



## DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

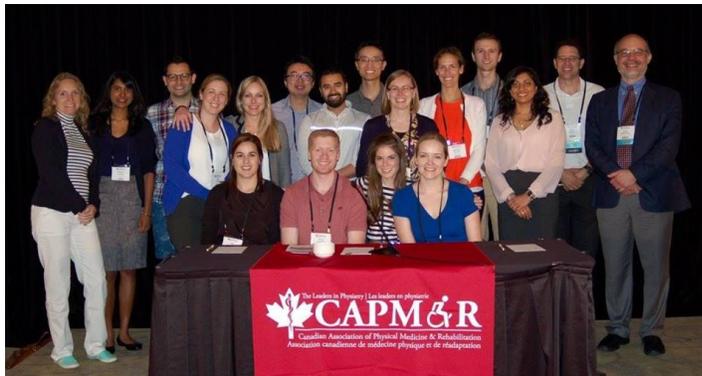
Department of Medicine  
University of Toronto

### June 2016 Monthly update Newsletter

1. U of T plays a prominent role at the Canadian Association of PM&R meeting
2. You might see some new faces walking around
3. Lisa Becker promoted to Assistant Professor
4. Congratulations to Tania Bruno and Eugene Chang
5. Cathy Craven awarded major Neilsen Foundation Research Grant
6. Mark Bayley receives Department of Medicine Quality and Innovation Award
7. David Berbrayer to receive 2016 AAPM&R Outstanding Council Service Award
8. Sivakumar Gulasingam is awarded a 2016 Postgraduate Medical Trainee Award
9. Rajni Nijhawan nominated for Celebrating Education Excellence award
10. Quality improvement to look at medication reconciliation
11. Division retreat to take place on June 24<sup>th</sup>
12. Ultimate Facebook booster discovered

#### 1. U of T plays a very prominent role at the Canadian Association of PM&R meeting

As mentioned in the last newsletter, U of T played a very prominent role in this year's CAPM&R meeting in London Ontario. Gaetan Tardif received the Award of Merit and gave a very inspiring talk. Cathy Craven did a superb job of leading the scientific program. We swept the systematic review category for presentations with McKyla McIntyre winning first place, Rebecca Titman winning second and Jordan Silverman winning third place. Julio Furlan won second place in the case report category. There were many other members who participated in the meeting and won awards. Luckily, it was a Toronto faculty member who won the debate between Harp Sangha and John Flannery.



Next year, the CAPM&R meeting will be in Niagara Falls Ontario. We (U of T, PM&R) will be responsible for programming this meeting. If you have ideas or are interested in participating, please feel free to email me at [larry.robinson@sunnybrook.ca](mailto:larry.robinson@sunnybrook.ca).

#### 2. You might see some new faces

We are most pleased to welcome our four new residents who will be starting next month. These include Elysia Adams, Michael Catapano, Dhinesh Sivananthan, and Jason Liang. PM&R was a very competitive field in the CaRMS match this year and we are quite fortunate to have these four outstanding individuals join us for their residency. Please see Web link which will expire on June 30<sup>th</sup> for a brief summary of their backgrounds:

<https://fileportal.uhn.ca/download.aspx?ID=ce178e6f-f300-4732-b476-506806de96bb>

#### 3. Lisa Becker promoted to Assistant Professor

Please extend your congratulations to Dr. Lisa Becker who was promoted from Lecturer to Assistant Professor in the Division of Rehabilitation Medicine effective June 1, 2016. Those of you who know Lisa know her impressive skills in education and clinical care are more than enough to merit this promotion. Please extend your congratulations to Lisa. Her email is: [lisa.becker@uhn.ca](mailto:lisa.becker@uhn.ca).



## DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine  
University of Toronto

#### 4. Congratulations to Tania Bruno and Eugene Chang

We are pleased to report that Tania Bruno and Eugene Chang have passed their continuing faculty appointment reviews (CFARs). As you may know, faculty who are initially appointed to the University of Toronto must pass their continuing faculty appointment review generally after three years of being on our faculty. I am pleased to report that both Dr. Tania Bruno and Dr. Eugene Chang have successfully passed their CFAR and will be continuing to work with us at Toronto Rehab Institute. Please extend your congratulations to Tania at [Tania.bruno@uhn.ca](mailto:Tania.bruno@uhn.ca) and Eugene at [Eugene.chang@uhn.ca](mailto:Eugene.chang@uhn.ca).

#### 5. Cathy Craven awarded major Neilsen Foundation Research Grant

Dr. Cathy Craven was awarded a Major Nelson Foundation Research Grant which provides >\$500,000 over three years. The title of the grant is, "Statin monotherapy for treatment of endocrine metabolic disease risk." This is an extension of Cathy Craven's superb work on the long-term effects of spinal cord injury. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Craven who can be reached at: [cathy.craven@uhn.ca](mailto:cathy.craven@uhn.ca).

#### 6. Mark Bayley receives the Department of Medicine Quality and Innovation Award

Dr. Mark Bayley received a very competitive award from the Department of Medicine for his work on Quality and Innovation. The award was given at the annual Department of Medicine meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Mark made a special trip back from CAPM&R in London Ontario to receive this prestigious award. Congratulations to Dr. Bayley who can be reached at: [mark.bayley@uhn.ca](mailto:mark.bayley@uhn.ca)

#### 7. David Berbrayer to receive 2016 AAPM&R Outstanding Council Service Award

Dr. David Berbrayer will be receiving the 2016 American Academy of PM&R (AAPM&R) Outstanding Council Service Award for his work in the General and Medical Rehabilitation Council. David has done considerable work with the AAPM&R and is quite deserving of this recognition. He will receive this award on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the AAPM&R Annual Assembly in New Orleans. At the same meeting, David's poster was selected as the best poster in the pediatric category. Congratulations to Dr. Berbrayer who can be reached at [david.berbrayer@sunnybrook.ca](mailto:david.berbrayer@sunnybrook.ca).

#### 8. Sivakumar Gulasingam receives 2016 Postgraduate Medical Trainee Leadership Award:

We are pleased to convey that our own Sivakumar Gulasingam (Guli) was a recipient of "Postgraduate Medical Trainee Leadership Award" for 2016 by the PGME, University of Toronto. This award recognizes outstanding initiative and contributions in leadership, medical education, cultural competency and diversity advocacy. The award was presented on May 27th at the meeting of all residency program directors. Congratulations Guli. Guli can be reached at: [drsagulasingam@yahoo.com](mailto:drsagulasingam@yahoo.com).

#### 9. Rajni Nijhawan nominated for Celebrating Education Excellence award.

Dr. Rajni Nijhawan was recognized for her work on student and professional education by being nominated for the Contribution to Student and Professional Education at Toronto Rehab (Clinician) Award. This program recognizes those who have made significant contributions to education and we are pleased to see that Dr. Nijhawan was nominated for this recognition. Rajni may be reached at: [Rajni.nijhawan@uhn.ca](mailto:Rajni.nijhawan@uhn.ca).

#### 10. Quality improvement to look at medication reconciliation

Our division's quality improvement group, led by Alex Lo, are looking at what quality improvement projects can be considered for a city-wide initiative. They have taken a very thoughtful approach to selecting possible topics. The group first looked at vitamin D prescriptions, and whether or not psychiatrists discharge summaries reach the primary care physician. We are actually doing well in both of these measures and now the group is looking at whether or not we have an accurate way of knowing what medications patients are on when they come to visit us in clinic. This is an important project because having an accurate and up-to-date medication list contributes significantly to patient care and quality and safety. I want to extend my thanks to the entire group who is looking at this. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to email Alex Lo at: [alexander.lo@uhn.ca](mailto:alexander.lo@uhn.ca)

#### 11. Division retreat to take place on June 24<sup>th</sup>

As we have emailed out to the faculty in the division, we will be having a retreat on June 24<sup>th</sup> to review our progress on the strategic plan, to have a session on giving constructive feedback to residents, and to provide awards to faculty winners. Dr. Perry Tepperman is chairing our awards committee and keeping all the awardee names a secret. The names are apparently in



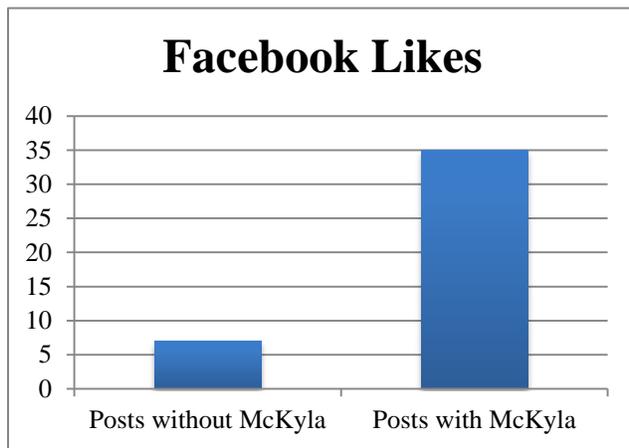
## DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine  
University of Toronto

sealed envelopes in a locked safety deposit in one of our banks and we will only find out the winners on June 24<sup>th</sup>. We do hope division members will be able to join us for this session.

### 12. Ultimate Facebook booster discovered

As many of you know, we now have a Division Facebook page. After extensive analysis, I have discovered that our average post receives about seven likes but any post with McKyla McIntyre in it will generally receive about 35 likes. This is statistically significant at the  $P < .0001$  level. Thank you McKyla for making our Facebook page a success. We will be sure to put your picture into as many posts as we can.



Please let me know if you have items or news to add to the Newsletter. Please also don't forget to check out our Facebook page.

Larry Robinson MD  
Chief, Rehabilitation Services  
John and Sally Eaton Chair in Rehabilitation Science