



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

September 2018

Monthly update Newsletter

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1. Welcome back from summer

We wish to welcome back all those who had some time off this summer as well as to welcome our new learners and new staff who have joined us since last spring.

The Newsletter also had a good summer despite its getting injured in a bicycle crash (we distributed the photos this summer). It has fully recovered after intense rehabilitation for newsletters.

2. Sign-up for U of T, PM&R conference

We are fast approaching the U of T, PM&R conference which is scheduled for November 16th. This is shaping up to be a very relevant conference that will provide information important for anyone treating patients with pain or brain disorders. We have some outstanding speakers as shown on the attached brochure. We would love to see as many people there as possible. Registration is open at www.planetreg.com/TPMRC2018

3. Clinical Scientist training program to soon accept applications

For those trainees who are interested in a Clinician Scientist career, I encourage you to consider the Clinician Scientist training program. This training program provides support for extra training to attain those skills you need to become a successful researcher. If you are considering a career as a Clinician Scientist, I would strongly urge you to think about this early in your residency program. Full details can be found at:

<http://www.deptmedicine.utoronto.ca/eliot-phillipson-clinician-scientist-training-program>

4. PM&R Scientist Profiles added to our website

Thank you to Cathy Craven and her research committee for developing scientist profiles for researchers in our division. Cathy is gradually working with a consultant to develop specific profiles for scientists within our division. Three of the scientists are listed now on our website and more are being developed. Please visit:

<http://www.deptmedicine.utoronto.ca/node/1581> to see the current profiles which add a degree of visibility to our division and our specialty.

5. Exercise medicine opportunity

Dr. David Alter, a faculty member in our cardiac rehabilitation program, is developing a medically-supervised exercise program. He is seeking fully-licensed physiatrists to participate in the program. Please see his message below: Do you have interests in exercise medicine? Would you like to work from home? We are looking for specialists in physiatry, internal medicine, endocrinology, cardiology, and/or sports-medicine to participate in a multidisciplinary telemedicine exercise and risk-factor modification clinic. Guaranteed base salary of \$750 per half-diem (3 hour shift). For more information, please visit myheartfitness.ca.

Interested physicians should contact Nicole at nicole.myheartfitness@gmail.com or (905) 875-0824



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6. Important distinctions between research and clinical fellows

As clarified on the attached message from Dr. Spadafora, Vice Dean, Post MD Education, we do need to be careful about the distinctions between clinical and research fellows. In particular, research fellows cannot have any patient contact. Please see the attached message from Dr. Spadafora.

7. 2nd Annual Canadian Peripheral Nerve Symposium to occur November 9, 2018

As in the attached brochure, the 2nd Annual Canadian Peripheral Nerve Symposium will occur on November 9, 2018 in London, Ontario. This is a great setting for us to interact with specialists in neurology, plastic surgery, and other fields. The agenda looks excellent with a pioneer in peripheral nerve surgery, Susan Mackinnon, Washington University, St. Louis, giving a keynote address. We encourage you all to consider attending this conference.

8. Andrea Furlan in the National Post newspaper

We were very pleased to see the National Post interview with Dr. Andrea Furlan last month. She did an excellent interview on treating chronic pain and discussing why pain is so poorly understood and how opioids fit into the available treatment options. You can read this post at:

<https://nationalpost.com/health/why-pain-and-how-best-to-treat-it-is-still-a-grey-area-of-medicine/>

9. Matt Godleski wins two prestigious awards

We were pleased to see that Matt Godleski won two prestigious awards from Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre this year. First, he won the Medical Grand Rounds of the Year Award for the best grand rounds of 2017-2018. This was presented at Bayview Campus and focused on burn rehabilitation. More recently, he also won the Sunnybrook, Department of Medicine, Young Teacher Award. This was to recognize how he has distinguished himself as a “prolific, committed, engaged and effective teacher”. This award is doubly important both because it recognizes Matt as an outstanding teach but also because is still young. Congratulations Matt!

10. Sivakumar Gulasingham continues to show leadership in Para and adaptive sports

Sivakumar Gulasingham was involved in two pioneering events in para / adaptive sports.

Being the 1st IPC World Para Dance Sport (WPDS) Classifier for Americas, he was a course instructor at the inaugural IPC WPDS Para Dance Sport Coaches Training workshop for North America, held at the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Detroit in June, 2018. He partnered with Maria Carmen (Mexico), an IPC WPDS para dance sport coaching instructor in delivering the two day workshop.

In addition Sivakumar and Dr. Julia Alleyne took part at the inaugural classification workshop for adaptive skating in Canada held in June 2018 in Toronto, Canada. International adaptive skating representatives from Ireland, Iceland and USA also attended this workshop.



IPC WPDS Coaches Training Workshop, Detroit, USA



Adaptive Skating Classification Workshop, Toronto



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11. Meiqi Guo promoted to Assistant Professor

Congratulations are extended to Meiqi Guo who was just recently promoted to Assistant Professor in the Division of PM&R, Department of Medicine. Meiqi's appointment took effect September 1, 2018.

12. Audrey Yap's baby news

Congratulations to Audrey Yap who is a new Mom. Samera Nusaputra arrived into the world June 29, 2018, 7lbs 7 oz. Audrey Yap and Adrian Nusaputra are the proud adoptive parents of their little miracle baby girl.



13. Larry Robinson has a new favourite animal

Until recently, Tapirs were Dr. Robinson's favourite animal. Recently however, he went to the Zoo in High Park. There, he met the Capybaras, which are the largest known rodents. These commonly weight over 100lbs. If anyone knows of a Capybara who is seeking adoption to a good home, please let him know.



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.

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