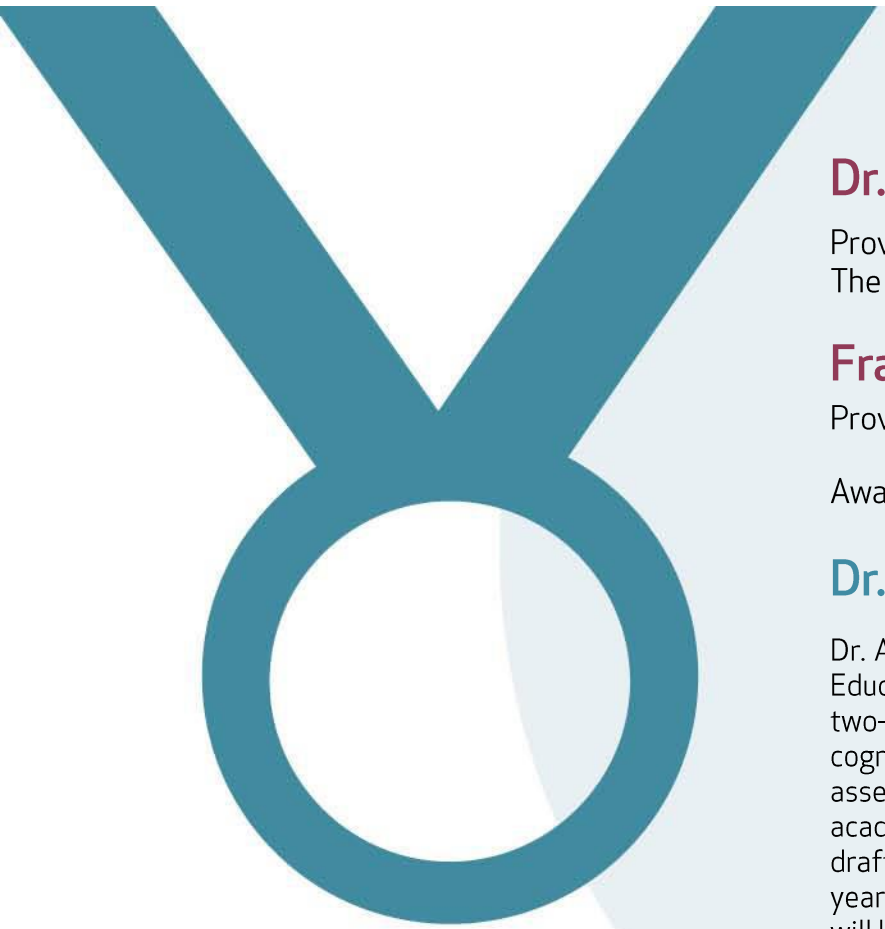
Awarded to:

Dr. Domenick (Dino) Zammit

Rhinoplasty (surgery of the nose) is a procedure that plastic surgery residents have the least confidence in performing as they rarely get to perform it on patients. In order to overcome this obstacle, a 3D printed step-specific simulator (S^2Sim) was developed based on results of a nationwide survey asking plastic surgery residents what they thought were the hardest steps of a rhinoplasty. The advantage of the S^2Sim is that residents can practice difficult rhinoplasty steps repeatedly under the supervision of a staff plastic surgeon, all while getting feedback between each attempt in order to improve surgical techniques and develop confidence.

Urology

Research Awards Ceremony



Dr. Mostafa Elhilali Fellowship

Provided by Mrs. Cynthia Gordon and the Elhilali Family
The Jarislowsky Foundation

Frank McGill Travel Fellowship

Provided by Mrs. Sandra McGill

Awarded to:

Dr. Mélanie Aubé Peterkin

Dr. Aubé Peterkins is enrolled in a Masters degree of Health Professions Education at the Maastricht University in Maastricht, Netherlands. This two-year part-online program focuses on the science behind learning and cognition, on teaching strategies including curriculum construction, student assessment and evaluations, as well as leadership and academic research skills. The program includes a Master thesis that is drafted during the first year, presented and improved during the second year, and the program concludes with a thesis defense. Her Master thesis will likely focus on the impact of competence based design (CBD) residency model on urology resident performance and confidence.

Klaassen-Hawthorne Memorial Fellowship

Awarded to:

Dr. David Labbé

Dr. Labbé's academic program at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre is centred on the impact of diet on prostate cancer initiation and progression with research focused on the specific role of metabolism and epigenetics. His research theme is built upon the expertise that he has acquired during four years of postdoctoral studies at the Harvard Medical School / Dana-Farber Cancer Institute as well many other institutions during my training, including McGill University, CHU Sainte-Justine, Laval University and Polytech Montpellier in France. His overreaching goal is to identify mechanisms that could be used as a therapeutic target in combination with a precision nutrition approach to impede prostate cancer progression and improve treatment options.

Aaron & Susan Lieberman & Family Award in Urology Research

Provided by Mr. Lorne Lieberman

Dr. Mostafa Elhilali Fellowship

Provided by Mrs. Cynthia Gordon and the Elhilali Family
The Jarislowsky Foundation

Awarded to:

Dr. Victor McPherson

Dr McPherson's research focus is on bladder cancer, and is in the generation of clinical trials and the utilization of targeted therapeutics to shut down critical cancer cell signaling processes. He has completed research training through a MSc in Biochemistry at Queen's University, and subsequently in bladder cancer genetics at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Dr McPherson's research at McGill will focus on targeting gene mutations in bladder cancer via targeted drugs, and will focus on creating model systems to test bladder instillations of these agents with the intent to generate phase I/II clinical trials to test promising new drug regimens.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE RECIPIENTS!

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THE MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

FONDATION DU CANCER DES CÈDRES
CEDARS CANCER FOUNDATION

Fondation du Centre universitaire de santé McGill
McGill University Health Centre Foundation

la fondation de l'hôpital de montréal pour enfants
the montreal children's hospital foundation