DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine
University of Toronto

October 2021

Monthly update Newsletter

1. Welcome to newly-appointed U of T Faculty Members
   We are pleased to report that we have three new faculty members recently added to our roster. Rebecca Titman (Rebecca.titman2@sinahealth.ca) was appointed as a full-time Assistant Professor as of August 1, 2021. Jordan Farag (Jordan.farag@uhn.ca) was appointed as a full-time Lecturer as of November 1, 2021 and Alexandra (Ali) Rendely (alexandra.rendely@uhn.ca) was appointed as a full-time Lecturer as of November 1, 2021. We are very pleased to welcome these three outstanding individuals, whom we know quite well, to our faculty.

2. Peter Broadhurst wins Young Teacher Award from Sunnybrook Department of Medicine
   We were very pleased to see our own Peter Broadhurst win the Sunnybrook Department of Medicine Young Teacher Award on October 21st during the Awards Ceremony. This prestigious award recognizes the excellent reputation Peter has developed as a teacher both at the medical student and the resident levels. It also, of course, reinforces Peter’s youthful appearance. Congratulations are extended to Peter on this award who may be reached at: PeterKass.Broadhurst@sunnybrook.ca

3. Toronto PM&R conference November 5, 12 and 19
   The annual Toronto PM&R conference will be occurring on three Fridays in November: November 5, 12 and 19 from 12:00 noon to 2:00pm. We have an excellent line-up with day one focused on brain injury and neurologic disorders, day two focused on spinal cord injury topics and day three focused on ALS, skin and amputees. The full conference listing can be found online at: https://www.torontopmrconference.com/2021/. Registration is required.

4. Head Injury Echoes (echoes, echoes) – A calculator to determine the risk of experiencing symptoms of a concussion
   We were happy to see the work led by Mark Bayley that allows one to predict the risk of long-lasting concussion symptoms. Mark and colleagues from KITE used data from the Ontario Concussion Cohort Study to identify those who are at most risk for prolonged symptoms. The calculator is elegant in its simplicity with only 5 questions, and is a very effective way to predict the risk of future symptoms. We encourage you to visit it at: https://temertymedicine.utoronto.ca/news/head-injury-echoes or https://kite-uhn.com/tricordrr
5. **Apologies to our own Charles Godfrey for comment identified in the prior newsletter**
   In the September 2021 newsletter, we had a picture of Larry Robinson with Mr. Peanut and a remark that he was over-ripe at the age of 104 (which does seem old for a peanut). We were happy, as we always are, to hear from our own Charles Godfrey. He reported, “I enjoy your comments but object to your labelling Mr. Peanut to an over-ripe age of 104, as I have passed that savory spot and continue to solve my colleague’s peanut problems. Best regards, Charles”.
   Charles, we definitely agree and are happy that you continue to contribute significantly to our specialty and our colleagues.

6. **Larry Robinson survives consumption of giant mushroom**
   Recently, Larry Robinson was bicycling with his wife near their home when they found a giant mushroom. Initially, they thought it was a soccer ball but realized it was probably an edible mushroom. After reading about puff mushrooms, they realized that it was edible because it was pure white, had an easy-to-peel skin, and had no gills or spores. The mushroom was indeed delicious although it ended up shrinking down to a third of its initial size. Generally however, it’s ill-advised to eat anything that is bigger than one’s head - but perhaps this is an exception.

As always, let us know if you have stories of interest that you would like to have distributed.

Don’t forget to connect with our Twitter site @UofT_Physiatry.

![Larry Robinson holding mushroom](image)

Larry Robinson MD
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