Change is Inevitable…..

Dr. David G. Bell, Chief, Dept. of Urology

Robert C. Gallagher said, “Change is inevitable, except from the vending machine.”

The Department of Urology is undergoing that inevitable change reflecting the demographics of society also illustrated in our Department. This fall sees us begin the academic year with the retirements of Dr. Richard Norman and Dr. Robert Schwarz. Both of these individuals have been significant influences while Faculty members in the development of the Department, as well as being pivotal and instrumental in educational and clinical care delivery.

Dr. Schwarz joined the Department in 1976 and provided both adult and pediatric care to the citizens of Atlantic Canada. He was known to be a strong clinician but more importantly an enthusiastic and unrelenting educator of medical students and residents. Bob’s interest in education was evident throughout his career. On a daily basis it is not uncommon to hear “Schwarzisms” quoted by faculty or residents. Although retired from active practice, Dr. Schwarz plans to continue a relationship with the Department providing educational activities at the undergraduate and resident level. I look forward to his continued support of the Department and continued transference of knowledge that comes from years of clinical practice and life experience.

Dr. Richard Norman joined the Department in 1980. He was an active clinician, researcher and educator throughout his entire career. His outstanding administrative lead of the Department from 1997 to 2007 provided a solid foundation for continued growth in education, research and clinical care. Richard’s mentorship of residents continued until the day of retirement. He had a strong influence on the academic mission and clinical direction of the Department.

With the retirement of these two individuals the Department expresses a loss but we are fortunate to have ambitious young faculty and look forward to future recruits that will be able to build on three pillars of clinical care, research and education that were so strengthened and defined by Bob and Richard.

On behalf of the Department, I would wish both Drs. Norman and Schwarz a happy and healthy retirement.
Mentor of the Year!

The Department is thrilled to announce that Dr. Greg Bailly is the recipient of the Royal College 2012 Mentor of the Year for New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador (Region 5). Congratulations on this very well deserved honour from all of us Greg!

Recent Clinical Trials

- A phase IV, randomized, multicentre efficacy and safety study comparing 10 months versus 4 months of degarelix (Firmagon®) therapy in prolonging the off treatment interval in men with non-metastatic prostate cancer receiving Intermittent androgen deprivation Therapy for biochemical progression (FIT)

- A Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study to Evaluate New or Worsening Lens Opacifications in Subjects with Non-metastatic Prostate Cancer Receiving Denosumab for Bone Loss due to Androgen-Deprivation Therapy

Starting very soon (December 2012):

- BOTOX® for the Treatment of Urinary Incontinence due to Neurogenic Detrusor Overactivity in Patients with Multiple Sclerosis

- A non-invasive epigenetic urinary biomarker panel for the early detection of bladder cancer

Upcoming early 2013:

- Canadian Real Life Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Lupron in the Management of Prostate Cancer: (CRONOS)

Recent Select Publications


Congratulations to Drs. Gavin Langille and Elizabeth Zed who were married this past August. Congratulations are also extended to Drs. Jill Hudson and Keith Pawluk on their recent marriage this past August. And last but certainly not least congratulations to Drs. Ashley Cox and Karthik Tennankore on the birth of their son Jayan born this past September!

Movember...

Once again the urology residents are growing some terrible moustaches in support of Movember and Prostate Cancer Canada. Donations (tax deductible!) are very much appreciated and can be made here:

http://ca.movember.com/team/722885

A photo of our "progress" (I think our wives see it as regression...) Thanks for your support to change the face of men’s health!

Matches and Hatches.....
Upcoming Events!

- Dalhousie Urology Research Day, Friday April 19th
- AUA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, May 4-8th
- CUA Annual Meeting, Niagara Falls, ON, June 23-25th
- SIU Congress Meeting, Vancouver, BC, Sept. 8-12th
- AUA Northeastern Section Annual Meeting, Saratoga Springs, NY, Oct 30th - Nov 3rd

Nurses' Notes

10A OR
- New staff members are Cheryl Goldie, Andrea Rhyno and James Bush. Welcome!
- Also congrats to Judy MacLean and Karen Vineberg on their new grandsons.

5B
- Dianne Cole will soon retire after 35 years of service. Bernie Vasello retired in the spring and is back working casual.
- New staff members are Allison Frank and Stacey Pridy – welcome all!

Halifax Infirmary Clinic
- Getty Vasista attended a conference in August on sexuality in Chicago and also spoke at the Prostate Support Group in Newfoundland in September.
- Emmi Champion attended the Nurse Continence Advisor Conference in August. Both Emmi and Getty spoke at the Prostate Cancer Group in Halifax in October.
- The Dine & Learn organized by the Urology Nurses of Canada was a huge success. 75 nurses attended all from Nova Scotia!

Cobequid Clinic
- Rosann McDonald new staff member as of August.
- Judy Levy sent picture below of current Cobequid nursing staff that attended the Spring Urology dinner for clinical and clerical staff. From left to right are Donna MacKinnon RN, Lynette Curtis RN, Louanne Baker Ward Assistant, Nadine Parsons SPD, Judy Levy RN, Cindy Oakley SPD, and Trina Nicholson RN

“By creating we think, by living we learn”
Patrick Geddes