

ISSUE 45

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dear reader,


Welcome to Issue 45 of The Meducator! The healthcare field is rapidly evolving, with new discoveries and advancements emerging everyday. This embodies a modern-day Renaissance—an era characterized by profound shifts in social attitudes and scientific innovation. Henin Ye captures these principles in her illustration of Issue 45's cover, inspired by Michaelangelo's iconic Renaissance masterpiece, The Creation of Adam. Likewise, we extend a hand in joining us in exploring revolutionary connections and transformations unfolding in the medical field today, through our winter issue.

Editors Dominic Gangemi and Ria Patel begin Issue 45 by describing novel health developments worldwide, including the first FDA-approved Chikungunya vaccination in Brazil and Canada's research on modelling pexophagy pathways to treat neurodegenerative diseases. We continue The Meducator's collaboration with the International Women and Children's Health Conference by featuring abstracts from Brittney Davy on Black women's health and Deepikaa Jeevanthan on the vaginal microbiome. Through extensive literature review, Florence Deng and colleagues describe the pathophysiology and treatment landscape of Crohn's Disease. In a Critical Review, Morgan Puusaari and colleagues describe a novel α -synuclein seed amplification assay for early detection of Parkinson's disease.

In this issue we are excited to feature articles that explore health from a multifaceted perspective. In MeduAmplify Local, Parth Arora and colleagues characterize Hamilton's opioid epidemic and potential response strategies. In another MeduAmplify, Aditya Misra and colleagues discuss the 'orange jumpsuit' stigma by exploring the health of incarcerated peoples.

We take tremendous pride in our journal's emphasis on diversity in healthcare. In a MeduAmplify, Veronica Grignano and colleagues explore the evolution of art in medicine, highlighting the underrepresentation of marginalized bodies in anatomical illustrations. Meanwhile, artists Arim Yoo and Elaine Wang present "Echoes of Representation," a centrefold illustration depicting how predominantly white representation in medical textbooks affects clinical practice.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our 95 talented staff, executive members, faculty reviewers, and the McMaster community for their invaluable partnership throughout the 45th publication cycle. Finally, we offer our sincerest appreciation to you, our reader, for your continued support of our publication. We feel privileged to have served the McMaster community. We wholeheartedly welcome Florence Deng and Anna McCracken as the Editors-in-Chief for the upcoming academic year. We believe their potential is unlimited and cannot wait to see them uphold and advance the Meducator's legacy.


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