

Editorial

## **McMaster University Medical Journal, Volume 16**

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Editors-in-chief

Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine, Class of 2019

With our 16<sup>th</sup> volume we are proud to continue the McMaster University Medical Journal's mandate to showcase work by Canadian medical and graduate students. Our goal is to share advances in medicine, explore the social issues that impact the health of individuals and populations, and provide a space for continuing discourse on ethical and legal issues that are relevant to medicine. Through original research, review articles, and commentaries the papers in this volume demonstrate the breadth of contemporary topics that intersect with medicine and the importance of multi-disciplinarity in medical research.

Through a case study, Campbell, Auer, and Martin explore a unique case of concurrent comorbidities in the form of Kikuchi-Fujimoto Disease and neuropsychiatric lupus in a patient. Similarly, Harris, Rostom, and Moloo discuss the use of single balloon enteroscopy in the treatment of a patient with jejunal varices. Our original research articles range from an intervention to standardize pre-operative clinics in the Niagara region by Brown, Leveille, Paraiso, Nykolaychuk, and Law, to the importance of increasing food knowledge in children to support future health by Lovrics, Plourde, Hendrickson, and Frasier. The role of socioeconomic factors in disease diagnosis and treatment was investigated by Li et al. in breast cancer patients in Hamilton, Ontario, while Endres highlighted the importance of promoting community service to medical students through a new initiative in Ottawa, Ontario.

In a review article, Visva and Oliveria take a detailed look at current understandings of multiple sclerosis while Breton asks us to consider the side effects of atypical antipsychotics. At the same time the commentaries bring our attention to the “big picture” issues in medicine. Levesque deconstructs the discourse surrounding aging and immortality, while Sharma and Rowe bring the focus to antibiotics and resource stewardship in this current climate of burgeoning resistance. Finally, Hariharan and Patel raise questions about the harms of overtreatment in the case of tonsillectomy.

We are exceptionally grateful to the executive editors, submission editors, and reviewers who have generously contributed their time to produce this volume. Journals require a great deal of hard work and without the support of our volunteer staff creating the MUMJ would not be possible. We thank the authors for the opportunity to share their work – through their articles we

are presented with new and emerging ideas, while simultaneously being reminded to ask questions and challenge our understandings; in other words, to know what we don't know. Thank you to our readers, without you there would be no journal. We hope you enjoy reading the 2019 volume of MUMJ.