NEWSLETTER

A YEAR IN REVIEW

It has been a year since our discipline was born, and much has happened. Mike Parsons won first runner up at the Med ED forum for “Structure and Evaluation of Multidisciplinary PoCUS Central Line Course.” Andrew Smith presented “PoC Ultrasound: Tomorrow’s Stethoscope?” at PriFor and will travel to Quebec to present “Reflections on the Development of Multidisciplinary PoC Lines Program: Idealism vs Reality” at the National Med Ed Conference. Andrew received a $20,000 MRF grant in 2012.

AFTER 20 YEAR ABSENCE, CAEP HITS NEWFOUNDLAND

Physicians are still talking about CAEP 2011. Many attendees have said it was “best CAEP ever.” Chaired by Dr. Wilson, it was the first conference to include a track on Rural EM, as well as a dedicated Ultrasound track. Drs. Renouf (Scientific Chair) and Seviour were invited speakers, Dr. Rebecca Bobby chaired the Resident Day, Dr. Gina Bugden the Social Committee and Dr. Pete Rogers the Volunteer Committee.

Dr. Doug Baggs hosted Journal Club during CAEP, where we welcomed Drs. Jerry Hoffman and Paul Atkinson, Research Chair for CAEP, featured speakers who led the debate on a key paper from the year’s EM literature.

VISITING LECTURE SERIES

Internationally renowned Dr. Jerome Hoffman (UCLA) has twice visited our journal club, in person and virtually. In his inimitable style, he has helped us better understand important literature.

Heidi Mayer, MD PhD from University of Otago, New Zealand, joined us in September to discuss key papers in 2012.

In collaboration with Global Health and Aboriginal Health Initiative Office, Dr. Christina Herceg from BRAMS, the oldest Aboriginal clinic in Australia, joined our AHD in September.
ULTRASOUND PROGRAM A BIG SUCCESS

It’s been a busy year for ultrasound. We are the first in the country to establish an interdisciplinary ultrasound teaching program. The kick-off was last July with a day long training session for new residents, across several disciplines. Attendance was 95%, and reviews by residents have been outstanding. Ultrasound guided line placement courses as well as IP training continue all year. Thanks to Drs. Gillian Sheppard, Peter Rogers, Mike Parsons, Brian Metcalfe and Andrew Smith for their vision and hard work.

We have completed enrolling patients in the ultrasound in cardiac arrest study, and continue to participate in the multi-centre ultrasound in distal radius fracture study.

In other areas, Drs. Kris Aubrey and Dick Barter have hired some research help for the renal colic study. Joanne Doyle, our discipline secretary, has been invaluable in contacting patients for followup.

Dr. Cheryl Pollock is redesigning Journal Club to include solid teaching in Methodology.

Drs. Kathleen Murphy, Brian Metcalfe and Scott Wilson were CCFP(EM) examiners in Toronto in 2012. Dr. Pete Rogers is our new ACLS Director.

Dr. Tia Renouf has joined the Research as well as International EM CAEP committees.

Drs. Gillian Sheppard and Brian Metcalfe started in Masters Medical Education at Dundee.

Dr. Dave Morgan handed over the reins to Dr. Greg Brown, as Greg becomes the Program Director for the EM residency. Pete Rogers is Asst. PD. As Inaugural PD Dave was the driving force behind a great program. Thanks to Dave for 10 years of visionary leadership. Greg is continuing the tradition, as we move to active learning in the new curriculum. Through D2L, Drs. Brian Metcalfe, Gillian Sheppard, Mike Parsons and Andrew Smith have added new content for residents: EKG review, and exam questions from Tintinalli.

AHD has been greatly enhanced by Mike’s work, moving from a didactic format to include multimedia presentations on procedures in EM as well as a “great cases” section each week. Grand Rounds are presented quarterly, on current and controversial topics in the literature. Guests speakers continue to be invited from rural NL as well as other Disciplines.

Congratulations to Drs. Megan Smith, Neil Cheeseman, Paul Page and Spencer Brown, all of whom passed their EM exams! Welcome Drs. Amanda Welsh, Therese Chisholm, Patrick Cuniffe and Sarah Flynn, our residents for 2012-2013.

COMING SOON

Dr. Suji Heyn is creating an amazing collection of great ultrasound video, which will be coming soon to an inbox near you.
RURAL EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Dr. Greg Brown, in collaboration with Drs. Campbell Locke and Comben in Grand Falls, has created a new Rural ER rotation for our current residents. This initiative complements the delivery of ultrasound skills to rural areas, and gives our residents a solid experience in rural EM.

In an EH initiative, Dr. Etienne van der Linde in Clarenville led a study of rural physicians’ teaching needs in EM. In a needs assessment survey, rural doctors who practice some EM reported a desire for teaching in difficult airway skills, RSI and procedural sedation.

Leading the Airway Rescue Adjunct Project, Etienne traveled to all 7 Category B ER sites within EH, teaching tricks of the trade in difficult airway situations. This included training in and provision of the bougie, Airtraq and King airways.

FM residents Drs. Singleton-Polster and Zabet will examine this project in their resident paper, in collaboration with Drs. van der Linde and Tarrant (FM).

The next step in responding to the requests of rural physicians will be teaching in RSI and procedural sedation, to be spearheaded by Drs. Con O’Maonaigh and Tia Renouf.

Ultrasound has expanded to rural areas with ER physicians becoming Independent Practitioners in Carbonar Clarenville and Grand Falls. Dr. Regina Becker in Carbonar has completed this training with several others to follow in January and February.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICINE

There has been much work in Haiti from our physicians. Drs. Scott Wilson, Dick Barter, Catherine Seviour, Greg Brown and Gillian Sheppard have worked in Haiti with Team Broken Earth. Dr. Barter has also worked with Haiti Village Health, a community-based group founded by Memorial graduate Dr. Tiffany Keenan. Dr. Jill Alison from Global Health Office is on their Board, and is also Research Director for HVH. Check out haitivillagehealth.com.

Dr. Tia Renouf also worked in rural settings in Haiti with the Canadian group STIMMA, which can be found at stimma.org.

Dr. Neil Cheeseman is soon off to South Korea where he will be team physician for the Special Olympic World Games.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

In collaboration with Dr. Paul Atkinson (Saint John), Dr. Andrew Smith is an author of “My Patient is Short of Breath. Is the Problem in the Lung Tissue?” submitted for publication to the journal “Ultrasound.” Paul and Andrew have also submitted “PoCUS Series: My Patient is Short Of Breath. Is there an Effusion and Can I Drain it Safely?” to the same journal.

Medical student Zack Warren has submitted to CAEP 2013 in Vancouver: “The Need for Expanded PoC Ultrasound Training in Rural EDs across NL.”

LITERARY PUBLICATIONS

Not all our work has been dry science! We have another type of writer in our group. Dr. Karen Angus published “I Laid Me Down” in the Newfoundland Literary Journal “Riddle Fence”, available in print and at riddlefence.com. Congratulations to Karen for a beautiful work of fiction.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Dr. Sarah Mathieson, in collaboration with Dr. Marshall Godwin, is writing “Glutching, Nish and Other Idioms: Reducing Misunderstanding and Improving Patient Safety during Patient-Clinician Encounters in Newfoundland and Labrador.”

As part of the Medical Teacher Scholar Program Dr. Tia Renouf is writing “Great Expectations; Motivational Differences Across Two Generations in Medical School Applicants.”

IN OTHER NEWS

Thanks to Dr. Gina Bugden who again led our efforts in supporting a local family this Christmas.

There have been three new additions to the EM family: Drs. Wilson, Bobby and Rector all have beautiful new baby girls!