



# Division of Rhinology

## Dr. John Lee (Head)

2017-2018 marked an incredibly busy year for the Division of Rhinology. First, I want to welcome Dr. Nik Wolter as a member, who is the department's newest paediatric otolaryngologist at the Hospital for Sick Children. Nik was a former resident and completed his fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital. He has taken on an interest in paediatric rhinologic disease and we are excited to have his expertise within our division.

### Education

This past academic year saw our division run many educational events for our department. The keynote event was Rhinology Update which was held April 6-7, 2018. This was a 2-day sinus surgery course with Drs. David Kennedy and Elina Toskala as our guests of honour. Co-directed by Drs. Yvonne Chan, John Lee and Allan Vescan, this meeting was a resounding success and it showcased the vast amount of rhinologic expertise within our division with a number of members lecturing as well as participating on panels (Drs. Lee, Chan, Vescan, Witterick, Banglawala, Dalgorf, Gevorgyan, Leung, and Monteiro). We had great feedback from all attendees and we look forward to planning the next course in a couple of years.

On April 28, 2018, members of our division also ran the annual resident sinus surgery course at the Surgical Skills Centre of Mount Sinai Hospital. Once again, we had an outstanding turnout with 7 faculty members and over 20 resident trainees. This educational event co-led by Drs. John Lee and Allan Vescan continues to be one of the highest rated courses by our residents. We thank all the members of our division who took time out of their busy

Saturday to come and support this important training initiative.

Finally, this past year, several members of our division gave lectures during the rhinology core teaching sessions for PGY 2-4 residents. This is an integral part of the lecture series for our trainees as they build their foundational knowledge for their royal college exams. I would like to thank Drs. Banglawala, Chan, Dalgorf, Vescan, Witterick, and Wolter for their time and commitment to teaching our residents.

### Research

Last year, our division was fortunate to receive a Harry Barberian grant to prospectively study olfactory outcomes following endoscopic sinus surgery. This past year, in consultation with all members of our division, we were able to formulate a defined research protocol for this study which has been submitted and is currently under review by the research ethics board at many of our participating hospitals. This work would not have been possible without the help of our PGY-1 resident Dr. Terence Fu. We anticipate that we will obtain full REB approval in the next couple months and we hope to start recruiting patients beginning in the early fall. The progress of this study is an example of the collaborative nature of our division and our ability to work across multiple institutions.

Individually, several of our division members continue to publish original work in both rhinology and skull base surgery. There have been a number of scientific oral and poster presentations given at the American Rhinologic Society (ARS), North American Skull Base Society (NASBS), the European Rhinologic Society (ERS) and also the Canadian

Society of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery (CSOHNS).

### **Member Activities**

This past year saw many of our division members play important roles in many national and international societies. Most notably, Dr. Ian Witterick was President of the NASBS and hosted one of the most successful annual meetings in its history. Dr. Yvonne Chan was voted in as Vice Chair of the Rhinology Working Group of the CSO-HNS. I was honoured to serve on the scientific program committee of the CSO-HNS annual meeting and also on the awards committee of the ARS. Additionally, many of our members offer their expertise and time as manuscript reviewers for many of the top rhinology journals in our field. I want to personally thank each member of our division for their continued great work and also their collegiality in making this a wonderful group to be part of.