

MEDICINE MATTERS

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HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

No. 16, FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER

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

As you read through this issue of Medicine Matters, you will notice a bit of a theme: “New to the Department of Medicine.” We are highlighting new faculty members, new residents, new staff members, new committees – all of which bring new ideas and new opportunities to the Department.

I would like to welcome all new members of 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.

Please join me in congratulating your colleagues on receiving academic promotions this year. Academic promotion is a tremendous accomplishment. I look forward to celebrating with you at the upcoming Professors of Medicine Reception, which is currently in the planning stages.

I would also like to bring your attention to Medicine Matters 2014: Choosing Wisely. This will be an excellent event for all departmental faculty members. **Dr. Wendy Levinson**, Chair of Choosing Wisely Canada and former Chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto, will be here to provide an overview of Choosing Wisely and then lead a discussion of how we might put Choosing Wisely into action at Capital Health and in Nova Scotia. We have invited representatives from Doctors Nova Scotia and from the Department of Health and Wellness to attend as well. I ask that you make this a priority in your calendar. You can read more about Medicine Matters below.

David R. Anderson, MD, FRCPC, FACP

Head, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University

District Chief, Department of Medicine, Capital District Health Authority

Professor of Medicine, Community Health & Epidemiology, Pathology

OF NOTE

The **Department of Medicine Research Evening** will be held November 6, 2014 at the Prince George. The evening's guest speakers include Drs. Judah Goldstein, formerly of the Division of Geriatric Medicine; Karthik Tennankore, Division of Nephrology; and Sultan Darvesh, Division of Neurology. The 2013-2014 Research Excellence Awards will be presented at the dinner.

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

We are very pleased to announce that the following faculty members received academic promotions, effective July 1st, 2014. Congratulations on your academic advancement!

Professor effective July 1, 2014

Cardiology	Dr. Nicholas Giacomantonio
Nephrology	Dr. Christine Dipchand
Palliative Medicine	Dr. Paul McIntyre
Respirology	Dr. Colm McParland

Associate Professor effective July 1, 2014

Cardiology	Dr. Sarah Ramer
Digestive Care & Endoscopy	Dr. Steven Gruchy
Digestive Care & Endoscopy	Dr. Geoff Williams
Geriatric Medicine	Dr. Melissa Andrew
Geriatric Medicine	Dr. Paige Moorhouse
Hematology	Dr. Sudeep Shivakumar
Infectious Diseases, Saint John Regional Hospital	Dr. Duncan Webster
Medical Oncology	Dr. Alwin Jeyakumar
Medical Oncology	Dr. Wojciech Morzycki
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	Dr. Amra Saric

MEDICINE MATTERS 2014: CHOOSING WISELY



Choosing Wisely is the theme of this year's Medicine Matters, the Department's annual continuing education event. [Choosing Wisely](#) is a campaign to help physicians and patients make smart and effective choices to ensure quality care through engaging in conversations about unnecessary tests, treatments and procedures.

Dr. Wendy Levinson, Chair of Choosing Wisely Canada and former Chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto, will open Medicine Matters with an overview of Choosing Wisely and will close the meeting with wrap-up presentation focused on putting Choosing Wisely into action.



Medicine Matters will also include eight case-based discussions presented and facilitated by faculty from the Maritime region in subspecialty areas for which Choosing Wisely guidelines have been or will soon be released. **You can expect high quality, lively sessions discussing and debating the Choosing Wisely guidelines and their application.**

The subspecialties for which the Choosing Wisely guidelines will be discussed and debated, along with the session speakers and facilitators include:

November 28, 2014 – Westin Nova Scotian Hotel

Session presenters and facilitators

Cardiology	Dr. Robbie Stewart	presenter
	Dr. Jason Yung	facilitator
Digestive Care & Endoscopy	Dr. Chad Williams	presenter
	Dr. Steve Gruchy	facilitator
Endocrinology	Dr. Barna Tugwell	presenter
	Dr. Stephanie Kaiser	facilitator
Hematology	Dr. Sudeep Shivakumar	presenter
	To be announced	facilitator
General Internal Medicine	Dr. Babar Haroon	presenter
	Dr. Steve Duke	facilitator
Geriatric Medicine	Dr. Chris McKnight	presenter
	Dr. Donna MacNeil	facilitator
Palliative Medicine	Dr. Rob Horton	presenter
	Dr. Danielle Kain	facilitator
Rheumatology	Dr. Sylvie Ouelette	presenter
	Dr. Brian Moses	facilitator

Please make this a priority event. Choosing Wisely has been endorsed by Doctors Nova Scotia and there is support for this work at the Department of Health and Wellness and the District Health Authorities.

Watch for Registration Details Coming Soon.

For further information, contact: andrea.heyer@cdha.nshealth.ca

NEW FOR EDUCATION

NEW EDUCATION COMMITTEE, NEW EDUCATION DIRECTOR POSITION

In keeping with recommendations from the Strategic Review Working Group on Education, the Department of Medicine has struck a new Education Committee, which will serve to connect the continuum of education within the Department. The education committee will oversee undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing medical education, beginning with a review of all of the current education committees. A new position of education director for the Department of Medicine is expected to be formalized and filled this fall. The education director will chair the education committee.

MOLLY APPEAL TO BENEFIT MBTB

All proceeds of Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation's 35th annual [Molly Appeal](#) will be used to expand the Maritime Brain Tissue Bank (MBTB) for neuroscience research so that it can store more data and more brain and spinal cord tissues from donors with Alzheimer's disease, and those with ALS, epilepsy, spinal cord injuries, MS, Parkinson's disease and a host of other brain and nervous system diseases.

Dr. Sultan Darvesh, Division of Neurology, established the Maritime Brain Tissue Bank 20 years ago to study brains affected by Alzheimer's disease – a quest he will continue as the Irene MacDonald Sobey Endowed Chair in Curative Approaches to Alzheimer's Disease.



The Bank collects brain tissues for examination and experimentation crucial to Dr. Darvesh's work and that of other neuroscience researchers around the world.

RESIDENTS HONOUR DR. BASTA

Dr. Ciorsti MacIntyre



Dr. Magdy Basta was a cherished and valued member of the Division of Cardiology. He provided exceptional patient care and he went out of his way to provide mentorship and high quality education to the resident group.

Over the past year, the cardiology resident group embarked on a project to update the resident office in the Division of Cardiology. The group also wanted to acknowledge Dr. Basta's significant contributions to not only the division but also to medical education. As such, the office was dedicated to him to honour his life and his memory. In June, the plaque for the Magdy N. Basta Cardiology Residents Lounge was unveiled.

Dr. Basta was a gifted physician with a kind heart. We hope that this dedication to him will help to keep his memory alive.

CONGRATULATIONS!

DR. JOCK MURRAY NAMED PRESIDENT OF THE JOHNSON SOCIETY



Dr. Jock Murray, Division of Neurology, was inducted as President of the Samuel Johnson Society in England at the annual ceremony at Johnson's birthplace in Lichfield on September 20th. Dr. Johnson was the author of the first great dictionary of the English language. The Society, which was founded in 1928, is made up of people with interests in the life and work of Samuel Johnson, his circle and his times. Dr. Murray is the first president from outside the United Kingdom. Other presidents have included Malcolm Muggeridge, Conor Cruise O'Brien, Dame Beryl Bainbridge and Nigel Rees.

MEEGAN DOWE WINS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR AWARD FOR INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

Meegan Dowe, education manager and postgraduate education coordinator, received the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada inaugural program administrator award for innovation and excellence. Meegan oversees education activities across the continuum, from undergrad to continuing professional development. She is recognized by all department members for her willingness to go above and beyond in every task she does because of her commitment to education, to residents and to the Department.

MEEGAN DOWE OR MEGAN DOW?

Most in the Department of Medicine know **Meegan Dowe**, education manager and postgraduate education coordinator, but did you know there is also a **Megan Dow**? Yes, there is! And she works in medical education too. Funny coincidence, isn't it?

The problem, or rather challenge, though is that Meegan and Megan often receive the other's emails and correspondence. The results can range from minor inconvenience for Meegan and Megan to significant inconvenience for those who sent the emails/correspondence especially when an immediate response is required.

Megan, not to be confused with Meegan in our department, is the curriculum coordinator (Med 1) in the undergraduate medical education office that supports Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick. Meegan and Megan are asking that department members be mindful of the funny coincidence so that potential future inconveniences can be avoided.



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3000+ UNIQUE VISITORS IN JULY

If you haven't yet had the chance to visit the Department's revamped website, be sure to do so. The website has attracted more than 2,800 unique visitors each month since it went live in April. The site aligns with Dalhousie's web guidelines and is being updated regularly. Of note, the website includes grand rounds information and a calendar of events that is meant to include all departmental events. Submit events for your division, service or area: [calendar of events](#).

Website stats		
	unique visitors	page views
June 2014	2,802	7,928
July 2014	3,282	9,433
August 2014	2,830	8,596

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

(... AND STAFFING CHANGES IN THE EDUCATION OFFICE)

We are preparing for two significant changes in the Department of Medicine Education Office: Katie Barkhouse's maternity leave (December) and Catriona Talbot's retirement (summer 2015)...

Sophie Montreuil joined the education office in early September on a full-time long-term assignment basis. Sophie will assume the role of Education Coordinator while **Katie Barkhouse** is on maternity leave, which is planned to begin in December. Meanwhile, Katie is preparing to assume the role of Undergraduate Education Coordinator when **Catriona Talbot** retires next summer (and Katie returns from maternity leave). Having Sophie become part of our team now will help ensure appropriate knowledge transfer and a smooth transition.



Sophie is a graduate of McGill University where she studied marketing and she holds a certificate in human resources. She and her family recently moved to Halifax from Quebec City where she most recently worked in human resources management with a large engineering firm. Sophie is fluent in the French and English languages.



We are also pleased to welcome back **Andrea Heyer** to the Department of Medicine. Andrea previously worked for several years with Dr. Kenneth Rockwood in the Division of Geriatric Medicine. She has now rejoined the Department in a half-time, one-year term position to provide administrative assistance to the grand rounds committee (freeing up Kathryn Nelson to focus more on departmental research activities), to the survey and search committee processes and to cover for Helen Parsons in her absences. As time permits, Andrea will also support special projects as well.



PHYSICIAN RESOURCE OFFICE UPDATE

WELCOME TO 8 NEW FACULTY MEMBERS!

A number of new faculty members have joined the Department through the summer and into September. Please welcome (and in some cases, welcome back):



Dr. Amir AbdelWahab

Assistant Professor

Division of Cardiology

Dr. AbdelWahab very recently returned to the Department of Medicine after serving as the clinical cardiac electrophysiologist and Director Electrophysiology and Pacing Service, Cairo University, 2008-2014. Prior to 2008, Dr. AbdelWahab received his MD from Cairo University, completed residency and subspecialty training at Cairo University Hospitals and then went on to complete a two-year electrophysiology fellowship in the Division of Cardiology.

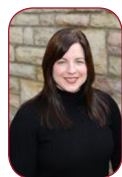


Dr. John Igoe

Division of Digestive Care & Endoscopy

Three-month locum

Dr. Igoe is a Dalhousie alum having completed his MD, internal medicine residency and subspecialty residency here.



Dr. Jennifer Jones

Associate Professor

Division of Digestive Care & Endoscopy

Dr. Jones returned to Dalhousie and the Department of Medicine on September 1st. She graduated from Dalhousie with her MD and completed her internal medicine and subspecialty training in the Department in 2004 before doing a fellowship at the Mayo Clinic and then heading to the University of Calgary. Most recently, Dr. Jones was director of the Multidisciplinary Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinic and faculty member, University of Saskatchewan.



Dr. Nathan Lamond

Assistant Professor

Division of Medical Oncology

After thirteen years at Dalhousie where he graduated with a BSc and MD and then completed his internal medicine and subspecialty residencies, Dr. Lamond thankfully decided to join the Department of Medicine as a staff member.



Dr. Julie Millard

Assistant Professor

Division of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

Dr. Millard graduated from the Saba University of Medicine and completed her subspecialty residency at McMaster University. She joined the Department of Medicine on September 1st.



Dr. Elana Murphy

Assistant Professor

Division of Rheumatology

Dr. Murphy is very familiar with the Department of Medicine and Division of Rheumatology having completed her MD, internal medicine residency and rheumatology residency at Dalhousie. She has joined the Division of Rheumatology on a part-time basis.



Dr. Mahsa Rezaei Nejad

Assistant Professor

Division of General Internal Medicine

Dr. Nejad joins the Department of Medicine from the University of Saskatchewan where she completed her internal medicine residency in 2014. She received her MD and completed an internship at the Tehran University of Medical Science.



Dr. Ferhan Siddiqi

Assistant Professor

Division of Endocrinology

Dr. Siddiqi graduated from the University of Toronto with his MD in 2008, completed his internal medicine residency at Dalhousie in 2011 and returned to Toronto for his subspecialty residency. He has spent the last year on staff at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto.

RETIREMENTS

Congratulations to **Dr. Elizabeth Mann** and **Dr. Rajender Parkash**, Division of General Internal Medicine, and **Dr. Roger Michael**, Division of Respiriology, each of whom have made tremendous contributions to the Department of Medicine and to the medical profession. The three long-time department members retired this summer after many years of academic clinical practice and many professional accomplishments.



Dr. Elizabeth Mann



Dr. Rajender Parkash



Dr. Roger Michael