

DEPARTMENT COVID-19 UPDATE #18 - June 2nd 2020

On behalf of Nick Kates, Chair, Department of Psychiatry & Behavioural Neurosciences –

We are now moving into the next stage of our response to the pandemic, and McMaster, the Hospitals and our Department are beginning a gradual, cautious, safe and carefully planned safe resumption of research, education and clinical activities, some of which are covered in this Update.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

But to begin with, if you haven't already done so, can you take a couple of minutes to complete the most recent **Department Wellness Survey**. This will provide invaluable and helpful information on the issues you are currently dealing with, how these have changed over the last 2 months, and how we may be able to assist each other as we move into the next phases of responding to the pandemic. The survey which can be found [here](#) is open until Wednesday, June 3rd. at 17.00.

Department Rounds will be resuming on **Wednesday, June 10th**. at 09.00, when **Brenda Key, Alan Eppel** and **Karen Rowa** will be presenting on different aspects of Providing Virtual Care. Then on **June 17th**. we will be holding our regularly scheduled **Department Meeting**, also beginning at 09.00, when in addition to updates about the planning that is underway for the next 6 months we will be reviewing the findings of the 2nd. Department Wellness Survey and its implications.

And on Thursday June 11th. from 19.00 – 20.30 we will be holding our annual **Department Summer Celebration** to honour our graduates, award winners and faculty who are moving on to other things. Join us at this event [here](#).

Congratulations

To **Ana Hategan** as the excellent RESPITE (Resilience in the Era of Sustainable Physicians: An International Training Endeavour) website that she and many colleagues from our Department and other places have developed to build resilience amongst physicians was added to the RCPSC website of resources for physicians [here](#).

To those staff members who have recently reached milestones at McMaster. They are:
10 years: **Mike Chalupka, Laura Duncan, Allan Fein, Anna Kata**; 15 years: **Jennifer Kraul**; 20 years: **Claudia Castellanos**; 25 years: **Ann Thompson**; 30 years: **Tracey Oliphant**; 35 years: **Beverley Pindar-Donick**.

EDUCATION

Postgrad Program

Competency Based Medical Education We are drawing closer to July 1st. when our new Pgy1s will officially begin CBME, and our Soft Launch cohort moves into Pgy2. To assist with this JoAnn Corey will be presenting a **virtual CBME Faculty Development Session tomorrow morning**

(Wednesday June 3rd.) at 08.30 for clinical supervisors and anyone else who may be interested in attending on the changes in PES, and in General Inpatient and Outpatient Rotations. The same session will be offered on two subsequent occasions: on Thursday, June 11th from 12 - 1:15pm and Tuesday, June 16th from 5:30 - 6:45 pm.

Please visit the [Doodle Poll](#) to register for any of these sessions, including tomorrow's, and Cheyenne will then send you a calendar invitation with Zoom meeting details. And contact Cheyenne directly if you have any questions or need assistance connecting tomorrow at creid@mcmaster.ca

The General Psychiatry Program is also preparing to welcome our new residents with a **Virtual Funhouse Welcome Event!** On **Tuesday July 7th. from 18.00 – 20.00.** Please hold this in your calendars for an evening of really creative virtual fun and frivolity! More details will follow.

Links of Interest

This article from the Psychiatric Times looks at a framework for understanding the stages of response to a pandemic and how we may be able to take advantage of the opportunities each presents - [article](#)

And for the most up-to-date information on what is happening within the Faculty of Health Sciences, with lots of links to useful sites (including ours) visit the hub [here](#).

RESEARCH

McMaster continues to move towards a Phase 1 re-opening of research activities on the main University Campus. Anyone wishing to make a return to research activities at the University famous may apply using this [form](#). McMaster has also updated its SOPs regarding Phase 1 research activity. Please see [here](#). Additional details can also be found [here](#).

There is no set date for return to research on hospital sites. Research administration at HHS and SJHH are working with hospital leadership to advocate for a return to research as a priority, recognizing it is one of several competing priorities. Researchers applying for a Phase 1 return to research at SJHH should submit this request via the McMaster portal [here](#). These applications will be forwarded onto Gail Martin at the St. Joe's Research Institute for review and approval. Researchers applying for a Phase 1 return to research at SJHH should complete the **attached form**, which can be forwarded on to Katie Porter (porter_k@HHSC.ca) in Research Administration at HHS for review and approval (please do not use the McMaster portal for submission of HHS applications).

We have also been advised that the Imaging Research Centre at SJHH remains closed for research participant scanning, as face-to-face interactions with research participants are not allowed at this time. We will forward any new information about this closure as soon as received.

IN THE MEDIA

Michael Boyle and **Laura Duncan** had an opinion piece in the Hamilton Spectator and some of its sister papers on the disease burden of CoVID-19 - [article](#)

And finally...

At the start of the Faculty's Webinar on Managing stress which included presentations and discussion **by Karen Saperson, Bode Akintan and Randi McCabe**, Teresa Chan posted a "Jam Board" that highlighted the many issues that Faculty and Staff are experiencing [here](#). I will post the link to the recording of the webinar when I receive it.

Stay well and stay safe.

Nick