



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

September 2022

Monthly update Newsletter

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1. Sivakumar Gulasingam amongst top 25 Canadian Immigrants

We were very pleased to see the article in the Toronto Star highlighting the Top 25 Canadian Immigrant of the Year Awards (2022). We were most pleased to see our own Sivakumar Gulasingam amongst the top immigrants receiving the award. This is in addition to his Department of Medicine Humanism Award that he received a few short years ago. Congratulations can be extended to Sivakumar at Sivakumar.gulasingam@uhn.ca. Please see the links below for additional details and a picture of Sivakumar:

1. Canadian Immigrant website and the 1 min video

<https://canadianimmigrant.ca/canadas-top-25-immigrants/canadas-top-25-immigrants-2022/dr-sivakumar-gulasingam>

2. The Toronto Star:

<https://www.thestar.com/life/together/people/2022/08/28/photo-highlights-from-the-top-25-canadian-immigrant-awards.html>

3. The 2022 Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award Winners. (Click on the respective individuals to review their profiles)

<https://canadianimmigrant.ca/canadas-top-25-immigrants/canadas-top-25-immigrants-2022>

2. Several comments received after the passing of Charles Godfrey

"I recalled training with Dr Godfrey at Wellesley hospital in the mid-80s on the EMG rotation (his technologist Olive Shears also later worked with me). Even back then, I was struck by his humble yet observant, sharp demeanor. He was always encouraging (including always taking stairs, not elevators!) and walked the talk in "physician, heal (and rehab) thyself". I am sure his patients, residents and colleagues have all been touched by his legacy!

May you rest in peace, Charles!"

Gordon Ko

"I met Dr. Godfrey in 1978 when I was a Ward Physician at the Princes Margaret Hospital which was next to Wellesley Hospital at that time. He was the chief of PM&R at both Hospitals and impressed me with the skill of a physiatrist, and so he had an influence on my decision to get into the program.

Great fellow. RIP Charles".

Rafe

"It is a sad news. Dr Godfrey will remain an icon in the field of physiatry specifically, but also in medicine. I remember him as the director of research in department of PMR when I was a resident. At that time PMR was an independent department in University of Toronto. Dr Godfrey headed many clinical programs in Wellesley Hospital, now part of Holland Orthopedic Center. They included a foot clinic, the only one in Ontario. In 1984 as a staff physiatrist, I got an approval and MOH funding for an interdisciplinary foot clinic at Toronto Western Hospital, also the first MOH funded clinic in Ontario. Dr Godfrey congratulated me and said, "I am so pleased to pass on the baton to you". He will be remembered as the leader not only in PM&R but also in Ontario politics and for spearheading a charitable medical clinic in Nepal, the first of its kind".

Satyendra Sharma



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3. Audrey Yap to receive Distinguished Educator Award

We were pleased to hear that Audrey Yap, based at Sinai Health, will be receiving a Distinguished Educator Award from Sinai Health to recognize her excellence in providing an exceptional learning experience. This award recognizes individuals who have gone above and beyond in their contribution to learner education through:

1. Serving as an excellent role model
2. Fostering a uniquely safe and challenging learning environment
3. Identifying, prioritizing and facilitating exceptional learning opportunities in collaboration with learners
4. Providing outstanding coaching and feedback that encourages reflection and growth

We are proud of our colleague for receiving this award. Congratulations can be sent to Audrey at:

Audrey.Yap@sinaihealth.ca

4. Peter Broadhurst promoted to Assistant Professor

We were happy to see that Peter Broadhurst is now promoted to Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine. Congratulations are extended to Peter who also leads our medical student education programs for the division. Peter may be reached at peterkass.broadhurst@sunnybrook.ca.

5. Dhinesh Sivananthan appointed as Adjunct Lecturer

We are pleased to announce that our own resident graduate Dhinesh Sivananthan has been appointed as Adjunct Lecturer based at the Scarborough Hospital Network in the Integrated Stroke Unit. Dhinesh will be participating in educational programs based at Scarborough and we are pleased to welcome him on our faculty. Dhinesh may be reached at: dsivananthan1@shn.ca.

6. Rebecca Titman welcomes new addition to her family

Rebecca Titman would like to introduce her newborn Aria who joined her family in July. “She is a bundle of joy, although concerned about the pressure being placed on her to join the U of T Division of PM&R (a gift from the residency program when her older sister was born!). Rebecca may be reached at: Rebecca.Titman2@sinaihealth.ca.



7. Virtual care Primer

We were happy to receive, from McKyla McIntyre, a Primer on virtual care which updates changes in OMA and MOH positions for resident agreement (attached). We are particularly pleased that our own McKyla McIntyre serves as Vice-Chair on the Department of Medicine virtual care council and represents us well in this capacity. McKyla may be reached at: mckyla.mcintyre@uhn.ca

8. Regenerative Orthopaedic Medicine Conference

We have heard from our colleague, Gordon Ko, that there will be a conference in Ottawa on November 18 and November 19, 2022, at the Delta Marriott, City Centre, regarding Regenerative Orthopaedic Medicine. This will include areas such as ultrasound, PRP, Ozone, Prolotherapy and other areas. Please see attached conference brochure for more information which is a CME accredited event.



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9. Do you like Thomas the Tank Engine?

We were happy to view a nice video from our plastic surgery colleague, Jana Dengler, which emphasizes the importance of early referral for peripheral nerve injuries. The brief video is available on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9B3fgcMqI4>) which uses an analogy of trains to inform patients the importance of timeliness in seeking care for peripheral nerve injuries. If you like Thomas the Tank Engine, which features Ringo Starr, than I'm sure you'll enjoy this video.

10. EMG impressions that rhyme

At the most recent AANEM meeting (American EMG conference), Larry Robinson challenged members to come up with an EMG diagnostic impression in the form of a poem, haiku or limerick. Below are three that were particularly good:

Poetry Example – Sandra Hearn

It sounded like some kind of fiction.
Parsonage-Turner and all of such diction.
But the fibrillations I found
made me get ultrasound:
Wow! Suprascapular hourglass constriction!

Haiku example – Jessica Hafner

A peroneal nerve
Against a fibular head
Got mildly compressed

Limerick example – Bonnie Weigert

There was a woman from Nantucket
Whose toilet was just a large bucket
Her gait was so sad
Sciatics were bad
when her bottom could not be unstuck it

Please also take a look on AANEM connect (for those who are members) if you are interested in seeing additional ones.
<https://www.aanem.org/Membership/Member-Portal/AANEM-Connect?threadid=4144>

As always, let us know if you have stories of interest that you would like to have distributed in upcoming newsletters and don't forget to connect with our Twitter site @UofT_Physiatry.

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