Department members are the go-to experts on many issues. Their expertise and innovative approaches to care are frequently featured by media. Here is who was making headlines since January 2018:

Dr. Kenneth Rockwood, Division of Geriatric Medicine, talks to CBR (Information Morning, Cape Breton) advocating for improved dementia care in Cape Breton.

Dr. Sultan Darvesh, Division of Neurology, was featured as a revolutionary researcher by Dal News. His work was also featured by NSHA. “Creating the World’s First Definitive Dementia Year for Alzheimer’s Patients” and CBC News “Dysmesis at Dalhousie brain tissue life could lead to Alzheimer treatment”.

Dr. Graeme Rocker’s Division of Respiratory, INSPIRED program was the focus of a column by Globe and Mail. Andre Picard.

Dr. John Hauly, Division of Rheumatology, talked to CTV News about his Lupus Brain Map study. This study was also featured in the Ottawa Times.

Dr. Shelly McNeil, Division of Infectious Diseases, participated in a singles vaccine call-in show on CBC’s Maritime Noon (segment starts at 9 mins, 37 seconds).

In January, we were pleased to welcome Dr. Mahmoud Elsawy, Division of Hematology, to the Department. Dr. Elsawy, Assistant Professor, joins us from British Columbia where he was a Senior Clinical Fellow with the Leukemia and Bone Marrow Transplant Program of British Columbia since 2016. Dr. Elsawy attended Cairo University in Egypt and completed his MCCEE in 2016 and the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) in 2017.

Dr. Maia von Malzahn, Assistant Professor, joined the Division of Geriatric Medicine in January for a three-month locum term. She completed her medical degree at Dalhousie University, her residency in internal medicine at the University of Saskatchewan (2015) and most recently her fellowship in Geriatric Medicine at the University of Toronto in 2017. Welcome Dr. Malzahn.

Mc’Edward (Eddie) Jones joined the Department in our new Accounts Payable and Payroll Coordinator in December. Prior to joining us he served as a Bookkeeping/Payroll Clerk for a local not-for-profit in December. Prior to joining us he served as a Bookkeeping/Payroll Clerk for a local not-for-profit. He holds a bachelor’s in business administration from Mount Saint Vincent University. With a passion for singing and making music, he is also a member and soloist with the Nova Scotia Mass Choir and sings with various groups around HRM. Mc’Edward is from Sierra Leone, West Africa and has lived in Canada for more than 13 years.

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Doctor of Medicine

If you are looking for Dr. Amanda Miller, Division of Nephrology, please note she has changed her name to Dr. Amanda Vinson. Congratulations on your recent marriage Dr. Vinson.

Best wishes on your retirement Betty! It is with great sadness to say good-bye to colleague and friend Dr. Angela McGibbon. Dr. McGibbon passed away on Feb 21.

Dr. McGibbon was the Director of Education for Horizon Health. She was a Dalhousie Medical School graduate (1998) who did her postgraduate training in Internal Medicine and Endocrinology (also at Dalhousie). She worked as an endocrinologist and was the former Head of the Department of Medicine at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital in Fredericton.

She was a highly respected clinician and teacher. In 2017 she was recognized by the Canadian Association of Medical Education (CAME) with a Certificate of Merit Award.

Dr. McGibbon was very active in all levels of medical education. She co-chaired the resident wellness task force at Dalhousie that was formed the basis for our resident wellness program, including the establishment of the new position of Assistant Dean for Resident Affairs, and the Resident Affairs Office.

Dr. McGibbon will be greatly missed and our sincere condolences go out to her family. Please read Dr. McGibbon’s obituary.

Farewell

Over the past few months we have also said farewell to a few colleagues who have either retired or are pursuing their careers elsewhere. We wish the following colleagues all the best.

After serving the Department for 30 years, Brenda Nicholson with Accounts Payable/Payroll, has now entered her well-deserved retirement years. Thank you for your many years of service and commitment Brenda. Wishing you a long and joyful retirement.

This past month we said good-bye to colleagues Betty Hogue. Betty worked with the hospital in various positions since the 1970s and was team lead of Medical Oncology for the past 18 years. Best wishes on your retirement Betty!

Farewell to Dr. Jonathan Hebb who finished his locum term with the Division of Hematology.

Best wishes to Matt Adams, Department Division Manager, who left the Department in November 2017 to pursue a new opportunity.

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Guest speaker: Dr. Timothy Caulfield, a researcher, author and public speaker, is a Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy, and a Professor in the Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta. He studies, writes and speaks about legal, policy and ethical issues in medical research and its commercialization. He is author and editor of several books: “The Cure for Everything: Unraveling the Twisted Messages about Health,” “How Good Food Fell From Grace: Why Gwyneth Paltrow Is Wrong About Everything: When Celebrity Culture and Science Clash,” and his most recent book, “The Vaccination Picture.” He also hosts a television documentary series debunking pseudoscientific myths and assumptions about innovation in the health sector—from research on stem cells to diets to alternative medicine.
**Debate addition receives rave reviews**

Those who don’t see the connection between medical education and fun, must have missed Medicine Matters 2017. The Department's annual internal continuing medical education conference proved to be a big hit.

In addition to the traditional plenaries and small group break-out sessions, this year's conference introduced a debate. Knowledgeable colleagues took the stage to defend their stance on whether the Choosing Wisely campaign was synonymous with patient-centered care. The educational, yet entertaining, debate concluded (by applause) that Drs. Laurie Mallery and Nhaba Shetty narrowly won the crowd's approval with their argument that the two concepts are not synonymous. The opposing view was capably expressed by Dr. Amanda Miller (Vinson) and Karthik Tankenkar. Post-conference evaluation called for the debate again next year, with one change - up the stakes and throw in a Debate Championship trophy.

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Dr. Trudy Taylor is the conference planning committee's chair and sees huge value in hosting conferences like these. “This is a great opportunity to offer continuing professional development on important internal medical topics, while showcasing the exceptional talent and expertise we have right here in our Department, said Dr. Taylor. “It also presents an opportunity for us to interact with colleagues who we don’t get a chance to meet when focused on our clinical responsibilities.”

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**Photographer Dr. Stephen Phillips brightens mood on 7.4**

Tired of the institutional environment, the neuro team on 7.4 at the Halifax Infirmary decided to enhance the feel of the ward by mounting large canvas photographic prints on the walls around the unit. Fortunately, they didn’t have to look far to find that perfect art work. Neurovascular neurologists, Drs. Stephens Phillips, is not only a skilled physician, but also a talented photographer. His photographs, now mounted throughout the ward has brightened the space and garnered positive feedback from patients, families, and staff.

What other talents do our Department members have? Tell us! Email: susan@holmescommunications.ca

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- Dr. Jennifer Jones, Division of Digestive Care and Endoscopy, was awarded the 2017 Crohn's & Colitis Canada Outstanding Physician Award in November.
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**New Leadership**

The Department's undergraduate medical education leadership team has experienced a number of changes. The following are new appointments:

- **• Dr. Bakshir Kadwai**, Division of Cardiology, is our new Undergraduate Medical Education Chair.
- **• Dr. Chris Gallivan**, Division of General Internal Medicine, has been appointed to Clerkship Director.
- **• Dr. Talal Younis**, Division of Medical Oncology, is the new Assistant Clerkship Director; and
- **• Nina Venter**, covering Karlsm Brouwer's mat leave and assuming the role of DOM Undergraduate Education Coordinator starting February 20, 2018.

**Internal Medicine Chief Residents**

Effective Jan. 1, we welcomed the following residents as our new Chief Residents.

- **Dr. Shannon Murphy**, PGY2, Co-Chief medicine resident (Halifax site).
- **Dr. Sari Mistry**, PGY2, Co-Chief medicine resident (Halifax site).
- **Dr. Andrea Letourneau**, PGY2, Chief resident (Saint John site).
- **Dr. Eric Pond**, PGY2, MTU chief resident (Halifax).
Dr. Lisa Barrett, Division of Infectious Diseases, has been awarded $1,491,356 by Gilead Sciences, Inc. for Hepatitis C elimination research through an investigator-initiated research study. Her research team will assess the impact of structured public health model and mode of care interventions on health system outcomes related to HCV cure and elimination.

Principal Investigator, Dr. John Sapp, Division of Cardiology, was awarded a Canadian Institutes of Health Research project grant (fall 2017 competition) for his study: “The 1-ANT12 Tissue Lipid-Related Lipidemia” that was valued at $797,200 over six years. Fellow division member Dr. Ratika Parkash is one of the collaborators on this study.

Co-Investigator, Dr. Kenneth Rockwood, Division of Geriatric Medicine, was awarded a $446,652 Canadian Institutes Health Research Project grant for the study: “How Does Early Diagnosis of Alzheimer’s Disease Affect Patient Outcomes?” Fellow Department members are also part of the study: John Fisk, Sultan Darvesh and Susan Kirkland.

Dr. Sultan Darvesh, Division of Neurology, recently received three research grants. As co-investigator on “CIR-BRAIN: Canadian Brain Research and Information Platform”, he was part of a $3M award from Brain Canada (platform support grant) and will receive $124,875 over three years. He is also a part of the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation - Research Enterprise Development Initiatives: Catalyst Award of $10,000 for one year for “A Collaborative Study to Understand the Risk Factors for the Development of Alzheimer’s Disease”. He is also a recipient of the Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation Adopt-a-Researcher award of $17,500 for one year for “The Relationship Between The Cholinergic System and Cognitive Dysfunction in Multiple Sclerosis”.

Dr. Tallal Younis, Division of Medical Oncology, was the first-time recipient of the Department of Medicine’s internal Strategic Research Incentive Grant. He received $10,000 for his study: “Endocrine-Targeted Breast Cancer Prevention in Postmenopausal Women”. That same study was also awarded $22,990 by the NSHA Research Fund. Dr. Younis, along with colleagues Dr. Robin Unguard, Department of Surgery, was also awarded the Beattie Hunter Cancer Research Institute’s Ivan Hamilton Award for $57,640 over two years.

Dr. Todd Hatchette, cross-appointment with the Division of Microbiology, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, also received a NSHA Research Fund Category 2 award for “Two EIA Algorithm for the Serological Diagnosis of Lyme Disease.” This award was $21,987.

Dr. Ariek Drucker, Division of Medical Oncology, and Dr. Knill Rosen, Atlantic Research Centre, have received seed funding in the amount of $10,000 from the Beattie Hunter Cancer Research Institute for: “A Feasibility Study of Extracellular-Viceloid Protein Evaluation in HER2-positive Metastatic Breast Cancer”.

Dr. Leah Caball, Howard Webster Department of Medicine Research Chair, and team have received a level 1 TRIC award of $2,999 for “Uniting Clinical, Patient and Research Efforts in an Environmental Scan of Nutrition Screening and Assessment Tools”.

Research Night Celebrates Excellence

On Nov 30, 2017, 65 people gathered at the Prince George Hotel to celebrate, discuss and honour the Department of Medicine’s research success.

Two researchers were honoured with the Department of Medicine’s Faculty Research Excellence Award. Congratulations to Dr. Ravi RamjeeSingh, Division of Medical Oncology (Assistant Professor category), and Dr. Ratika Parkash, Division of Cardiology (Full Professor category).

Fortunate to have diverse expertise within our own Department, attendees also expanded their knowledge in important research advances happening right in their own backyard.

“Advances in the Management of Ventricular Tachycardia” | Dr. Amir AbdelWahab, Division of Cardiology

“Epigenetics: Marking a Paradigm Shift in Diabetic Nephropathy” | Dr. Ferhan Siddiqi, Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism

Getting Under the Skin: Advances in Early Diagnosis of Melanoma with Noninvasive Imaging” | Dr. Richard Langley, Division of Clinical Dermatology & Cutaneous Science

Follow Your Colleagues - Twitter

Follow these Department members on Twitter to stay current on their activities. Not listed here? Let us know your Twitter handle. Contact: handbook@cmuhealthcare.org.

@LeahCaball | Dr. Leah Caball, Howard Webster Department of Medicine Research Chair
@SultanDarvesh | Dr. Sultan Darvesh, Division of Neurology
@RaviRamjeeSingh | Dr. Ravi RamjeeSingh, Division of Medical Oncology
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Awards and accolades

• Missions: We are a diverse group of highly trained professionals dedicated to improving health through education, research and providing exemplary clinical care to our community

• Vision: To be leaders in academic medicine providing innovative, collaborative and appropriate care that is sustainable

• ReSEARCHERs TOP $3M In RECENT Grant Wins

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