



DISCIPLINE OF MEDICINE

MARCH – APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER

Volume 4 / Issue 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Discipline welcomes **Dr. Michael Jackovac**, who has been appointed as a Clinical Assistant Professor, General Internal Medicine and Thrombosis medicine.

Congratulations to **Dr. Christopher Kovacs** who was awarded a 5-year grant from CIHR in the amount of \$1,028,925. The project is titled "Regulation of mineral and bone metabolism by PTHrP and calcitriol in mother and fetus."

Dr. Bolu Ogunyemi was selected as the Canadian Medical Association's (CMA) President-Elect Nominee in December, 2024. A profile of him has recently been published in the Lancet - Boluwaji Ogunyemi: challenging the status quo for better health Prasad, Aarathi , The Lancet, Volume 405, Issue 10478, 534

The Faculty of Medicine resident research symposium took place in February 2025. Congratulations to two of our internal medicine residents, Dr. Steven Rowe, and Dr. Colin Chan, who received 3rd and 4th place awards. Well done!

The library has discontinued their Open Access Fund and instead have entered into agreements with several journals to offer article processing charge (APC) waivers or discounts to MUN-affiliated researchers. The link to a searchable database is here: <https://search.scifree.se/mun>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Medical Grand Rounds

April 18 th	Cancelled – Good Friday
April 25 th	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation – Presenter and Topic TBA
May 02 nd	Nephrology – Presenter and Topic TBA
May 09 th	Dermatology –Dr. Susan Poelman, University of Calgary - Topic TBA
May 16 th	Intensive Care – Drs. Mark Balan and Dr. Mathilde Gaudreau-Simard, University of Ottawa - Topic TBA

May 23rd

Gastroenterology – **Presenter and Topic TBA**

May 30th

Cardiology - **Presenter and Topic TBA**

Faculty are reminded that there are a number of **UGME OSCEs** coming up and many examiners are still required. These will occur on May 2nd (Friday, morning and afternoon), May 16th (Friday afternoon), and June 20th (Friday, morning and afternoon). Full time faculty are expected to participate. Please email crankin@mun.ca for more information and to sign up.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY FACULTY AND RESIDENTS

Bierbrier J, Gerstein E, Whitmore GA, Vandemheen KL, Bergeron C, Boulet LP, Cote A, Field SK, Penz E, Mclvor RA, Lemièrre C, Gupta S, Hernandez P, Mayers I, Bhutani M, Lougheed MD, Licskai CJ, **Azher T**, Ezer N, Ainslie M, Alvarez GG, Mulpuru S, Aaron SD. Impact of dyspnea on adults with respiratory symptoms without a defined diagnosis. *Chest*. 2024 Dec; 166(6):1296-1308. doi: 10.1016/j.chest.2024.07.183.

Zagrodnik JL, Blandford SN, Fudge NJ, Arsenault ST, Anthony S, McGrath L, **Clift F, Stefanelli M, Moore CS**. Investigating T cell-derived extracellular vesicles as biomarkers of disease activity, axonal injury, and disability in multiple sclerosis. *Clinical and Experimental Immunology*. 2025 Jan 11: uxaf003. doi: 10.1093/cei/uxaf003.

Khan S, **Bergstrom DJ**, Côté J, Kotb R, LeBlanc R, Louzada ML, Mian HS, Othman I, Colasurdo G, Visram A. First line treatment of newly diagnosed transplant eligible multiple myeloma recommendations from a Canadian consensus guideline consortium. *Clinical Lymphoma, Myeloma and Leukemia*. 2025 Mar;25(3): e151-e172. doi: 10.1016/j.clml.2024.10.012.

McCurdy A, Gul E, Reece D, Chu MP, Jimenez-Zepeda VH, Louzada M, Song K, Mian H, Sebag M, White D, Stakiw J, Reiman A, **Bergstrom D**, Kotb R, Aslam M, Kaedbey R, Venner CP, Su J, LeBlanc R. Treatment patterns and outcomes of multiple myeloma patients undergoing second-line therapy: A Canadian Myeloma Research Group (CMRG) analysis. *Clinical Lymphoma, Myeloma and Leukemia*. 2025 Feb 27:S2152-2650(25)00073-4. doi: 10.1016/j.clml.2025.02.011.

Bernstein CN, Nugent Z, Panaccione R, Marshall DA, Kaplan GG, Dieleman LA, Vanner S, Graff LA, Otley A, Jones J, Buresi M, Murthy S, **Borgaonkar M**, Bressler B, Bitton A, Croitoru K, Sidani S, Fernandes A, Moayyedi P.. Symptoms in persons with either active or inactive Crohn's disease are agnostic to disease phenotype: The MAGIC in IMAGINE study. *Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology*. 2025 Jan 22. doi: 10.1097/MCG.0000000000002137.

Bernstein CN, Panaccione R, Nugent Z, Marshall DA, Kaplan GG, Vanner S, Dieleman LA, Graff LA, Otley A, Jones J, Buresi M, Murthy S, **Borgaonkar M**, Bressler B, Bitton A, Croitoru K, Sidani S, Fernandes A, Moayyedi P. "Crohn's disease phenotypes and associations with comorbidities, surgery risk, medications and nonmedication approaches: The MAGIC in IMAGINE study. *Inflammatory Bowel Diseases*". 2025 Jan 6; 31(1):113-122. doi: 10.1093/ibd/izae055.

BALANCE Investigators, for the Canadian Critical Care Trials Group, the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada Clinical Research Network, the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Clinical Trials Group, and the Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Network; Daneman N, Rishu A, Pinto R, Rogers BA, Shehabi Y, Parke R, Cook D, Arabi Y, Muscedere J, Reynolds S, Hall R, Dwivedi DB, McArthur C, McGuinness S, Yahav D, Coburn B, Geagea A, Das P, Shin P, Detsky M, Morris A, Fralick M, Powis JE, Kandel C, Sligl W, Bagshaw SM, Singhal N, Belley-Cote E, Whitlock R, Khwaja K, Morpeth S, Kazemi A, Williams A, MacFadden DR, McIntyre L, Tsang J, Lamontagne F, Carignan A,

Marshall J, Friedrich JO, Cirone R, Downing M, Graham C, Davis J, Duan E, Neary J, Evans G, Alraddadi B, Al Johani S, Martin C, Elsayed S, Ball I, Lauzier F, Turgeon A, Stelfox HT, Conly J, McDonald EG, Lee TC, Sullivan R, Grant J, Kagan I, Young P, Lawrence C, O'Callaghan K, Eustace M, Choong K, Aslanian P, Buehner U, Havey T, Binnie A, Prazak J, Reeve B, Litton E, Lother S, Kumar A, Zarychanski R, Hoffman T, Paterson D, **Daley P**, Commons RJ, Charbonney E, Naud JF, Roberts S, Tiruvoipati R, Gupta S, Wood G, Shum O, Miyakis S, Dodek P, Kwok C, Fowler RA. Antibiotic treatment for 7 versus 14 Days in patients with bloodstream infections. *The New England Journal of Medicine*. 2025 Mar 13; 392(11):1065-1078. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2404991.

Good T, Cila J, Mosher R, Puka K, Reynolds S, Catt B, Mouchili A, Gravel-Tropper D, Quail P, McGeer A, Moser A, Ashcroft M, **Daley P**, Piggott K, Leis J, Morrissey M. Using behavioural science to improve antibiotic stewardship in Canadian long-term care homes: Protocol for a multi-center cluster randomized quality improvement study. *Canada Communicable Disease Report*. 2025 Jan 2; 51(1):43-53. doi: 10.14745/ccdr.v51i01a06.

Alhusayen R, Dienes S, Lam M, Alavi A, Alikhan A, Aleshin M, Bahashwan E, Daveluy S, Goldfarb N, Garg A, **Gulliver W**, Jaleel T, Kimball A, Kirchof M, Kirby J, Lenczowski J, Lev-Tov H, Lowes M, Lara-Corrales I, Micheletti R, Okun M, Orenstein L, Poelman S, Piguet V, Porter M, Resnik B, Sibbald C, Shi V, Sayed C, Wong SM, Zaenglein A, Veillette H, Hsiao J, Naik H. North American clinical practice guidelines for the medical management of hidradenitis suppurativa in special patient populations. *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*. 2025. doi: 10.1016/j.jaad.2024.11.071.

Bahnam D, **Iqbal S**. A quality improvement project to increase number of positive exercise stress tests and revascularization at a tertiary care centre in Canada. *Canadian Journal of General Internal Medicine* 19.2, 2024. doi: 10.22374/cjgim.2023.0734 10.22374/cjgim.2023.0734

Iqbal S, Zachariades F, Obeid N, PhD, Jansman R. The role of alexithymia in attachment and binge eating. *Canadian Journal of General Internal Medicine* 19.3, 2024. doi: 10.3138/cjgim.2024.0006

Dand N, Stuart PE, Bowes J, Ellinghaus D, Nititham J, Saklatvala JR, Teder-Laving M, Thomas LF, Traks T, Uebe S, Assmann G, Baudry D, Behrens F, Billi AC, Brown MA, Burkhardt H, Capon F, Chung R, Curtis CJ, Duckworth M, Ellinghaus E, FitzGerald O, Gerdes S, Griffiths CEM, Gulliver S, Helliwell PS, Ho P, Hoffmann P, Holmen OL, Huang ZM, Hveem K, Jadon D, Köhm M, Kraus C, Lamacchia C, Lee SH, Ma F, Mahil SK, McHugh N, McManus R, Modalsli EH, Nissen MJ, Nöthen M, Oji V, Oksenberg JR, Patrick MT, Perez White BE, Ramming A, Rech J, Rosen C, Sarkar MK, Schett G, Schmidt B, Tejasvi T, Traupe H, Voorhees JJ, Wacker EM, Warren RB, Wasikowski R, Weidinger S, Wen X, Zhang Z, BSTOP study group, Estonian Biobank research team, Barton A, Chandran V, Esko T, Foerster J, Franke A, Gladman DD, Gudjonsson JE, **Gulliver W**, Hüffmeier U, Kingo K, Köks S, Liao W, Løset M, Mägi R, Nair RP, **Rahman P**, Reis A, Smith CH, Di Meglio P, Barker JN, Tsoi L, Simpson MA, Elder JT. GWAS meta-analysis of psoriasis identifies new susceptibility alleles impacting disease mechanisms and therapeutic targets. *Nature Communications*. 2025 Feb 28; 16(1):2051. doi: 10.1038/s41467-025-56719-8.

Hartery SA and **Kovacs CS**. Fetal calcium metabolism. In: Bilezikian JP (ed), *Primer on the Metabolic Bone Diseases and Disorders of Mineral Metabolism*, 10th ed. Washington, DC: Wiley, 2025; p 145-151.

Hartery SA and **Kovacs CS**. Pregnancy and lactation. In: Bilezikian JP (ed), *Primer on the Metabolic Bone Diseases and Disorders of Mineral Metabolism*, 10th ed. Washington, DC: Wiley, 2025; p 118-126.

Kovacs C. The challenges of investigating causes and recovery from osteoporosis associated with pregnancy and lactation. *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*. 2025 Jan; 40(1): 3-4. doi: 10.1093/jbmr/zjae180.

Lee SH, Turpin W, Espin-Garcia O, Xu W, Croitoru K, Leibovitzh H, Xue M, Raygoza Garay JA, Graña-Miraglia L, Smith MI, Goethel A, Madsen KL, Avni-Biron I, Dotan I, Weiss B, Panaccione R, Huynh H, Jacobson K, Aumais G, Mack D, Griffiths AM, Steinhart AH, Silverberg MS, Turner D, Bernstein CN, Feagan BG, Moayyedi P, Paterson A, Guttman DS, Abreu M, Beck P, Dieleman L, Kaplan G, Krause DO, Marshall J, Ropeleski M, Seidman E, Snapper S, Stadnyk A, Surette M, Walters T, Vallance B, Bitton A, Cino M, Critch J, Denson L, Deslandres C, El-Matary W, Herfarth H, Higgins P, Hyams J, **McGrath J**, Otley A. Development and validation of an integrative risk score for future risk of Crohn's disease in healthy first-degree relatives: A multicenter prospective cohort study. *Gastroenterology*. 2025 Jan; 168(1): 150-153.e4. doi: 10.1053/j.gastro.2024.08.021.

Olivera PA, Martinez-Lozano H, Leibovitzh H, Xue M, Neustaeter A, Espin-Garcia O, Xu W, Madsen KL, Guttman DS, Bernstein CN, Yerushalmi B, Hyams JS, Abreu MT, Marshall JK, Wrobel I, Mack DR, Jacobson K, Bitton A, Aumais G, Panacione R, Dieleman LA, Silverberg MS, Steinhart AH, Moayyedi P, Turner D, Griffiths AM, Turpin W, Lee SH, Croitoru K, Beck P, Feagan B, Griffiths A, Kaplan G, Krause DO, Ropeleski M, Seidman E, Snapper S, Stadnyk A, Surette M, Walters T, Vallance B, Cino M, Critch J, Denson L, Deslandres C, El-Matary W, Herfarth H, Higgins P, Huynh HQ, **McGrath J**, Otley A, Panaccione R. Healthy first-degree relatives from multiplex families vs simplex families have a higher subclinical intestinal inflammation, a distinct fecal microbial signature, and harbor a higher risk of developing Crohn's disease. *Gastroenterology*. 2025 Jan; 168(1): 99-110.e2. doi: 10.1053/j.gastro.2024.08.031.

Hurtubise R, Rohekar S, Haroon N, Baskurt Z, Chim T, Zimmer M, Inman RD, Richard N, Gladman D, Chandran V, Boyd T, **Rahman P**, Thorne C, Nair B, Tse S, Mosher D, Ziouzina O, Tsoukas A, Chan J, Rumsey D, Aydin S, Eder L, Starr M, Fortin P, Bessette L. Impact of disease manifestations on first biologic drug survival in axial spondyloarthritis: A real-life Canadian study. *Rheumatology Advances in Practice*. 2025; 9(1): rkaf004. doi: 10.1093/rap/rkaf004.

Huang J, Liu M, Furey A, **Rahman P**, Zhai G. Transcriptomic analysis of human cartilage identified potential therapeutic targets for hip osteoarthritis. *Human Molecular Genetics*. 2025 Jan 8: ddae200. doi: 10.1093/hmg/ddae200.

Lebwohl M, Deodhar A, Schwartzman S, Salvarani C, McDonald MF, Bello N, Grace EL, Inman E, Kronbergs A, Ngantcha M, **Rahman P**, Papp KA, Merola JF, Gottlieb AB, Blauvelt A. Long-term safety of ixekizumab treatment in patients with psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, or axial spondyloarthritis: a post hoc analysis of cerebro-cardiovascular events. *Dermatology & Therapy*. 2025 Jan 22; 15(1): 161-188. doi: 10.1007/s13555-024-01323-9.

Rahman P, Garrido-Cumbrera M, Rohekar S, Mallinson MG, Karam E, Jovaisas AV, Haroon N, Beach J, de Brum-Fernandes AJ, Cohen M, Chan J, Correa-Fernández J, Leclerc P, Inman RD. Canadian patients with axial spondyloarthritis require almost a decade to be diagnosed leading to severe functional limitation: Results from the International Map of Axial Spondyloarthritis (IMAS). *Musculoskeletal Care*. 2024 Dec;22(4):e70010. doi: 10.1002/msc.70010.

Sun G, Pedram P. Hormones, hunger, and food and addiction In: Gearhardt AN, Brownell KD, Gold MS, Potenza MN, editors. *Food & Addiction: A Comprehensive Handbook*. Oxford University Press; 2024. p. 196-206. doi: 10.1093/oso/9780190671051.003.0022.



Discipline of Medicine
300 Prince Philip Drive
St. John's, NL A1B 3V6
www.mun.ca/medicine
chairofmedicine@mun.ca



DISCIPLINE OF MEDICINE

JUNE– JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Volume 5 / Issue 1

NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

As of July 31st, 2025, I have completed my tenure as Chair of Medicine. **Dr. Kirsty Tompkins** has been appointed as the incoming Chair. Dr. Tompkins will be well known to most of you and has extensive experience as a clinician and in medical education.

I have enjoyed my time as Chair and working with the members of the Discipline. I would particularly like to thank the highly capable Discipline Office staff for their help and guidance. The assistance of **Sandra Mooney, Melissa Oliver, Jill Colbourne, Stephanie Hunt,** and **Cory Rankin** have proved invaluable to me over the years. Running the academic affairs of the Discipline is truly a team effort and would not be possible without their knowledge and dedication.

I would also like to thank **Dr. Ian MacPherson**, who completed his tenure as IM Program Director as of June 30th. I think all of us would agree that Dr. MacPherson did an excellent job, and I can personally attest to the many hours he dedicated to residency training. The result of his work is full accreditation status for our IM training program.

Dr. Paul Boland has generously agreed to fill the position of IM PD until the process for appointing the PD is complete. Dr. Boland has acted as the assistant PD for some time prior to this and is highly knowledgeable about the program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Discipline welcomes newly appointed Clinical Assistant Professors **Drs. Richard Perrier** (Neurology), and **Dr. Amjid Rashid** (Rheumatology).

Congratulations to **Dr. George Fox** on his recent retirement. Dr. Fox has held a full-time appointment with the Faculty of Medicine since 1992. In addition to being an excellent educator, he maintained a busy practice in Critical care and Respiratory Medicine, had a productive research career, and held many administrative posts over the years. His retirement is well deserved, and we wish him all the best.

Congratulations to **Dr. Amy Tong** on her recent retirement. Dr. Tong obtained her RCPSC certification in General Internal Medicine in 1983 and has worked in the Division of GIM at the HSC ever since. She has helped educate a generation of medical students and residents and provided high quality care to countless patients over the years. The impact of her career has been enormous, and we wish her well.

The library has discontinued their Open Access Fund and instead has entered into agreements with several journals to offer article processing charge (APC) waivers or discounts to MUN-affiliated researchers. The link to a searchable database is here: <https://search.scifree.se/mun>

Congratulations to all the residents who have completed their programs and are moving on to the next stage of their careers. We appreciate all their dedicated service to patients and collegiality over the past years. Good luck in your future endeavors and we look forward to working with those that are staying here at Memorial!

Internal Medicine

The following is a list of residents completing their core IM training and the training programs that they are starting:

Dr. Ali Beydoun (GIM, Dalhousie)

Dr. Alexander Sapp (Cardiology, Dalhousie)

Dr. Tyler Brown (Respirology, University of Alberta)

Dr. Claire Skanes (Nephrology, University of Calgary)

Dr. Colin Chan (GIM, University of Calgary)

Dr. Arnav Sud (GIM, McGill)

Dr. Vanessa Davies (GIM, Western University)

Dr. Mark Takla (Gastroenterology, McGill)

Dr. Ryan Elliott (Hematology, MacMaster)

Dr. Hao Wang (Medical Oncology, University of Ottawa)

Dr. Reniel Engelbrecht (Cardiology, University of Calgary)

Dr. Lauren Winsor (Endocrinology, UBC)

Dr. Julia Pennell (Hematology, University of Calgary)

Dr. Nathan Wilson (Critical Care, Western University)

Neurology:

Dr. Jake Levy is starting a MS fellowship in San Francisco

General Internal Medicine

Dr. Sanam Gurm and Dr. Ian Short have taken positions in the Division of General Internal Medicine, NLHS. Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald has taken a position in Ontario.

A warm welcome to the incoming residents who joined our training programs as of July 1st. The new residents and the Medical School from which they graduated is as follows:

Internal Medicine

Dr. Chris Compton – MUN

Dr. Catherine Meng – U of T

Dr. Christie Costello – MUN

Dr. Kate McNicholas - MUN

Dr. Hitarth Dalal - Monash School of Medicine

Dr. Brenda Lewis-Negandhi - MUN

Dr. Emma Dalley – MUN

Megan O'Reilly - University of Limerick School of Medicine

Dr. Keeley Hatfield – MUN

Dr. Gaganvir Parmar – U of T

Dr. Katelyn Healey – MUN

Dr. Rebecca Powell - MUN

Dr. Hannah Jardine – MUN

Dr. Simal Quershi - MUN

Dr. Rebecca Lawrence

Dr. Raza Syed – U of T

Neurology:

Dr. Julie Cormier (MUN)

Dr. Max Matyashin (Western University)

Dr. Noor Al-Shamaa (University College Cork School of Medicine)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note that there will be no medical grand rounds for the months of July – August. Rounds will resume again on September 05, 2025.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY FACULTY AND RESIDENTS

Fifield KE, Fudge NJ, **Arsenault ST**, Anthony S, McGrath L, **Snow NJ**, **Clift F**, **Stefanelli M**, Ploughman M, **Moore CS**. An overview of multiple sclerosis care in rural and urban Newfoundland and Labrador. Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences. 2025 Mar. doi: 10.1017/cjn.2025.48.

Bonsu KO, Young SW, Lee T, Nguyen HV, **Chitsike RS**. Comparative analysis of four risk stratification models to identify patients with acute pulmonary embolism at risk of short-term mortality. *Seminars in Thrombosis and Hemostasis*. 2025 May 26. doi: 10.1055/a-2621-0465.

Chen GS, Lee T, Tsang JLY, Binnie A, McCarthy A, Cowan J, Archambault P, Lellouche F, Turgeon AF, Yoon J, Lamontagne F, McGeer A, Douglas J, **Daley P**, Fowler R, Maslove DM, Winston BW, Lee TC, Tran KC, Cheng MP, Vinh DC, Boyd JH, Walley KR, Singer J, Marshall JC, Russell JA. Machine learning accurately predicts need for critical care support in patients admitted to hospital for community-acquired pneumonia. *Critical Care Explorations*. 2025 May 27; 7(6):e1262. doi: 10.1097/CCE.0000000000001262.

London S, McDonald G, Roberts K, Foo C, Bridger N, Joyce J, **Daley P**. Impact of adherence with in-patient prospective audit and feedback recommendations on patient and economic outcomes. *JAMMI*. 2025 Mar; 10(1):32-39. doi: 10.3138/jammi-2023-0041.

Duffett SA, Compton C, Vasanthan K, Short I, Gill HP Young TL, Connors SP, Hodgkinson KA. Features of the electrocardiogram in TMEM43 p.S358L arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy. *Heart Rhythm*. 2025. doi: 10.1016/j.hrthm.2025.03.1965.

Ganatra D, Kotlyar M, Dohey A, Codner D, Li Q, Abji F, Rasti M, Eder L, Gladman D, **Rahman P**, Jurisica I, Chandran V. Combining clinical, genetic and protein markers using machine learning models discriminates psoriatic arthritis patients from those with psoriasis. *Journal of Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis*. 2025 May 19. doi: 10.1177/24755303251344134.

Vidyasankar G, Wickerson L, Lee SR, Zapata R. Harmonizing domiciliary oxygen therapy in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Respiratory Critical Care and Sleep Medicine*. 2025 Mar. doi: 10.1080/24745332.2025.2467038.

Wadden D, Saad M, Chandy G, Aaron SD, Gao Z, **Farrell J**, Sabri E, Yazji B, Kendzerska T. The association of body mass index and adiposity-estimating equations with measures of obstructive sleep apnea severity: A cross-sectional study. *Nature and Science of Sleep*. 2025 May 22; 17: 1003-1019. doi: 10.2147/NSS.S504426.

Discipline of Medicine
300 Prince Philip Drive
St. John's, NL A1B 3V6
www.mun.ca/medicine
chairofmedicine@mun.ca