

DME DISPATCH

Memorial's Distributed Medical Education Newsletter



Spring 2023 / bit.ly/Memorial/DME



NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT DEAN

The Office of Distributed Medical Education (DME) is focused on ensuring rural, remote and underserved clinical experiences and

research at its affiliated sites are of high quality. Through learner, faculty and staff feedback, DME actively engages in efforts to enhance medical education delivery and expand its horizons as we embrace new opportunities and encourage our stakeholders to progress "toward adventure" in rural medical education.

DME continues to engage with Faculty of Medicine developments, and we have partnered with other units and provincial stakeholders in faculty recruitment, retention and recognition efforts. This work includes implementation of a new distributed clinical faculty remuneration schedule, the development of the provincial

Rural Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee and the distribution of faculty recognition certificates. Faculty of Medicine expansion plans have evolved through engagement with DME as we continue to explore means to optimize our learning and teaching capacity and fulfill our mandate of social accountability.

Along the way, DME has updated its [housing policy](#), which now includes pet-friendly housing access, and its [distributed clinical faculty remuneration policy](#). We have also welcomed Denise Hooper and Brian Halley in their new roles of DME coordinator and DME housing coordinator, respectively.

Please join us as we continue our journey through exciting educational experiences. I invite you to share your ideas for distributed medical education with me at dmeassistantdean@mun.ca.

***Dr. Andrew Hunt, Assistant Dean,
DME, Faculty of Medicine***

LEARNER MOMENTS



Meghan Hickey and Emily Philpott, Phase 4 learners, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University

MEDEVAC COURSE IN HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY

During our Rural Family Medicine rotation, we participated in an Aeromedical Evacuation (Medevac) workshop in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

In Labrador, medevacs ensure patients in all communities, no matter how remote, can be accessed by medical staff and transferred to needed hospital-level care in a timely manner. The course included sessions on preparing equipment, medicine and personnel for medevac, the physiology of flight medicine, managing patients in severe weather conditions, outdoor survival skills and mass casualty triage just to name a few! We also practiced skills such as casting and intubation, and participated in several simulations based on real-life medevac cases.

We visited the PAL hangar at 5 Wing Goose Bay to see the Twin Otter aircraft adapted for medevac flights and spoke with an experienced medevac pilot. We also stopped at the Canadian Military Search and Rescue facility to tour their helicopters and try on some search & rescue gear!



The course capped off with a “Mega-sim” incorporating many aspects of the course into one simulation. Participants were given a “call” outlining that they had to take a medevac flight to a coastal community after an accident involving multiple people. Participants had to prepare supplies and medicine for the mission before attending the outdoor scene on snowmobile, where they came across a partially burned cabin and actors dressed as injured patients. At the scene, the teams had to triage and stabilize each patient and transport them safely, with only the resources they brought. We got to have a bit of fun playing two of the patients -- check out our “injuries” in the photos!

REGIONAL DME HIGHLIGHTS (EASTERN)

Greetings from the Eastern Stream! Our residents participated in two Resident Workshops this year.

The first was in May 2022 in Burin, NL with a focus on wilderness medicine. In September 2022, residents came to Clarenville for their second resident workshop. The highlight of the weekend was the full day “MyQ” course delivered in collaboration with the Family Practice Renewal Program. This practice-management course was developed by FPRP and facilitated by Dr. Megan Hayes and Dr. Annabeth Loveys.



In January, the Rural Medicine Interest Group held their rural retreat in Port Blandford. Local faculty and residents attended to deliver lectures and mentorship. It was a valuable time to welcome 60 first- and second-year medical students to the area and spread a positive message about rural medicine.

Residents across the region are currently working towards preparing for their licensing exams. Practice Simulated Office Orals (SOOs) are being delivered at local sites along with priority topics focused on local teaching. A highlight of each week is the Friday morning Family Medicine Lecture Series, where residents have protected time while on family medicine rotations to attend these lectures.

While in Clarenville, residents can avail of the new recreation bonus offered by the Town of Clarenville, NL and have been enjoying local skiing and fitness classes. DME is working with RE-Boot Family Practice Network and regional municipalities throughout the rural eastern teaching sites in order to collaborate on similar incentives and experiences.

We're looking forward to meeting the new residents who match to Memorial's Eastern Stream in the weeks to come!

Dr. Sarah Small, DME Lead, Eastern Region

STAFF CONTRIBUTIONS



MEET YOUR CENTRAL DISTRIBUTED TEAM – SHERRI CHIPPETT AND GAIL DIAMOND!

Sherri Chippett has worked as an Academic Program Administrator (APA) with the Faculty of Medicine since March 2012, and Gail Diamond has been doing the same since October 2017.

As valuable members of the DME team, Sherri and Gail work well together to achieve their common goals of ensuring both positive onboarding and living experiences for the learners in Central and a feeling of support for learners and faculty during all learning opportunities.

Our regional APAs are the “links” for Distributed Medical Education and our rural communities. Sherri and Gail enjoy their roles servicing the Central region of Newfoundland and Labrador. They strive to schedule rural rotations around busy schedules, support faculty and staff, build meaningful connections with learners and engage with the community partners.

Our Central team is always eager to assist!

Connect with Sherri at dmecentralwest@mun.ca or Gail at dmecentraleast@mun.ca.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



DR. WENDY GRAHAM

Dr. Graham, a graduate of Memorial's Doctor of Medicine and Family Medicine Residency Program, has been a family physician for 24 years on the Southwestern shores of Newfoundland in Port Aux Basques. Dr. Graham has a broad scope of practice including running her family practice and providing chemotherapy, hospitalist, palliative, acute, long-term care and end-of-life care for her patients.

As an Associate Professor with Memorial University since 2000, Dr. Graham has assisted in the stream concept of family medicine training within the community. She has spent much of her career in health-care reform, has served as Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA) president and FPRP co-chair and is the current president-elect for the NL chapter of the The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC).

The team of physicians at Port Aux Basques provides a diverse and valuable rural learning experience for all medical learners visiting this site. Together, the team members welcome those who want to learn advanced practice, rural critical skills, transport medicine and interdisciplinary care!

To contact Dr. Graham please connect with her Academic Office at (709) 695-4559.

NOTABLES



Check out the [Family Medicine Lecture Series](#). This weekly lecture series, on topics relevant to family medicine, is based on a needs assessment conducted by the Office of Professional and Education Development (OPED), in consultation with the Family Practice Renewal Program, the Family Practice Networks and the Newfoundland Labrador Medical Association.

Have a look at the [Faculty of Medicine's Upcoming Events](#).

The DME website is under construction! Check back soon for enhanced information and robust site profiles.

JOIN THE ADVENTURE!

If you are a medical learner or physician interested in an exciting opportunity in rural medical education, connect with us!

CONTACT US

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