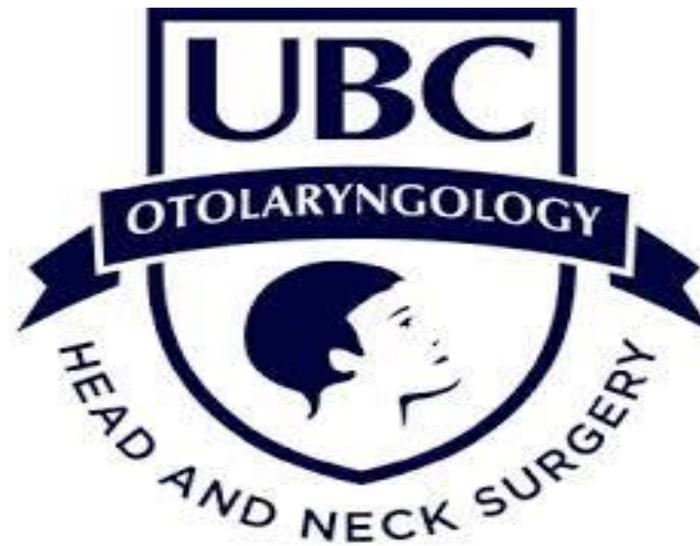


UBC Otolaryngology- HNS Division Alumni News Letter
June 2019



Message from the Division Head Dr. Desmond Nunez



Dear Colleagues, residents and alumni

I am pleased to update you on developments in the UBC Division of Otolaryngology over my tenure as Division Head. The Division welcomed as new faculty members from 2012 to present Drs Jane Lea, Eitan Prisman, Trevor Hartl, Andrew Thamboo, Bella Wu, Dana Wong, Paul Mick, Maria Brake, Arman Abdalkhani, Zameel Dewji, Shahin Nabi, Andrew Remillard, Margaret Aron, Pia Pace-Asciak, Amanda Hu and Adrian Gooi. Drs. Bell, Blokmanis, Dubeta, Bryce, Kloppers, Mintz, Morrison, and Smyth retired from their Clinical Faculty UBC appointments over this period. A number of faculty members were promoted Drs. Lillian Wong and Chris Man, to Clinical Assistant Professor; Drs Arif Janjua and Paul Mick to Clinical Associate Professor; Dr Cathie Garnis to Associate Professor; and Drs. Chee Thong, and Jeffery Ludemann to Clinical Professor.

The UBC Division's executive body was refreshed with Dr Fred Kozak starting as Postgraduate Director in 2012 at the end of Dr Paul Moxham's term. Dr Chris Diamond took up the Undergraduate Directorship after Dr Patricia Lee and served from 2012-2017 before handing over to the current undergraduate director Dr Amanda Hu. Dr Neil Chadha served as CME Director from 2012 to 2015 before Dr Eitan Prisman's term 2015-2019. Dr Andrew Thamboo will start as CME Director in July 2019. There have also been changes in Divisional Clinical Site leadership with Dr Kozak stepping down as Head of the BCCH Division of Pediatric Otolaryngology and Dr Chadha taking up this role in 2018. The Headship of the St Paul's Hospital Division of Otolaryngology transitioned from Dr Rob Irvine to Dr Brian Westerberg in 2016.

The Division's faculty and learners research productivity has grown exponentially over the last 8 years as demonstrated by Division members presenting 23% of research papers at the 2018 Department of Surgery's annual Chung Research Day and Dr Harman Parhar and Joel Howlett winning best paper awards. Dr. Garnis and Prisman's research productivity was recognized by the award of the Department of Surgery's H. Johnson New Investigators Award in 2013 and 2017 respectively and Dr Amin Javer was recognized by the R. J. Finley Senior Scholars Award in 2017. The Division's peer reviewed journal publication output similarly demonstrated increasing growth from 19 papers in 2012 to 60 papers in 2018. The efforts of individual faculty members were recognized through the Division's Faculty Research Award (adjudicated on the basis of competitive research grants gained and peer reviewed publications) being awarded to Drs. Chadha, Mick, Westerberg, Prisman and Lea from 2013-2019. The inaugural Divisional Faculty top peer reviewed journal author award based on the faculty member recording the most peer reviewed publications in a year was awarded to Dr. Westerberg in 2018 and to Drs. Javer and Thamboo jointly in 2019.

I especially wish to recognize the strong philanthropic culture that has developed in the Division with faculty financial contributions funding the Division's academic activity and Seed Grant award. These along with support from the Pacific Otolaryngology Foundation allowed the distribution of research seed grants to Drs. Mick, Westerberg, Prisman, Javer, Thamboo and Kozak. The Division's faculty were investigators on non-industry competitive grants totaling 9 million dollars over the last 7 years.

Space does not allow me to record here everyone's achievements nor all of those whose combined efforts have resulted in the UBC Division of Otolaryngology's increasing success in the pursuit of its mission to provide the best clinical care, research and education in the field.

Desmond

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UBC OTOLARYNGOLOGY DIVISION FACULTY AWARD WINNERS NEWS

Academic Year	Annual Faculty Grand Rounds Presenter Award	Annual Faculty medical Student Teaching Award	Annual Faculty Research Award	Annual Top Peer Reviewed Journal Published Faculty Author Award
2011-2012		Dr. J. Paul Moxham	Dr. Amin R. Javer	
2012-2013		Dr. J. Paul Moxham	Dr. Neil K. Chadha	
2013-2014	Dr. Paul T. Mick	Dr. Eitan Prisman	Dr. Paul T. Mick	
2014-2015	Dr. Amin R. Javer	Dr. J. Paul Moxham	Dr. Neil K. Chadha	
2015-2016	Dr. Harvey Strecker	Dr. Scott Durham	Dr. Brian D. Westerberg	
2016-2017	Linda A. Rammage	Dr. Heitham Gheriani	Dr. Neil K. Chadha	
2017-2018	Dr. Arman Abdalkhani	Dr. Amanda Hu	Dr. Eitan Prisman	Dr. Brian Westerberg

UBC OTOLARYNGOLOGY DIVISION FACULTY RESEARCH WINNERS NEWS

Staff Grant winners	Name of Grant	Research title
Dr D Anderson	UBC & VGH Hospital Foundation - \$ 55,911 - May 2018	Optical flap monitoring-Transformative changes
Dr Desmond Nunez	UBC Dept of Surgery Ainley - Grant \$20,000 – Sept 2018	Are their differentially expressed miRNAs in Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss
Dr Jane Lea	UBC Dept of Surgery Ainley - Grant \$16,000 – Sept 2018	Remote Cochlear Implant Programming: A quality improvement project to improve access to health services
Dr Fred Kozak	UBC Dept of Surgery Ainley - Grant \$9,000– Sept 2018	Hearing rehabilitation using the bone anchored hearing system on headband in children with unilateral hearing loss
Dr Paul Mick	CIHR Grant Award / Province of Quebec \$ 83006 – March 2017	Interactions of sensory, cognitive and social factors and their influence on the health and quality if life of older Canadians
Dr M Morrison , Dr L Rammage	VCHRI and National Spasmodic Dysphonia Society research Grants - \$70,000 – May 2017	The role of deep brain stimulation in the treatment of laryngeal spasmodic dysphonia
Dr Eitan Prisman	1- CIHR/NSERC Grant \$750,000 April 2019 2- Joule Innovation grant from CMA \$25,000 August 2017	1- Intraoperative Surgical tool for advanced Reconstruction Workflow to optimise outcome in HN Cancer 2- Virtual Preoperative Reconstructive Platform
Dr Andrew Thamboo	2017 UBC Otolaryngology division Seed research Grant Award	Understanding a Potentially Common Upper Airway Disorder: Empty Nose Syndrome
Dr C Garnis , E Prisman	CIHR Grant \$539,324 March 2019	“Blood based biomarker for early detection of recurrent head and neck cancer”
Dr C Garnis , A Thamboo , E Prisman	Research and Clinical Trial Advisory Group (RCTAG) Award \$20,000 Feb 2019	“Evaluation of circulating microRNA signatures as a simple blood test for early detection of recurrent nasopharyngeal cancer”

Undergraduate Medical Education Director Updates - Dr. Amanda Hu



The UBC Faculty of Medicine continues to grow with 288 medical students entering in the 2018 year (Med 2022), spread out over 4 campuses: Vancouver-Fraser Medical Program, Island Medical Program (Victoria), Southern Medical Program (Kelowna) and Northern Medical Program (Prince George). I would like to thank all the Otolaryngology Faculty members who have taught these medical students when they rotate through the Division of Otolaryngology.

In an effort to deliver a coordinated approach to the Otolaryngology curriculum, an Undergraduate Medical Education Committee was formed in the Division of Otolaryngology. I would like to thank our members: Dr. Paul Moxham (Vancouver), Dr. Dana Wong (Island), Dr. Paul Mick (Southern), and Dr. Kevin Zhao (Resident representative). We are looking for a representative from the Southern Medical Program to replace Dr. Mick, who will be leaving for a new opportunity. We are also still looking for a Northern Medical Program representative.

We have added new online resources to help supplement didactic teaching and clinical learning. These resources include the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology's LearnENT app and the American Academy of Otolaryngology's Primary Care Otolaryngology ebook and YouTube videos on physical examination skills.

There is now a centralized application portal for elective medical students to apply for electives in all the Canadian medical schools. The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada runs this portal and it has streamlined the application process for medical students wishing to experience otolaryngology at UBC.

We have also started an Otolaryngology/ENT medical student interest group at UBC. The goals of this group are: 1) To promote awareness of ENT as a specialty for UBC medical students. 2) To generate interest in ENT as a career choice for UBC medical students. Our two main initiatives are: 1) Job shadowing an ENT in the OR, 2) Research opportunities for medical students in ENT. Please check out our website at: <https://surgery.med.ubc.ca/divisions/otolaryngology/ent-medical-student-interest-group/>. If you would like to get involved, please contact me at <amanda.hu@vch.ca>.

Amanda Hu, MD, FRCSC

Laryngologist, Clinical Associate Professor

Undergraduate Medical Education Director

**Postgraduate Medical Education News
Updates - Dr. Fred Kozak -UBC Otolaryngology
Program Director**



Dear Alumni,

The UBC Otolaryngology residency program (subsequently changed to Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery) graduated the first resident in 1962. This puts us into our 58th year as a training program with over 130 graduates to date. Our graduates collectively have made us proud of their accomplishments in the care of patients with diseases of the ear, nose, throat, head and neck over this period of time. The past and current faculty who have mentored and taught our residents over the years is a testament to the commitment of the division's educational mandate. Several aspects of the training of residents has remained the same over the years, however as many of you know, Competency Based Medical Education was introduced two years ago with OtIHNS being the first surgical specialty to adopt this in Canada. Change is not without challenge, but I am convinced that this is a better system as we go forward in medical education. On behalf of the residency training program I thank you for your past, current and future dedication to resident education here at UBC. I look forward to seeing you at the alumni event at the CSOHNS National Meeting in Edmonton.

Fred

UBC OtIHNS 1990

Frederick K. Kozak, MD, FRCSC

Residency Training Program Director



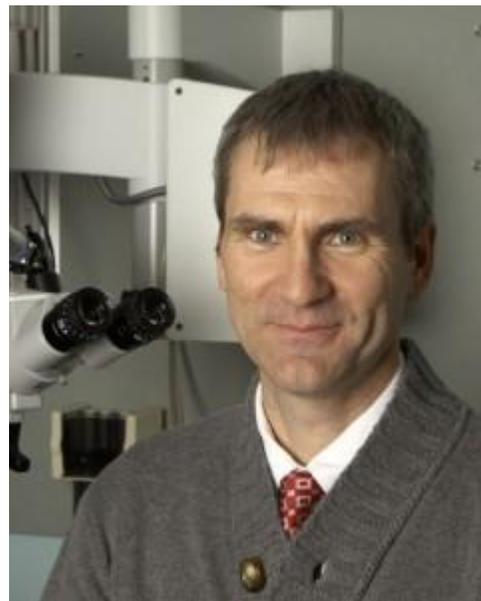
Current UBC Otolaryngology division Otolaryngology residents standing from left to right Kevin Zhao R2 ,Harman Parhar R5 (graduated this year), Ameen Amanian R2 , Saad Ansari R3, Evie Landry R4, Emily Dean R1, Dianne Valenzuela R4, Ethan Newton R3, Joel Howlett R2, Alex Butskiy R5 (graduated this year)

UBC – Otolaryngology 2019 Graduating Residents



**Dr Alex Bustisky & Dr Fred Kozak (UBC
Otolaryngology division Program Director) at 2019
UBC graduation ceremony**

Branch for International Surgical Care – Department of Surgery – UBC News Updates - Dr Brian Westerberg (Director)



The Branch for International Surgical Care (BISC) was founded under the UBC Department of Surgery to advance surgical care in international health. It came about as a desire to build on the national interest in surgical care and the realization of the strength of international activity that already existed among “surgical” members of the UBC faculty.

The best way to make sustainable improvements in the delivery of surgical care in the world’s most underserved populations is to build capacity within the field of surgery in the provision of care in low-resource settings. To achieve this, the BISC launched an innovative educational program in 2009 now consisting on individual courses relative to global surgical care, a Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care and most recently a Masters in Global Surgical Care.

The courses are designed for graduate students, postgraduate trainees, surgical faculty, or surgery-related health care workers across the globe. The fully online course format enables individuals from all around the world and at all stages of their surgical care careers to expand their knowledge of surgical care in low-resource regions.

More information is available on the BISC website <https://internationalsurgery.med.ubc.ca>.

Brian Westerberg, Director, Branch for International Surgical Care, UBC

THE UGANDA HEARING HEALTH CARE PROGRAM – INTERNATIONAL SURGERY BRANCH -UBC

The Uganda Hearing Health Care Program was founded in 2001 by Dr. Irwin Stewart, then UBC Professor Emeritus. It has changed over the years from strictly hearing focussed, to all facets of otolaryngologic care. Most recently, it has concentrated on otologic and sinonasal care.

The Program has always had a focus on “training the trainers”. For the past several years, North American surgeons have travelled to Mbarara, the site of one of two OHNS training programs in Uganda. A temporal bone lab was set up approximately four years ago with donated equipment. Each year since, at least two temporal bone courses for 12-16 surgeons and trainees have occurred during a two-week long visit in January under the direction of the local Otologist, Dr. Doreen Nakku and assisted by Dr. Brian Westerberg. In addition, endoscopic sinus surgery courses have run concurrently under the guidance of the local Sinonasal Surgeon, Dr. Vicky Nyaiteera Kakande with the assistance of Dr. Gigi Osler (Winnipeg) and this year with the assistance of Dr. Andrew Thamboo (UBC). The courses have been attended by surgeons and trainees from throughout Africa including Ethiopia, Nigeria, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania and Somalia.

A deficiency in the program since its inception has been a lack of development of resources for families with hearing loss in Uganda. Recently, a Ugandan father of a child with hearing loss struggled to get resources for his daughter. He eventually was able to get her bilateral cochlear implants in the U.S. and has returned to Uganda resolved to improve the situation for other families. He has created a not for profit organization in Kampala, *Hear His Voice* specifically to this end. He has recently successfully applied for a grant from Rotary International, sponsored by Dr. Irwin Stewart’s Rotary Club in New Westminister for US\$130,000. The clinic facility will be named in Dr. Stewart’s memory.

Donations to support this initiative are accepted through the New Westminister Rotary Club. Cheques can be mailed to:

Mr. Michael Crean

219 – 6th St. New Westminister, BC V3L 3A3

In the memo of the cheque grant, the grant number should be referenced # GG1866567. For more information, Mike Crean can be emailed directly at mcrean@telus.net.

Brian Westerberg.

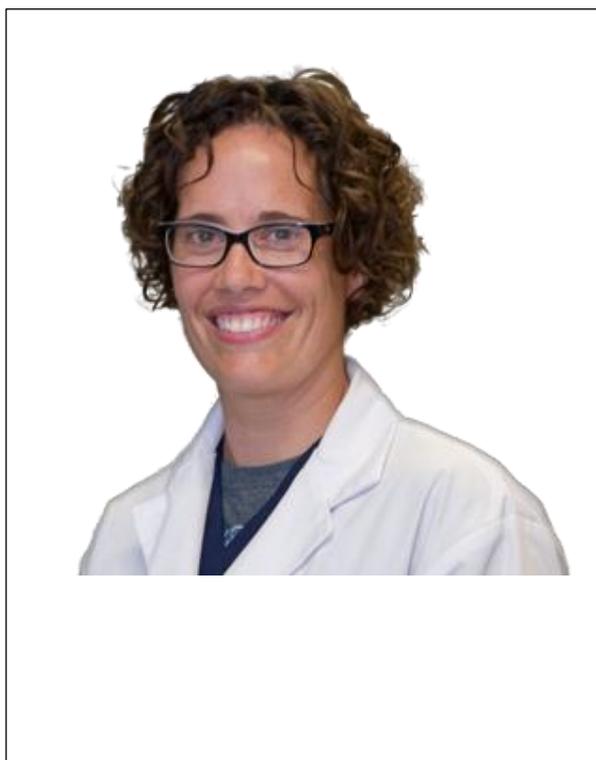


**Temporal Bone dissection course
during International visit to
Uganda**



Dr Irwin Stewart's Room

BC First Nation's Outreach Otolaryngology Services - Dr . Jane Lea, FRCSC



Dr Jane Lea's commitment to provide specialized ENT service to first nation at their home towns is well recognized and appreciated. Dr Lea travels to first nation's reserves on a regular basis and have visited Gitga'at (Hartley Bay) usually annually , Heiltsuk (Bella Bella) (usually twice a year) , Gitxaala (Kitkatla) usually annually , Lax Kw'alaams (Port Simpson) usually annually and planning on visiting Haida Gwaii – scheduled for May 2019

Dr Jane Lea and Dr Brian Westerberg along with other members of the St Paul's and BC Children otology and audiology team (including rotating UBC ENT residents) would regularly travel to provide superb basic otolaryngology services as well as more sophisticated diagnostic otology services.

During a recent trip to Lax Kw'alaams (Port Simpson) in November 2019 our audiology team (Myron Huen from St. Paul's and Alision Jones from BC Children's) performed audiometric testing on 150 children, encompassing the entire school age population (kindergarten to grade 12). In addition, 73 patients were seen clinically by Dr's. Lea & Westerberg for various ENT concerns.



Gitxaala (Kitkatla)



Gitga'at (Hartley Bay) aerial view



**Residents Dr Kimberly Luu (2018 graduate)
and Dr Ethan Newton (R3)**



Amin R. Javer, MD FRCS FARS

Endoscopic Sinus and Skull Base Surgery,
Rhinology and Nasal Physiology



In its 18th year, the 9th Bi-annual St. Paul's Sinus Centre Endoscopic Sinus and Skull Base Surgery course was held at the University of British Columbia Anatomy lab on August 10-12th, 2018 under the directorship of Dr Javer and Dr Thamboo. It was deemed a great success with 44 participants from around the globe and supported by several industry partners, including Karl Storz and Medtronic Canada who were our anchors and platinum sponsors as always. The first two days were dedicated to Rhinology and Basic Techniques in endoscopic sinus surgery and endoscopic anatomical teaching while the third day was dedicated to advanced and extended endoscopic skull base approaches. Superb local, national and international faculty made the course enjoyable for all learners; the most basic techniques to the more advanced techniques were taught with passion and individual attention. Dr. Jayakar Nayak and Winston Vaughan were the distinguished senior faculty from Stanford University and the California Sinus Institute respectively. Dr. Amy Anstead from Virginia Mason in Seattle gave a super talk on sinonasal anatomy. Distinguished national faculty included Dr. Brian Rotenberg from UWO, and Dr. Marc Tewfic from McGill who led a frontal sinus masterclass which was extremely well received. Local faculty included Dr. Kibblewhite, Dr. Janjua, Dr. Thamboo and Dr. Javer. The next anticipated course is being planned for June, 2021 just prior to the IFOS meeting in Vancouver. Please stay tuned for details which will be circulated shortly.

Dr. Amin Javer, MD FRCSC FARS.

UBC Rhinology Field research in Vancouver's Sun news Paper !



FEB 6, 2019 EDITION

“

Mucus transplant study targets inflamed sinuses

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In the first study of its kind, patients with chronic sinus conditions will get transplanted nasal mucus from close relatives with healthy snot - **PAMELA FAYERMAN – VANCOUVER SUN** : Study leader Dr. Amin Javer said in an interview the inspiration for the chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS) study is the success of fecal transplants for inflammatory bowel diseases and colitis caused by Clostridium difficile (C-diff). A member of his research team — epidemiologist Ameer Manges — has been involved in several human microbiome studies related to the higher risk of hospitalized patients getting potentially deadly C-diff infections.

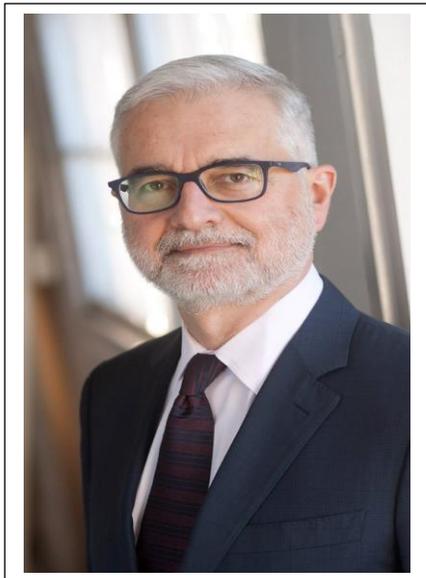
Just as in bowel disorders, good microorganisms — known as microbiome — in the sinus are disrupted and outnumbered by slimy groups of damaging bacterial and/or viral micro-organisms. Antibiotic therapy is not only often useless but often more damaging since antibiotics cut a wide swath, taking down good bacteria along with the bad.

The chronic sinus condition is common; it is said to affect up to 12 per cent of the North American population. Indeed, the hospital clinic gets 6,000 outpatient visits a year, many of them patients with the chronic sinus condition.

Ethics approval for the St. Paul's Hospital sino nasal microbiota transplant study, as it is called, has been granted by the hospital and the University of B.C. But Javer is waiting for final approval from Health Canada, which he expects to get next month. (Vancouver Sun Feb 6 2019)

UBC's Advanced Sialendoscopic Surgery

Dr. Robert Irvine



Dr. Irvine's commitment to advanced endoscopic salivary gland surgical techniques and salivary gland disease minimal invasive management is well recognised world wide. He was invited to be part of a webcast surgical procedure presentation at the European Sialendoscopy Training Center - An International conference on Salivary Gland disease management where Dr Irvine presented a sialendoscopic surgery performed at St Paul's Hospital on August 30, 2017

Dr Irvine's pioneering of Sialendoscopy embodies the UBC Division of Otolaryngology , Head & Neck Surgery's core value, that is the translation of knowledge to innovative solutions for diseases of ear , nose and throat