

# MEDICINE MATTERS

DoM | DEPARTMENT  
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*Improving Lives*

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HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

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CARDIOLOGY • CLINICAL DERMATOLOGY & CUTANEOUS SCIENCE • DIGESTIVE CARE & ENDOSCOPY • ENDOCRINOLOGY & METABOLISM •  
GENERAL MEDICINE • GERIATRIC MEDICINE • HEMATOLOGY • INFECTIOUS DISEASES • MEDICAL ONCOLOGY • NEPHROLOGY •  
NEUROLOGY • PALLIATIVE MEDICINE • PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION • RESPIROLOGY • RHEUMATOLOGY

## DEPARTMENT HEAD MESSAGE

Much of this issue of Medicine Matters is dedicated to recognizing department members. We truly have a wealth of talent in our Department who certainly deserve recognition and thanks for the work they do.

I would like to welcome all of the new faculty, residents and staff to our Department. I'm sure you have already recognized you are joining a great team. I wish you all the best in your time with the Department and trust you will have an excellent experience.

I would like to bring your attention to a couple of highlights in this issue of Medicine Matters. I'm thrilled that we officially welcomed Dr. Anil Adisesh as Canada's first Research Chair in Occupational Medicine this month. This is a great step for New Brunswick, for Dalhousie and, of course, for our Department. I would also like to invite you to attend the Medicine Matters CME event on November 29. Dr. Leddin and the planning committee have pulled together what will be an exceptional program. Each of the divisions does a great job of continuing medical education within their areas, but what sets Medicine Matters apart is its multidisciplinary nature. I hope you will mark your calendar today.

### David Anderson, MD, FRCPC

*Head, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University*

*District Chief, Department of Medicine, Capital District Health Authority*

*Professor of Medicine, Community Health & Epidemiology, Pathology*

## MEDICINE MATTERS CME REVIVAL

**Medicine Matters** is here again. Plan to attend the one-day agenda-packed meeting on Friday, November 29, 2013 at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel. Medicine Matters is a CME event specifically for Department of Medicine members. Chaired by **Dr. Des Leddin**, the multidisciplinary event will include a full agenda of case-based small group learning on topics that cut across all areas of internal medicine. The overall objectives, which were developed by the planning committee, are based on a review of patient data and stakeholder input. They will be refined by the groups presenting each of the cases.

Look for more information soon on Medicine Matters but **mark your calendar today: Friday, November 29, 2013.**

## 1<sup>ST</sup> CHAIR IN OCCUPATIONAL MED



(l-r): Dr. Tom Marrie, dean, Dalhousie Medical School, Honourable Hugh Flemming, minister of health, Province of New Brunswick, Dr. Richard Florizone, president, Dalhousie University, Mr. Jim Irving, co-CEO, J.D. Irving, Limited, Dr. Anil Adisesh, inaugural J.D. Irving, Limited, Research Chair in Occupational Medicine at Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick, Ms. Lynn Irving, medical research campaign chair, Dr. Preston Smith, senior associate dean, Dalhousie Medical School, Dr. John Steeves, associate dean, Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick

Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick officially announced Dr. Anil Adisesh as holder of Canada's first chair in occupational medicine on September 6.

The **J.D. Irving, Limited Research Chair in Occupational Medicine** was established thanks in part to a \$2 million contribution by Irving to the DMNB Medical Research Campaign.

The Chair is part of the Dalhousie Department of Medicine. "The start of a major academic program led from Saint John is a huge development that signals the growth of academic medicine in New Brunswick," notes Dr. David Anderson. "We are thrilled to have Dr. Adisesh joining the Department of Medicine. His presence and his work will bring great things to New Brunswick, to Dalhousie and to our Department."

The Chair will promote training, research and development in workplace risk management and occupational medicine, with an emphasis on workplace health and safety, and accident prevention. The Chair will also be a source of knowledge and advice for employers and physicians across New Brunswick.

Dr. Adisesh, renowned internationally for his expertise in occupational medicine, assumed the inaugural J.D. Irving, Limited Research Chair in Occupational Medicine in June 2013. He will hold the position for

five years. Dr. Adisesh comes to New Brunswick by way of the United Kingdom where he was a physician specialist, most recently practising at the UK National Health and Safety Laboratory. He has experience in numerous diverse work sectors and has clinical interests that include occupational toxicology, allergy and hand arm vibration. He is the Chair of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Working Group on Occupational Health for the Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD 11) and co-Chair to the International Labour Organisation Working Group on diagnostic and exposure criteria guidance on occupational diseases. In addition to his research, Dr. Adisesh will help medical students and physicians develop a strong understanding of recognising, managing and preventing workplace illness and injuries, collaborating with government, industry and labour to establish better workplace safety.

Dr. Adisesh, an Associate Professor in the DoM, remarked that he was inspired by the concerted effort undertaken to establish the Irving Chair. "The work of the chair in medical education, research and clinical service provision will be important in providing practical tools in the real world of work in the Maritimes and Canada's contribution to creating healthy workplaces."

## OF NOTE

The **Department of Medicine Research Evening** will be held November 14, 2013 at the Prince George. The evening's guest speaker is Dr. Anil Adisesh, J.D. Irving Research Chair in Occupational Medicine. We will also hear from Dr. Lisa Barrett, Division of Infectious Diseases, Dr. Jafna Cox, Division of Cardiology and Dr. Churn-Ern Yip, Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism.

## WEBSITE REVAMP

The Department will be revamping its website in accordance with Dalhousie's website renewal project. If you have visited the Faculty of Medicine website recently you may have noticed a new design; all departments will be updating their websites to reflect the new design over the coming months. For our part, work is underway. The next phase will include all division pages. For more information, contact Cindy Bayers, [pebblecomms@eastlink.ca](mailto:pebblecomms@eastlink.ca)

## MEMORIALS

**Dr. Magdy Basta** passed away in July after a courageous battle with cancer. Dr. Basta was a long-standing member of the Division of Cardiology with specialized expertise in electrophysiology. He was a valued clinician who could always be counted on for support. His dedication to his patients and his positive attitude were highly regarded by all.

**Dr. Arthur Shears** passed away in May. Dr. Shears graduated with an MD from Dalhousie in 1950. He began his medical career in his hometown of Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, opening a busy practice in family and industrial medicine. He soon decided to pursue Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. He was the Founding Medical Director of the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre and initiated the Royal College Residency Training Program in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. He went on to found and direct the Dalhousie School of Physiotherapy and served as Head, Division of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (1977-1989).

## SPRING PARTY RECAP

While the Spring Party may have been a summer ago, it's never too late to recognize the many deserving individuals who received honours in the Department.

Excellence in Medical Education Awards were presented to:

**Dr. Tammy Keough-Ryan**, Division of Nephrology

**Dr. Colm McParland**, Division of Respiriology

**Dr. Sudeep Shivakumar**, Division of Hematology

**Dr. Geoff Williams**, Division of Digestive Care & Endoscopy

**Dr. William Sheridan**, Division of Cardiology

Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Awards were presented to residents **Drs. Paul Bonnar** and **Amy Groom** while **Drs. Glenn Patriquin** and **Andrew Moeller** received Outstanding Resident Awards, and **Dr. Jordan Webber** received Special Resident Recognition.



**Dr. David Haase**, Division of Infectious Diseases, was honoured with the Brian M. Chandler Lifetime Achievement Award in Medical Education. In his almost 30 years with the Department of Medicine Dr. Haase has focused his academic interest on undergraduate and postgraduate education. His efforts in undergraduate education go well beyond classroom, bedside and one-on-one teaching. He has spent countless hours coaching and mentoring medical students, serving as the ideal role model for those just starting out. On the postgraduate education front, he oversaw development of the ITER and championed a new format academic half day. Dr. Haase is consistently described as the kindest of teachers and the best of role models.



**Dr. David Simpson** received the Department of Medicine Achievement Award. Dr. Simpson's professional efforts stand out in many areas but particularly clinical care, education and leadership. He is recognized for championing communications skills education in medicine. He is also Head of the Division of General Internal Medicine, a position he has held for seven years. Residents attest to Dr. Simpson's sincere interest in learning and support of the team.

## RETIREMENTS

This spring, **Ms. Kate MacDonald** retired after 32 years as a valued member of physician services. She went on to greener pastures – literally. Since retiring from the department, Kate has spent much of her time on the golf course!



**Dr. Ken Johnson** retired from the Division of Palliative Medicine in June. Dr. Johnson joined the division in 1999.

## DID YOU KNOW? REB

All research involving patients, staff, resources or data requires approval of **Capital Health's Research Ethics Board** before the research begins. The board's mandate is to protect the rights, safety, and wellbeing of research participants, including the scientific, legal and financial aspects. This also applies to research involving human biological materials as well as human embryos, fetuses, fetal tissue, reproductive materials and stem cells.

The board, a body of researchers, community members, lawyers, and others with specific expertise, reviews the scientific validity and ethical acceptability of all research involving humans conducted within Capital Health's jurisdiction or under its auspices.

"The conduct of ethical research is fundamental to the research enterprise. Participation on the REB allows members to see the breadth of research conducted at Capital Health. Participation on the REB is now considered when applications for academic promotion are reviewed as recognition of the work involved. Researchers' programs are enhanced and efficiency improved as they learn to understand the components of successful REB applications and why they are there," says Dr. Richard Hall, REB Chair.

In addition to its chair, the board includes seven co-chairs, and 76 members on four working groups. Of the board's 23 physician members, 12 hail from the Department of Medicine. The board's work is supported by Mr. Ken Jenkins, Research Ethics Manager, Capital Health.

The board reviews about 325 protocols each year for compliance with funding agency, institutional, provincial, nation and international policies and procedures. Of those, 55% are led by Department of Medicine researchers.

Thank you to the following Department of Medicine members who lend their expertise and time to the Research Ethics Board:

### DOM Members on Research Ethics Board

Dr. David Macdonald	<i>(Board Co-Chair) Hematology</i>
Dr. Chris MacKnight	<i>(Board Co-Chair) Geriatric Medicine</i>
Dr. Shelly McNeil	<i>(Board Co-Chair) Infectious Diseases</i>
Dr. Meredith Chiasson	<i>Respirology</i>
Dr. Steven Gruchy	<i>Gastroenterology</i>
Dr. Ed Hanada	<i>Physical Medicine &amp; Rehabilitation</i>
Dr. John Hanly	<i>Rheumatology</i>
Dr. Mary Margaret Keating	<i>Hematology</i>
Dr. Lee Kirby	<i>Physical Medicine &amp; Rehabilitation</i>
Dr. Anne Marie Krueger-Naug	<i>General Internal Medicine</i>
Dr. Robyn Macfarlane	<i>Medical Oncology</i>
Dr. Najaf Nadeem	<i>Cardiology</i>
Dr. Tom Ransom	<i>Endocrinology</i>
Dr. Sue Robinson	<i>Hematology</i>
Dr. Christine Short	<i>Physical Medicine &amp; Rehabilitation</i>

## CONGRATULATIONS!



**Dr. Walter Schlech**, Division of Infectious Diseases, has created a new model for HIV treatment in Uganda for the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI). In April, he received a Grand Challenge Canada research award to support its implementation.

Dr. Schlech was recruited by IDI to help investigate the feasibility of a pay-for-use model in improving patient care.

Funded by the Government of Canada, Grand Challenges Canada supports bold ideas with big impact in global health, funding projects that remove barriers to solving health problems in the developing world.

The Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement (CFHI) appointed **Dr. Graeme Rocker**, Division of Respirology, as Clinical Improvement Advisor in June.



Dr. Rocker will support and guide improvement work across the Foundation including CFHI's three-year, multi-provincial Atlantic Healthcare Collaboration (AHC) and the development of a clinical engagement strategy for the Foundation. He will act as senior advisor to CFHI's various improvement teams and will also work to address management of chronic diseases across Canada. He has been an Academic Mentor to the AHC, which focuses on improved patient-centred, efficiency and coordinated chronic disease care, since the fall of 2012.



**Dr. Stephanie Kaiser** will serve a second term as Head, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism. Dr. Kaiser has held numerous academic leadership positions and earned many honours in the Department of Medicine and beyond. She served as Program Director for the Dalhousie Endocrinology Residency Training Program for more than 10 years, and Specialty Committee Chair for Endocrinology and Metabolism for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and still sits on the Nucleus Committee. She is a member of the Osteoporosis Canada Scientific Advisory Council and Co-Chair of the Knowledge Translation committee.

Dr. Kaiser is President-Elect of the Canadian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism (CSEM). In 2009, she received its Educator of the Year Award and was recently awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

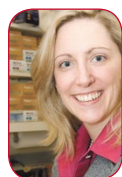
Dr. Kaiser is a co-investigator for the Canadian Multicentre Osteoporosis Study and has over 50 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

**Ms. Connie Tone** was appointed billings manager in the Department of Medicine this spring. Connie has been a member of the department since 2009 and most recently served as billing clerk. Should you have any questions about billings, Connie is your point person.



## WELCOME

It was a busy summer for new recruits! The Department of Medicine welcomed new residents, new faculty and new staff. Here is a rundown:



**Dr. Lisa Barrett**

*Assistant Professor; Division of Infectious Diseases*

Dr. Barrett received her MD and PhD degrees from Memorial University. After completing her Internal Medicine Residency and Clinical Investigator Program through Dalhousie, Dr. Barrett completed her residency in Infectious Diseases through the University of Toronto, going on to complete a training program as a Clinician Scientist Trainee through the CIHR based in Bethesda, USA.



**Dr. Erin Corsten**

*Assistant Professor; Division of Palliative Medicine*

Dr. Corsten worked for many years as an occupational therapist before retraining in Medicine. After receiving her MD, she completed her residency in Family Medicine, and Postgraduate Fellowship in Palliative Medicine with Dalhousie. She also has a Master of Education degree in Curriculum Studies.



**Dr. Cory Jubenville**

*Assistant Professor; Division of Neurology  
Assistant Professor; Division of Medical Oncology*

Dr. Jubenville received his MD degree at the University of Toronto, before completing his residency in Adult Neurology with Dalhousie. Dr. Jubenville has won numerous awards, including the Department of Medicine's 'Resident Teacher of the Year' award in 2010.



**Dr. Danielle Kain**

*Assistant Professor; Division of Palliative Medicine*

Dr. Kain received her MD from the University of Toronto. After completing her residency in Family Medicine through Dalhousie, she completed a Postgraduate Fellowship in Palliative Medicine, also through Dalhousie.



**Dr. Markus Klaus**

*Assistant Professor; Division of Rheumatology*

Dr. Klaus received his medical degrees in South Africa and worked as a doctor in both South Africa, and British Columbia before moving to Halifax in 2011 to complete his residency in Adult Rheumatology with Dalhousie.



**Dr. Catherine O'Blenes**

*Assistant Professor; Division of Dermatology*

Dr. O'Blenes has a combined MD and PhD from the University of Toronto. Following initial training in Plastic Surgery, Dr. O'Blenes completed her residency in Dermatology with Dalhousie in 2013.



**Dr. Alexa Smith**

*Assistant Professor; Division of Rheumatology*

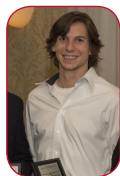
Dr. Smith received her MD from Dalhousie before completing her Internal Medicine Residency with the University of Ottawa. She returned to Halifax in 2011 to complete her Adult Rheumatology Residency through Dalhousie, where she was the Division's Chief Resident.



**Dr. Karthik Tennankore**

*Assistant Professor; Division of Nephrology*

Dr. Tennankore received his MD degree at the University of Western Ontario, before completing his residency in Adult Nephrology with Dalhousie.



**Dr. Colin van Zoost**

*Assistant Professor, Division of General Internal Medicine*

Dr. van Zoost received his MD and completed his residency with Dalhousie. He has won numerous awards for teaching and research, and was awarded the Department of Medicine's outstanding PGY3 resident in 2012.



**Dr. David Haase**

**Joins Division of General Internal Medicine**

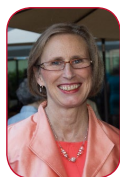
Dr. Haase retired from the Division of Infectious Diseases in June but (thankfully!) is continuing his 30+ year career in medicine with the Department as a part-time member of the Division of General Internal Medicine. Dr. Haase will work exclusively on the Medical Teaching Unit.



**Michael Kivell, Manager for the Divisions (VG Site)**

Mr. Kivell's position is new to the Department of Medicine and was developed as a result of an early recommendation of the Administrative Services & Needs Review Committee. Mike will support the department's divisions at the VG Site.

Mike most recently worked at Department of Health and Wellness with the Patient Access Registry and with Partnerships & Physician Services. Prior to that he worked at Capital Health as a benchmarking consultant with Finance & Decision Support and some might remember that Mike covered a maternity leave as a manager in the Department of Medicine in 2001/02. He also worked in Geriatric Medicine Research. Mike's office is Room 451, Bethune Building.



**Ms. Michelle Baker** now assumes administrative responsibility for the divisions located at the Halifax Infirmary, Veteran's Memorial Building and Rehab sites. Michelle's office has re-located to Room 2107, Halifax Infirmary.