

From the Editors

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Editors-in-Chief

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The McMaster University Medical Journal is delighted to present its 18th annual issue, which continues to display the tireless endeavours in science and medicine driven by medical and graduate students across Canada. In a year marked by international communities rising to confront a devastating challenge through awe-inspiring scientific efforts, we strive to humbly provide a platform for works that span the breadth and depth of research.

Akin to its predecessors, this 18th volume highlights the vanguard of scientific works through unique case reports, original research, and reviews and commentaries. Our authors describe a unique presentation of autoimmune limbic encephalitis, review the inflammatory and immunological underpinnings of SARS-CoV-2, and advocate for improved equity in healthcare through universal screening for Hepatitis C in incarcerated populations. In two independent and timely articles, they scrutinize the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown strategy and, relatedly, assess the policies concerning the cancellation of elective surgeries amidst a burdened healthcare system.

As ever, we remain grateful to the tireless efforts of our editorial boards—the executive editors, submission editors, and reviewers—all of whom have generously contributed their valuable time and expertise to bring this issue to fruition. These efforts comprise a culture and tradition that have remained ever consistent across the history of this journal. We also thank the authors for the opportunity to showcase their work, which serves as a means to embrace that which we do not know, and to continually reflect upon new ideas and discovery.

Finally: thank you, dear reader, for it is only with your support that this journal continues to strive and exist.

Sincerely,

Laura Lockau and Aadil Bharwani

Handwritten signatures of Laura Lockau and Aadil Bharwani. The signature on the left is a stylized cursive 'L' followed by 'L'. The signature on the right is 'A. Bharwani' in a cursive script.