SUMMARY

1. Research and publications:

Total of new funding awarded this year: $449,250. 29 publications were published in 2012.

Dr. Samy Suissa is the Principal Investigator of the Canadian Network on Observational Drug Effect Studies (CNODES), and oversees funding of $17.5 million received from CIHR for this network. CNODES assembles the top pharmaco-epidemiologists in the country and uses a collaborative, population-based approach, exploiting existing healthcare databases across the country and using sophisticated, cutting edge and powerful analytical methods to rapidly evaluate the risks and benefits of medications on the health of Canadians.

Dr. Suissa was awarded his renewal for the James McGill Professor Award for another 7 years. He is also a co-investigator on 6 CIHR grants entitled:

1) Drospirenone-containing combined oral contraceptives and the risk of Arterial thrombosis;
2) The use highly prolactin-elevating antipsychotics and the risk of ovarian and endometrial cancer;
3) Post-marketing drug safety and effectiveness in patient populations underrepresented in Clinical Drug Trials;
4) The use of glyburide and the risk of cancer in elderly patients with type 2 diabetes;
5) Propensity scores and marginal structural models in drug safety research;

Dr. Filion was awarded two CIHR operating grant (2 years) as principal investigator entitled “Drospirenone-containing combined oral contraceptives and the risk of arterial thrombosis” and “The cardiovascular safety of varenicline: a population-based cohort study”. He is also a co-investigator on one grant awarded by CIHR entitled “A systematic review and meta-analysis of the safety of combined oral contraceptives” and also one grant awarded by the LDI Clinical Research Pilot Project (CLIPP) entitled “Administration of fixed-dose versus weight-based dose of heparin in patients with ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction undergoing primary percutaneous coronary intervention”.

2. Teaching and learning (undergraduate and graduate):

Dr. Samy Suissa teaches Advanced Epidemiology in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. He also leads the Pharmacoepidemiology Summer Program which holds 4 courses each summer and in which he himself teaches the Advanced Pharmacoepidemiology course.

Dr. Kristian Filion teaches in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. He taught the Unit 8 - Epidemiology Small Group Leader (Second Year Medical Students), was a Co-Instructor in the course entitled “Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses” and a Guest Lecturer in the course entitled “Introduction to Epidemiology”.

3. Involvement in the community:
• Member, External Advisory Board, PROTECT-European Medicines Agency, 2012-
• Member, Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network (DSEN) Interim Science Advisory Committee (ISAC), Canadian Institutes for Health Research, 2011-
• Associate Editor, Methodological Advisor, European Respiratory Journal, 2007-
• Section Head, Statistical methodologies & health informatics, Faculty of 1000 Medicine, 2005-
• Associate Editor, Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety, 2003-

4. **Partnerships:**

• Summer Course on Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety. Utrecht, Netherlands.
• Research and training collaboration, Clalit Health, Israel

5. **Milestones:**

There has been no change in staffing.

6. **Honours, awards, and prizes:**

In its year-end review, the editors of Thorax awarded the paper by Suisa et al. on the natural history of COPD its gold medal for research on adult lung disease, calling the authors “the best sort of epidemiologists … They ask important and highly clinically relevant questions and provide answers that change the way we think about disease.”

Dr. Filion is now a Fellow of the American Heart Association. He was also awarded a new investigator salary award from the CIHR. Because of this award, he declined the award of “Chercheur-Boursier Junior 1” from the Fonds de la Recherche du Québec.

7. **Fundraising:**

The CNODES grant allows Dr Suisa to transfer 100,000 per year to the Faculty of Medicine to free up his time, which permitted the McGill Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics to recruit a biostatistician, Dr Olli Saarela, for the next four years.

**SECTION I - DIVISION STATUS UPDATE**

1. **Mission and objectives of the Division**

The Division of Clinical Epidemiology is still a recent addition to the JGH Department of Medicine and now includes three members, Dr Kristian Filion and Dr Samy Suisa, the Chief of the Division.

2. **A nominative list of academic staff, their academic rank**

*Dr. Kristian Filion – Assistant Professor - active*
*Dr. Samy Suisa – Professor - active*

**SECTION II - GRANTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND SERVICE OUTSIDE OF McGill**

1. **Grants and awards received**
**Filion, Kristian - Awards**

1) 2012-2017: **CIHR Young Investigator Award.** A population-based evaluation of the cardiovascular safety of medications. (FRSQ Chercheur boursier junior 1 (declined)).

**Filion, Kristian – New grants**

1) 2012-2015: **Principal Investigator**, Fonds de la Recherche du Québec – Santé. *Une évaluation populationelle des effets cardiovasculaires indésirables des medicaments (Établissement de jeunes chercheurs - Juniors I).* [A population-based evaluation of the cardiovascular safety of medications. (Young Investigator Establishment Award)] - $45,000

2) 2012-2014: **Principal Investigator**, Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Drospirenone-containing combined oral contraceptives and the risk of arterial thrombosis. (Operating Grant) - $154,530

3) 2012-2014: **Principal Investigator**, Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The cardiovascular safety of varenicline: a population-based cohort study. (Operating Grant) - $144,720


5) 2012-2013: **Co-Investigator**, Canadian Institutes of Health Research. A systematic review and meta-analysis of the safety of combined oral contraceptives. (Operating Grant) - $47,250

**Suissa, Samy – New grants**

6) 2012-2019: Principal Investigator, James McGill Professor Award, McGill University ($105,000)

7) 2012-2014: Co-investigator, The use highly prolactin-elevating antipsychotics and the risk of ovarian and endometrial cancer. Canadian Institutes for Health Research ($117,400)

8) 2012-2013: Co-investigator, Catalyst Grant: Post-marketing drug safety and effectiveness in patient populations underrepresented in Clinical Drug Trials. Canadian Institutes for Health Research ($99,750)

9) 2012-2013: Co-investigator, The use of glyburide and the risk of cancer in elderly patients with type 2 diabetes. Canadian Institutes for Health Research ($99,750)

10) 2012-2015: Co-investigator, Propensity scores and marginal structural models in drug safety research Canadian Institutes for Health Research ($405,940)

**Suissa, Samy - Currently held Grants**

1) Principal Investigator, Canadian Network for Observational Drug Effect Studies (CNODES) Canadian Institutes for Health Research ($17,500,000) 2011-15

2) Principal Investigator, Multiple medication use in the Quebec elderly and the risk of motor vehicle crash. Canadian Institutes for Health Research ($271,489) 2010-14

3) Co-investigator, Statins and the prevention of recurrence and mortality in men with prostate cancer, Canadian Institutes for Health Research ($134,370) 2011-13

**2. Scholarly works published in the 2012 calendar year:**

**Filion, Kristian**


Suissa, Samy


3. Academic and community engagement service outside of McGill by individual members of the unit

SECTION III - CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

1. Consulting activities:

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<th>Name of Faculty Member</th>
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Submitted by:

Samy Suissa, PhD
Chief, Division of Clinical Epidemiology