## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Message from the Director</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards and Recognitions</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Received</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Update for Adult CCM</td>
<td>7-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Updates from SickKids</td>
<td>9-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launch of COIN website</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article from Dr. Fowler</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article from Shaurya Taran</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program updates</td>
<td>14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Art Slutsky Day, End of Year Celebration.</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDCCM publications</td>
<td>16-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear colleagues and friends,

I know climate change is a major concern but I still hope you enjoy the summer and some well-deserved relaxing time.

These last two years have been difficult, and beyond the COVID pandemic. In Canada, the revelation of the unmarked graves from residential schools has been a shock (the last Indian residential school closed in 1996), and discussion of systemic racism were raised everywhere.

Although we have also been shocked by the death of Joyce Echaquan, we tended to feel, as health-care professionals, that this was ...not us. The recent political move for removing race correction in medicine should be another eye-opener. It reveals how blinded or biased one can be and accept long-standing prejudices with the best intentions, if someone does not shake our minds. Many formulae used to calculate "normal values" use a correction factor for race that results in making the "mildly sick" black people (and other non-White ‘races’ as well) looking "normal" because of this correction, and the very sick looking less sick. There are good reasons to explain where it comes from. At a population level, black people being more exposed to poor socio-economic and worse environmental conditions will display a higher percentage of people having abnormal values, but this is not because of their race. There is no biological justification for it, race being a social construct. Such formulae are used for pulmonary function tests (and race ‘correction’ is programmed into the spirometers by the manufacturers) but there are multiple other examples such as normal renal function (estimated glomerular filtration rate) or diagnosis of urinary tract infection in children (see American Academy of Pediatrics Clinical Practice Guideline for Urinary Tract Infection in Infants and Young Children With Fever). Therefore black people are less likely to be diagnosed as being sick and offered an adequate treatment. In the ICU, we could add that we have known for decades that black skin makes the reading of pulse oximetry less reliable, but no algorithm or protocol ever tried to correct it!

In a recent issue of the American Journal of Critical Care Medicine (PubMed: 35500908), Martin J. Tobin relates the story of the so-called Tuskegee syphilis experiment for the 50th anniversary of its uncovering (1972), when the public learned that the Public Health Service in the USA (precursor of the CDC) for 40 years intentionally withheld effective therapy against a life-threatening illness in 400 African American men. The story is terrible, coming from the very heart of the medical and research world, and has been made possible because of strong implicit racist biases of very honorable people. The lessons to be learnt are essential but unfortunately not simple to apply because we are still not sure to understand ...how our brain really works. Nothing new, however, since the foundations of modern medicine often came from the contributions of nonconsenting enslaved, colonized and imprisoned subjects, especially in infectious diseases (see Maladies of Empire, Jim Downs, Belknap press, London England 2021).

I feel humble for serving our community in Toronto and continue to admire and enjoy the fantastic work done by this division. Stay safe, stay well and have fun!

Laurent Brochard, MD
Division Director, Interdepartmental Division of Critical Care Medicine
Awards/ Recognitions

Congratulations to **Dr. Karen Burns** for being awarded a mid-Career researcher award by the American Thoracic Society Critical Care Assembly!

This award is to recognize individuals with a clear commitment to the Critical Care Assembly and the ATS, with demonstrated significant and meaningful contributions to the CCA in the area(s) of research, clinical care, quality improvement, teaching, mentoring, promoting diversity, advocacy, and/or service.

Congratulations to **Dr. Rob Fowler**, recipient of the Eaton Scholar Researcher of the Year in Clinical Research in the Department of Medicine, University of Toronto, for 2022!

Congratulations to **Dr. Nava Maham and Dr. Jeff Singh**. They are recognized as one of the teachers in the top 10% of all faculty teaching in the MD Program.

Congratulation to **Dr. Lisabury** received the Presidential Citation Award. The Presidential Citation Award recognizes an SCCM member for their extraordinary contributions of time, resources, and innovation to the Society.
Promotions

- **Dr. Andrea Rigamonti** is promoted to Associate Professor
- **Dr. Laveena Munshi** is promoted to Associate Professor
- **Dr. David Klein** is promoted to Associate Professor
- **Dr. Neill Adhikari** is promoted to Associate Professor
- **Dr. Shelly Dev** is promoted to Associate Professor
- **Dr. Michael-Alice Moga** (from SickKids) is promoted to Associate Professor
- **Dr. Alejandro (Alex) Floh** (from SickKids) is promoted to Associate Professor

Congratulations to you all!

IDCCM Trainee Research Award

We were delighted to announce the recipients of the first IDCCM Trainee Research Awards 2022. Designed to provide research support for those not yet in a faculty position, the IDCCM gave out five $10,000 awards. Thank you to all the applicants and the review committee for their time and effort. The winners are:

1. **Dr. Jose Dianti** (Research Fellow)
   “Feasibility of Reducing Respiratory Drive in Patients with Acute Hypoxemic Respiratory Failure using the Through-Flow System”
   Supervisor: Dr. Ewan Goligher
2. **Dr. Amanda Formosa** (Fellow University of Toronto)
   “Profiling RNA levels in peripheral blood of critically ill patients with COVID-19”
   Supervisor: Claudia DosSantos
3. **Dr. Diana Morales Castro** (Research Fellow)
   “Volatile Anesthetic, Antibiotic, and Sedative Pharmacokinetics during Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation(VASP-ECMO)”
   Supervisor: Eddy Fan
4. **Dr. Varuna Prakash** (Fellow, University of Toronto)
   “Examining and Improving the Quality of Clinical Documentation in Intensive Care Units”
   Supervisor: Andre Carlos Amaral
5. **Dr. Christopher Yarnell** (Clinical Associate)
   “The optimal thresholds for initiation of invasive ventilation in hypoxemic respiratory failure are unknown”
   Supervisor: Rob Fowler

Congratulations to everyone!
Grants Received

1. Life-Threatening Illness National Group (LiTfING) fund
CIHR announced $2.4M in funding for the Life-Threatening Illness National Group (LiTfING) Research Training Platform: Spanning Boundaries Between Research and Care. Led by Dominique Piquette (Sunnybrook Research Institute), Patricia Fontela (McGill University), and Denise Jaworsky (University of Northern British Columbia), the platform is one of 13 unique training programs funded through the Government of Canada’s Health Research Training Platform (HRTP).

The national LiTfING open research training platform is designed to break research silos between disciplines, professions, institutions, and jurisdictions. It will enable trainees to be better connected, more knowledgeable, and more effective in their research careers. Deeply anchored in EDI principles, the platform will train traditional and non-traditional researchers and research coordinators who are able to conduct high-quality research where, when, and for whom it matters the most. The Platform virtual curricula, hands-on experiences, and mentorship activities will provide learning opportunities that are tailored to each trainee, with mandatory and elective modules designed to address core competencies required for conducting healthcare research in this day and age.

LiTfING is supported by the CCCTG, Sepsis Canada and a list of 20 partners that include national or international, interdisciplinary, and inter-professional research networks, professional associations, and nonprofit organizations.

Most LiTfING training program activities will be accessible to or shared with CCCTG members and the Network of Clinical Trials Networks. We will be sure to keep you updated on opportunities as they arise.
A big congratulations to Dominique, Patricia, and Denise and the LiTfING team!

2. Project Grant - Patient-Oriented Research

3. LANDMARK II RCT fund
Education Update for Adult CCM

The summer marks the end of one academic year and the beginning a new one in the IDCCM. It is a time to reflect on the successes and challenges of the year and to congratulate our graduates while welcoming our incoming trainees. As always a highlight of the year is the annual Art Slutsky Day. Art Slutsky Day was held virtually again this year although we were able host an in-person, social event at Mill Street Brewery in the Distillery District. The quality of the presentations at Art Slutsky Day was impressive and featured a talk titled “COVID-19 Pneumonia & ARDS: What Have We Learned? “ by this year’s visiting professor Dr. Michael Matthay (UCSF).

We were able to celebrate our trainees, researchers and teachers during our annual awards presentation:

- **Simon Abrahamson Award**: Colm Bretnach
- **John Laffey Award**: Catherine Proulx
- **John Granton Award**: Alberto Goffi

**Site Teaching Awards:**
- **SMH**: Albero Goffi
- **SHSC**: Bourke Tilman
- **TWH**: Jeff Singh
- **MSH**: Christie Lee and Laveena Munshi
- **TGH**: Ewan Goligher
- **Sick Kids**: Christina Maratta
- **Community sites**: Anna Geagea and Vatsal Trivedi

**Congratulations to our 2022 Royal College Graduates:**
- Abhinay Sathya
- Amanda Formosa
- Cameron Landry
- Maha Al-Mandhari

**Congratulations to our Graduating Clinical Fellows:**
- Alice Grassi
- Nikolas Evangelatos
- Dekel Stavi
- Maitham Awadh
- Sergio Pereira
- Natthida Owattanapanich
- Divyajot Sadana
- Nikhil Anish
- Tasneem Mehesry

**We also welcome our incoming residents:**
- Ryan Adessky
- Robert Jackson
- Shahmir Sohail
- Jesse May
- Rochelle Melvin
- Jacob Michie
- Abdullah Alalaiyan
- Joshua Mehta
We thank our outgoing Chief Resident, Cam Landry and our outgoing Chief Fellow, Stephan von During for their outstanding leadership and dedication. Our incoming Chief Resident is Varuna Prakash and our incoming Chief Fellow is Andres Guzman. We look forward to working with them over the upcoming academic year.

This year’s Academic half day (AHD) series was kicked off by a social event hosted by Dr. Shelly Dev. It was a great opportunity for trainees and faculty to meet and mingle in a social setting. Although our AHD remains virtual for now we hope to move to a hybrid model in the near future. We are all looking forward to more opportunities to meet in person and learn from each other this upcoming year.

David Hall, MD
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine
Program Director for Adult Critical Care Medicine
University of Toronto

Pictures from Pub Night – IDCCM Year End Celebration 2022
Updates from PCCM

Farewell to our PCCM Graduating Trainees!

The Department of Critical Care Medicine at SickKids would like to congratulate our 2022 graduating trainees:

- Dr. Catherine Proulx
- Dr. Camilla Halgren
- Dr. Vanaja Sivakumar
- Dr. Ammar Al Zadjali
- Dr. Cory Anderson
- Dr. Colm Breatnach
- Dr. Madeline Burdick
- Dr. Daniel Ehrmann
- Dr. John Glazebrook
- Dr. Yasser Kazzaz
- Dr. Veronique Masy
- Dr. Fiona Perelini
- Dr. Linda Riemer

Excellence in Resource Stewardship Teaching Award

PCCM Staff Physician, Dr. Alejandro Floh was selected as the recipient of the inaugural Excellence in Resource Stewardship Teaching Award in the MD Program, Temerty Faculty of Medicine | University of Toronto.

John Edmonds Award

Dr. Colm Breatnach and Dr. Tanya Haj-Hassan were the 2021-2022 winners of the John Edmonds Teaching Award. This award is given annually to the Paediatric Critical Care trainee/s who are recognized for teaching excellence in the CCU as judged by the rotating and elective trainees. This year it was a tie!
CCCTG Education Travel Award

Dr. Olugbenga Akinkugbe, PCCM Clinical and Research Fellow and Dr. David Zorko, Clinical Resident where both recipients of the Canadian Critical Care Trial Group Education Travel Award.

End of Year Picnic

We finished our year with a small picnic for our PCCM trainees and Staff Physicians and families at Ashbridge’s Bay at the end of June to celebrate the end of the academic year and say farewell to the trainees leaving.
Launch of the COIN Website

We are excited to officially announce the launch of our website http://www.oncicu.com as part of the Critical Care Oncologic Investigative Network (COIN) initiative based out of Sinai Health and Princess Margaret Cancer Centre. The site features the latest oncologic critical care research as well as educational materials and QI resources that we hope will be helpful for anyone caring for critically ill patients with cancer.

If you have suggestions to improve this site or want to get involved in COIN, we would love to hear from you.

Drs. Laveena Munshi, Michael Detsky, Bruno Ferreyro, and Jenna Spring
H. Barrie Fairley Scholars Program

We are delighted to announce the inaugural H. Barrie Fairley Scholars competition for early-career IDCCM clinician-scientists, investigators, quality and innovation, or educators with a focus on research. Scholars receive up to $30,000 research operating funds over the two-year period of the award. From an incredibly talented junior faculty, the first three biennial Scholars are Laveena Munshi (Evaluating Subphenotypes in Patients with Cancer and Acute Respiratory Failure: ESCAPE Study), Lorenzo Del Sorbo (Identify mechanical ventilation strategies to reduce lung injury during extracorporeal membrane oxygenation for ARDS) and Victoria McCredie (Exploring Electroencephalographic Dynamic Biomarkers of Secondary Brain Injury after Subarachnoid Hemorrhage). Congratulations Laveena, Lorenzo and Victoria!

Update from the Canadian Critical Care Trials Group and COVID-19 Network of Clinical Trials Networks

The profession of critical care has taken a central clinical role during the COVID pandemic, and accordingly, has helped to generate much of the evidence underlying the epidemiology and treatment of patients. Members of the IDCCM have led many of the national and international research efforts. The ATTACC trial (Ewan Goligher, Patrick Lawler) generated evidence supporting the use of therapeutic anticoagulation for non-critically ill patients, and evidence against its use among those who are critically ill. The LOVIT trial (Neill Adhikari) examining separately patients with sepsis and those with COVID, has found that adults with sepsis receiving vasopressor therapy in the ICU who received intravenous vitamin C had a higher risk of death or persistent organ dysfunction at 28 days than those who received placebo (we eagerly await the findings for COVIDI). The ongoing REMAP trial (John Marshall) international collaboration has led to an incredible number of findings, including the effectiveness of tocilizumab and sarilumab, corticosteroids, anticoagulation (with ATTACC investigators) and the apparent ineffectiveness of lopinavir-ritonavir, hydroxychloroquine, antiplatelet agents and convalescent plasma. The CATCO trial (many IDCCM members) demonstrated that remdesivir reduced the need for mechanical ventilation. There are a number of ongoing trials including CAVIARDS (Laurant Brochard), SAVE-ICU (Brian Cuthbertson and Angela Jerath), HONOUR (Damon Scales, Niall Ferguson, Fede Angriman, Bruno Ferreyro), and more to come. Understanding the outcomes of our patients is of critical importance - the Canadian COVID-19 Prospective Cohort Study (CANCOV) is a platform observational study that provides a comprehensive evaluation of early to 2-year outcomes (Margaret Herridge, Angela Cheung, Jane Batt, Claudia Dos Santos and many others).

Led by the CCCTG, the CIHR funded COVID-19 Network of Clinical Trials Networks, aims to increase collaboration across trials, disciplines and interventions, with direct support to sites for research activities, support for increasing incorporation of interventions into platform trials, research data strategies within hospitals and increasing linkage of trial data to population health data, engagement of increasingly diverse stakeholders and patients to our trials, development of an Indigenous research council, and importantly, tracking success and challenges.

Robert Fowler, MD
Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto
Morning brew

This is how my day begins: by washing out yesterday’s coffee grounds from the half-finished coffee pot, which stands in the same corner on my countertop as it did when I first installed it there, four years ago.

The coffee is gritty against my fingers, like sand, and I am briefly reminded of a trip I took earlier this summer. It was to a beach on the English coast – a place I likely won’t see again for years – but this grittiness brings me back for a moment, to the memory of walking barefoot against that ocean.

The apparatus washed, I add enough fresh coffee to make a full pot, knowing I will never finish, not even with my wife’s help. I hit the brew cycle and the water begins to boil. The room fills with the warm, familiar smell of my favourite dark roast. My wife and I picked this bean out from a Quebec supplier and it has since become our staple. We return twice a year to that same place, six hours from home, to pick it out. Such is the extent of our unwillingness to depart from a routine.

Google Home brings me the morning news: there has been another shooting in the United States. President Biden vows that this time, things will change. Things must change.

Light filters in through the half-opened curtains. I am only half-aware of the pinging on my phone (the emails have started). The rising of dark liquid in the pot, the steady creep against the glass, which always stops at the same line, challenges the uncertainty I feel about the rest of the day. It reassures me that some things don’t change.

There is a familiarity in this routine, of making a morning brew, that anchors me to the day in a way that nothing else can.

Dr. Shaurya Taran
University of Toronto
Virtual Art Slutsky Research Day!

June 21, 2022

Even though Art Slutsky Day 2022 was still a virtual event, we were so delighted to welcome our community to our Beer Hall social evening- the first in-person IDCCM event since COVID began! Our community remains strong and productive and we continue to be so proud of the enormous depth and breadth of scholarly work from our pediatric, adult and interprofessional critical care faculty and learners across the University of Toronto. Once again, Virtual Art Slutsky Day helped to celebrate the many strengths and contributions of our IDCCM community at the University of Toronto!

Despite our Virtual format, the day garnered great enthusiasm and strong attendance at AS Day this year, including up to 120 faculty, trainees, and other colleagues who joined us through the ZOOM. Our faculty judges vetted 52 abstracts from basic and clinical science, quality, physiology and education contributed by our adult and pediatric trainees. As in previous years, the quality of the work was outstanding!

Distinguished Speakers:

Dr. Kaveh Shojani: In the wake of his timely and thoughtful CMAJ commentary, we were honoured to have Dr. Shojania speak to our community on “What are the right research targets in the context of the massive health crises we face?” This was an inspired discussion of how our medical community needs to urgently prioritize and engage in addressing our current Canadian health crises.

Dr. Michael Matthay: We were so very privileged to have Dr. Matthay serve as our distinguished featured speaker this year and, as a pioneer in ARDS clinical and translational research work, to share his thoughts on “COVID-19 Pneumonia & ARDS: What Have We Learned?”. As an international and historic content expert, he provided a unique perspective on COVID ARDS; our interventions, challenges and future directions as we currently revisit the ARDS definition and approach to care for our sickest patients.

Drs. Camilla Halgren and Colm Breathnach (Pediatrics) and Drs. Cameron Landry and Stephan Von During (Adult) shared entertaining and also poignant videos reflecting the challenging and lighter moments from critical care training.

Oral and Abstract Presentation Awards

The lead authors of the top 11 abstracts were:

1. Irene Telias
2. Rajiv Sanwal
3. Shaurya Taran
4. Thomas Bodley
5. Federico Angriman
6. Naheed Jivraj
7. David Zorko
8. Koren Teo
9. Laura Dragoi
10. Antenor Rodrigues
11. Nicole Yada

From this group of 11 abstracts, the team of IDCCM judges awarded 2 overall prizes!

CONGRATULATIONS to:

1st Place Overall Best Abstract – David Zorko
2nd Place Overall Best Abstract – Naheed Jivraj

The abstracts were impactful and diverse.
Thanks to ALL of our Judges who donated their precious time to evaluate the Abstracts this Year!!

Dr. Lorenzo Delsorbo         Dr. Jamie Hutchison         Dr. Christina Maratta
Dr. Irene Telias            Dr. Alice Grassi           Dr. Andre Amaral
Dr. Ewan Goligher           Dr. Nava Maham             Dr. Gail Annich
Dr. Alex Floh               Dr. Pat Murphy              Dr. Dominique Piquette
Dr. Laurent Brochard        Dr. Neill Adhikari          Dr. Briseida Mema
Dr. Mike Sklar              Dr. Matteo Parotto          Dr. Niall Ferguson
Dr. Rob Fowler              Dr. Ann-Marie Guerguerian Dr. Christie Lee
Dr. Haibo Zhang             Dr. Claudia Dos Santos     Dr. Warren Lee

The CCM fellows introduced the **Margaret Herridge Award** this year. This is a new award in honour of Dr. Herridge for outstanding contribution in promoting or championing critical care clinical excellence in research, patient advocacy or EDI of great significance locally, nationally or internationally. Dr. Herridge was extremely honoured by this.

Many thanks to all our IDCCM community members who worked so hard to make this year’s event so memorable! We extend a very special acknowledgement to **Fahima Nasreen**!! She is the ‘glue’ that holds the event together each year! :) Her organization, energy and positivity are always so greatly appreciated!!

We hope to see everyone in person at the Mill St. Brew Pub night and the AS Day in June 2023!!

*Margaret Herridge*

*Director of Research- IDCCM*

*On behalf of the IDCCM Research Executive*

*Photo: Art Slutsky Day 2019*


Effect of Antiplatelet Therapy on Survival and Organ Support-Free Days in Critically Ill Patients With COVID-19: A Randomized Clinical Trial. REMAP-CAP Writing Committee for the REMAP-CAP Investigators, Bradbury CA, Lawler PR, Stanworth SJ, McVerry BJ, McQuilten Z, Higgins AM, Mouncey PR, Al-Beidh F, Rowan KM, Berry LR,


Sepsis Epidemiology and Outcomes in Asia: Advancing the Needle. Vijayaraghavan BKT, Adhikari NK. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2022 Jul 12. doi: 10.1164/rccm.202207-1257ED.


Contact:

Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute - St. Michael’s Hospital
209 Victoria Street, 4th Floor, Room 411, Toronto, ON M5B 1T8
T: 416 864 5686 | F: 416 864 5698

Website: http://www.criticalcare.utoronto.ca/

Thank you everyone. Stay safe and take care!