



## DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine  
University of Toronto

April 2021

### Monthly update Newsletter

1. Welcome to new residents starting July 2021
2. Two superb research days from the Division of PM&R
3. Shane Journeay appointed Research Chair in Occupational Medicine, Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick
4. Passing the OSCE torch
5. Congratulations to Shannon MacDonald, recently promoted to Assistant Professor
6. Virtual choir (with Tri Nguyen) at Unity Health welcomes the sun
7. Welcome to new arrival, Arthur Simpson
8. Alexandra Rendely featured in the Globe and Mail
9. Social determinants of health highlighted in recent City-Wide Medical Grand Rounds
10. Canada's 13 Seasons

1. Welcome to new residents starting July 2021

We are thrilled to announce that we matched three highly-ranked Canadian medical graduates this year for our residency program. This is after receiving applications from 32 individuals and interviewing 18 strong candidates for our residency program. We are pleased to report that we have matched (in alphabetical order):

- Dion Diep, University of Toronto
- Tiffany Got, University of Toronto
- Christopher Wavell, Western University

We would like to thank the application review committee and the interview panel members for all their work spent reviewing applications and interviewing these candidates. We would also like to thank our residents for organizing the virtual social event and providing excellent Zoom support on the interview day as well as fostering a warm and welcoming environment for the interview candidates. Special thanks go to Lisa Becker and Tracia Young who oversaw the whole process. More information to come on our new residents in a future newsletter.

2. Two superb research days from the Division of PM&R

Many thanks are extended to our leaders, faculty and residents who led two excellent research days over the last couple of months. On March the 5<sup>th</sup>, we had a superb keynote presentation from Karen Smith followed by excellent oral and poster presentations from our residents. This process was considerable fun especially given the excellent virtual platform that was used by our group. Congratulations are extended to our award recipients including:

- Oral presentation, first place: Emma Mauti
- Oral presentation, second place: Natalie Daly
- Poster presentation, first place: Linda Vi
- Poster presentation, second place: Eric Jeong

Special thanks are also extended to Dinesh Kumbhare who led the overall day and to Jason Liang who provided AV support, as well as the entire planning group.

We also had an excellent faculty research day on April the 9<sup>th</sup> led by Cathy Craven and Shannon MacDonald. This began with a superb overview from Cathy followed by a Keynote speech from Julie Silver, Vice-Chair of PM&R at Harvard. We had some excellent faculty presentations during the day including another Keynote presentation from Michael Farkouh, Vice-Chair for Education. Thanks are extended to the research group with special thanks to Cathy Craven and Shannon MacDonald, as well as Emma Mauti who provided AV support.

Shane Journeay appointed Research Chair in Occupational Medicine, Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick

Shane Journeay has been appointed as the JD Irving Limited Research Chair in Occupational Medicine, based at Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick, effective 01 April 2021. As mentioned from in communications from Dalhousie, "As Chair, Dr. Journeay will enhance the delivery of Occupational Medicine throughout the continuum of care in the



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Maritime provinces through clinical care, academic programs, research, and leadership in the field of Occupational Medicine. In this position, Dr. Journey brings his extensive experience in the field of Occupational Medicine to build on DMNB's innovative partnerships with Dalhousie University, the University of New Brunswick, the Government of New Brunswick, and Horizon Health Network to include the business and labour communities of the Maritime provinces." Fortunately, due to the pandemic, he can serve in this role remotely and continue with his current duties in Toronto.



### 3. Passing the OSCE torch

On behalf of the Residency Program, we would like to thank Sivakumar Gulasingam for his contribution as the Division OSCE Lead for the last five years. Sivakumar has worked very hard to organize and deliver high quality OSCE Exams to our residents. McKyla McIntyre and Rebecca Titman have now stepped into this role as OSCE Co-Leads and pioneered the first virtual written exam for senior residents in the Toronto, Hamilton and London programs on February 5, 2021. We look forward to their continued support and innovation.

### 4. Congratulations to Shannon MacDonald recently promoted to Assistant Professor

Congratulations are extended to Shannon MacDonald who was recently promoted to Assistant Professor in our Division. Shannon, as many of you know, serves as a Clinician Investigator based at the Bridgepoint Campus of Sinai Health System. Shannon may be reached at: [Shannon.macdonald@sinaihealth.ca](mailto:Shannon.macdonald@sinaihealth.ca).

### 5. Virtual choir (with Tri Nguyen) at Unity Health welcomes the sun

We recently heard from Tri Nguyen who is a member of the Unity Health Virtual choir. They did an excellent rendering of "Here Comes the Sun". I believe you will really enjoy this three minute video featuring our own physiatrist, Tri Nguyen. [https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxvH\\_yJxCKQ\\_!!Ibyq0D7xP3j\\_!-D4R2dydd8\\_QJs\\_u-meh8eoeJD-ki0hh7wTCwh1YFS1pIVv4C1RvK6LsnQifWgoyd1EAFWq\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxvH_yJxCKQ_!!Ibyq0D7xP3j_!-D4R2dydd8_QJs_u-meh8eoeJD-ki0hh7wTCwh1YFS1pIVv4C1RvK6LsnQifWgoyd1EAFWq$)

### 6. Welcome to new arrival, Arthur Simpson

Robert Simpson is thrilled to announce the arrival of his new son, Arthur Simpson, born on April 13<sup>th</sup> coming in at 8lbs and 15oz. Congratulations are extended to Robert and family. Robert may be reached at: [Robert.simpson@uhn.ca](mailto:Robert.simpson@uhn.ca).



Arthur Simpson

### 7. Alexandra Rendely featured in the Globe and Mail

Ali Rendely was featured in the Globe and Mail on March 21, 2021 on COVID-19 long haulers. We were pleased to see the article discussing long haul symptoms in COVID-19 patients. She and her colleagues emphasized the importance of a multidisciplinary rehabilitation approach.



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The article can be seen at: <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-covid-19-can-affect-people-for-the-long-haul-and-theyre-getting-the/#comments>. Ali may be reached at: [alexandra.rendely@uhn.ca](mailto:alexandra.rendely@uhn.ca).

8. Social determinants of health highlighted in recent City-Wide Medical Grand Rounds

For those of you interested in social equity and how the social determinants of health impact the health of our patients, I would suggest that you consider watching the excellent City-Wide Medical Grand Rounds from Dr. Kaveh Shojania from April 20<sup>th</sup>. Kaveh makes an important point that social determinants of health have a far greater impact than many of the common treatments that we spend time researching. I would encourage you to watch the very interesting presentation at: <https://www.deptmedicine.utoronto.ca/event/virtual-city-wide-medical-grand-rounds-reshaping-research-priorities-match-massive-crises-we>.

9. Canada's 13 Seasons

Finally, we were pleased to hear from Abe Snaiderman about the different seasons in Canada. We weren't sure what to call the various seasons but now happy to hear that we are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> winter season.

**Canada's 13 Seasons:**

Winter  
Fools Spring  
2nd Winter  
Spring of Deception  
3rd Winter ← **We're Here**  
Actual Spring  
Road Construction  
Summer  
Fire  
False Fall  
2nd Summer  
Actual Fall  
Hello Darkness My Old Friend

We hope everyone stays safe out there as the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave of COVID-19 approaches.

As always, let us know if you have stories of interest that you would like to have distributed. Don't forget to connect with our Twitter site @UofT\_Physiatry.

Larry Robinson MD  
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John and Sally Eaton Chair in Rehabilitation Science