

2020-21 Annual Report
Rhinology Research (SMH)
John Lee

2020-2021 marked one of the most productive years in our rhinology research program at St. Michael's Hospital. Despite ongoing clinical research restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to find novel ways to be creative and publish a high volume of manuscripts in the fields of rhinology/skull base surgery. As always, I want to thank the Dunin Foundation for their ongoing support of our research agenda and the Harry Barberian Foundation which has provided several scholarships for our resident trainees. Below are some of the highlights from this past year:

1)A total of 17 peer-reviewed manuscripts were published in the following journals this past year:

a. Journal of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery (4)

b. Ear, Nose & Throat Journal (3)

c. International Forum of Allergy and Rhinology (2)

d. Laryngoscope (1)

e. Laryngoscope Investigative Otolaryngology (1)

f. Journal of Neurological Surgery Part B: Skull Base (2)

g. American Journal of Rhinology and Allergy (1)

h. Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology (1)

i. Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery (1)

j. British Medical Journal Open (1)

Many of these studies were led by our incredibly dedicated trainees who are truly the force behind our research program: Drs. Daniel Lee (PGY4), Shireen Samargandy (PGY4), Justin Cottrell (PGY4), Amr Hamour (PG3), Jong Wook Lee (PGY-3), Vincent Wu (PGY3), Marc Levin (PGY1). I also want to recognize Elysia Grose, Gianluca Sampieri and Pouyan Namavarian who were all 4th year medical students working with me during this time. We are fortunate that all three of them have matched into our residency program and I am excited to be able to continue working with them during their training.

2) Scientific meetings this past year have unfortunately remained virtual because of the ongoing pandemic. Despite that, our research program continues to be well represented at many of the local, national and international meetings. At the American Rhinologic Society Spring Meeting at COSM 2021 (virtual), Gianluca Sampieri and Pouyan

Namavarian were co-presenters on a systematic review paper examining HPA-axis suppression and intranasal corticosteroid use. At the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery Annual Meeting 2020 (virtual), Dr. Shireen Samargandy (PGY3) presented on medical and surgical treatment outcomes in patients with chronic rhinosinusitis and immunodeficiency while Elysia Grose presented on surgical outcomes in patients with aspirin exacerbated respiratory disease. Impressively, at our departmental resident research day (Percy Ireland Academic Day), there were a total of four resident trainee presentations from the SMH rhinology research program. While we have continued to adapt and be creative doing research during this time, I look forward to the upcoming year where we hopefully will be able to return to more in-person clinical research activities.