



## DIVISION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Department of Medicine  
University of Toronto

September 2020

### Monthly update Newsletter

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1. Congratulations to Alborz Oshidari for promotion to Assistant Professor

We were pleased to hear that Alborz has been promoted to Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto effective September 1, 2020. This promotion is long overdue though we are very pleased to see it take effect. Please extend congratulations to Alborz Oshidari who can be reached at: [alborz.oshidari@uhn.ca](mailto:alborz.oshidari@uhn.ca)

2. Amanda Mayo appointed as permanent Associate Director of C-QuIPs

We are glad to hear that Amanda has been appointed as Associate Director for C-QuIPs. She previously had been interim Associate Director, but has been doing such an excellent job she now has the permanent position. Amanda has strong credentials in QI having been involved in the QI certificate courses as well as EQUIP. She also recently won a QI award from the Department of Medicine at Sunnybrook Hospital. This is especially good for our division as it demonstrates further advancement in the building of strong QI credentials for our division and an excellent critical mass. Given all the work that our QI faculty members and residents have done over the last few years, we are really in the upper level of quality and innovation work in PM&R in North America. Please extend congratulations to Amanda who can be reached at: [Amanda.mayo@sunnybrook.ca](mailto:Amanda.mayo@sunnybrook.ca).

3. David Langelier highlighted in UHN story

We are pleased to see that David was recognized for his superb work in cancer rehab in a recent UHN story. This story highlighted his work to provide personalized cancer rehabilitation for those with cancer-related impairments. In his position as a clinical investigator, David is also bringing a research approach to this area. The full story can be seen at: [https://www.uhn.ca/corporate/News/Pages/Precision\\_Medicine\\_for\\_Cancer\\_Rehab.aspx](https://www.uhn.ca/corporate/News/Pages/Precision_Medicine_for_Cancer_Rehab.aspx)

4. Congratulations to Tony Burns, 2020 Fellow of ASIA

Congratulations to Tony Burns who has been named as 2020 Fellow of Asia. Fellowship in the American Spinal Injury Association (FASIA) is bestowed by the Board of Directors in recognition of distinguished accomplishments within the fields of spinal cord injury research, clinical practice, education and advocacy, and for a longstanding active membership of service to the society. Please extend congratulations to Tony can be reached at: [Anthony.burns@uhn.ca](mailto:Anthony.burns@uhn.ca).

5. Angela Mailis recognized for leadership in pain treatment in veterans

Angela Mailis, professor in our division, recently told us that the Vaughan Pain and Wellness Centre, which she leads, was selected by the Centre of Excellence (CoC Vets) for veterans at DeGroote to become the 11<sup>th</sup> pain clinic for veterans in Canada. There are only 3 other designated pain clinics in Ontario (Hamilton, Kingston and Ottawa). Angela's clinic will be the clinic to cover the GTA and extend beyond other areas as well. We are pleased to see Angela and her clinic provide services to those veterans who have served in the armed forces. Angela can be reached at: [angela.mailis@uhn.ca](mailto:angela.mailis@uhn.ca).



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6. Toronto PM&R three day virtual conferences  
Co-chairs Hussein Amani and Larry Robinson, together with planning committee members David Berbrayer, Chantal Vaidyanath, and Gordon Ko, will bring together superb experts to give high impact interactive lectures and to disseminate cutting-edge information on topics pertinent of PM&R. On November 5, 13 and 20 at 1200 to 1400 EDT, these accredited group learning activities (group 1) will take place virtually. Please see enclosed brochure. The full program and registration is now available at: <https://www.torontopmrconference.com/2020/>
7. Toronto Neurology Update  
This years' Toronto Neurology Update conference will be held virtually and will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The conference is targeted towards non-neurologists and will include PM&R topics. Some of the talks will be on concussions, dizziness, memory difficulties, cannabis, movement disorders, sleep and headaches. Please see link for more information. <https://www.cpd.utoronto.ca/torontoneurology/agenda/>
8. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Rheumatology Ultrasound Society Basic course  
The first of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Rheumatology Ultrasound Society Basic courses will take place virtually and will focus on the basics of musculoskeletal ultrasonography. The format will be online anatomy review, lectures and live Q and A sessions. Dates are October 24, 25, 2020 and March 27-28, 2021. Weekend 1: hand, wrist, ankle and feet. Weekend 2: shoulder, elbow, hip, knee. Please see enclosed CRUS\_TorontoGH)\_Basic\_Course2020\_hr, enclosed for more details.
9. Siobhan Donaghy, Jennifer Shaffer and Larry Robinson rehabINK podcast released  
MSc-PT students Bernice Lau & Chelsea Chua have a conversation with Larry Robinson, Siobhan Donaghy, OT, St. John's Rehab & Jennifer Shaffer, PT, St. John's Rehab, to discuss the role of rehabilitation in response to COVID-19. The presentation can be heard at: <https://rehabinkmag.com/podcast/>
10. Are you providing care outside of the country? Do you have the license you need?  
With the ramp-up in virtual care, it has become easier to treat patients not only in Ontario but in other provinces and in other countries. While there are many benefits of doing this, you should also be aware of the risks, particularly when patients are located outside our country. Many jurisdictions consider that the practice of medicine takes place where the patient is physically located (not where the physician is located). If you are providing care to patients located in other countries, you may be technically practicing medicine in a jurisdiction in which you are not licensed to. I would encourage you to see the attached email from Dan Cass (Sunnybrook, Chief Medical Executive) to Sunnybrook Medical Staff for more details. You may also contact CMPA for additional questions. Larry Robinson has considerable experience with these kinds of legal questions as well.
11. Are cars safer today than 50 years ago?  
If you are wondering about whether the lighter weight cars of today are safer than the more sturdily built cars of yesteryear, there is an interesting video on the Institute for Highway Safety. In 2009, they crashed a 1959 Chevrolet Bel Air into a 2009 (50 years later) Chevrolet Malibu. The video is impressive and demonstrates the significant developments in crash safety that have evolved over the last 50 years even in moderately-priced mid-sized cars. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJ5PcWziXT0&ab\\_channel=crashtests-database](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJ5PcWziXT0&ab_channel=crashtests-database)
12. U of T, Clinician Scientist Startup Funding  
U of T, Department of Medicine Clinician Scientist Startup Funding offers a stipend to exceptional clinician scientists in the early phases of their careers. The details of the support provided, along with eligibility criteria are provided in the enclosed attachment. If you have any questions, please contact the DoM, Research Administrator at: [dom.research@utoronto.ca](mailto:dom.research@utoronto.ca).
13. Peeps become a pandemic casualty  
We were very sad to learn that marshmallow Peeps will not be produced in anticipation of the Hallowe'en and Christmas holidays this year. I know this is very sad news to many and I am sorry to tell you in the newsletter instead of in-person. Hopefully you have stored unopened Peeps (they last forever when unopened) that you can draw upon in the time of need later this year. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/09/13/business/no-peeps-this-year-production-pause-trnd/index.html>



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As always, let us know if you have stories of interest that you would like to have distributed, check out our Facebook page at Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, University of Toronto, and don't forget to connect with our Twitter site @UofT\_Physiatry.

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John and Sally Eaton Chair in Rehabilitation Science