

Rhinology

Rhinology/Skull Base Research (SHS)

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There are a variety of clinical and basic science research projects planned or underway at SHS in rhinology, anterior skull base, education, simulation and quality/safety. The rhinology/anterior skull base projects include the development of quality indicators for chronic rhinosinusitis, validation trials of a sinus/skull base simulator and continuing validation of a skull base quality-of-life instrument. Patient education videos and other quality indicators (e.g. endoscopic sinus surgery) have also been foci of our research.

Rhinology Research (SMH)

John Lee

2017-2018 was another busy year for our rhinology research program here at St. Michael's Hospital. First of all, I would like to thank our former research coordinator William To who has moved on to a new position in the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research. William was instrumental in helping set up the Nasal and Sinus Physiology Lab and we wish him well in his new endeavours. I would also like to welcome Andrea Figol, who joins our department as our new research coordinator. She has extensive experience after working in the Division of Cardiology and we are excited to have her on our team.

Some highlights from this past year:

- 1) A total of 3 peer-reviewed manuscripts and 3 conference proceedings were published in major rhinology and skull base surgery journals. Some of the topics included a study examining sinonasal quality of life after endoscopic transsphenoidal surgery (ETSS) and another paper analyzing maxillary sinus inverted papilloma attachment sites to help minimize disease recurrence. A special thank you to Dr. Vincent Wu who was the first author on two of the manuscripts.
- 2) Studies from our rhinology research program were chosen for scientific presentation at the North American Skull Base Society Annual Meeting, the American Rhinologic Society Spring Meeting, as well as the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery Annual Meeting. We presented research investigating surgical working space in endoscopic transsphenoidal surgery as well as the impact of septal deviation on chronic rhinosinusitis in patients undergoing revision sinus surgery.
- 3) Our nasal and sinus physiology laboratory was featured in a news article from St. Michael's InTouch Magazine.
http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/media/detail.php?source=hospital_news/2017/1208

Once again, I am indebted to the hard work of our medical students and resident trainees who are such a big part of the success of our research team. Without all of their interest and dedication, we would not be able to continue to advance our rhinology mission here at St. Michael's Hospital. This upcoming year, we have several studies and multi-centred trials that will be in the recruitment phase examining topics ranging from olfaction following ETSS to the benefits of in-clinic nasal polypectomy. Additionally, we have embarked on a prospective study of sinus disease in our cystic fibrosis patients in collaboration with our internationally recognized cystic fibrosis team here at St. Michael's Hospital.