

## Canadian Association of General Surgeons Post-Graduate Course: General Surgery Review

**Chair:** Dr. Carolyn Nessim, CAGS CPD Chair



Dr. Carolyn Nessim is a Surgical Oncologist at the Ottawa Hospital and Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Ottawa. She is the Program Director for the Complex Surgical Oncology Fellowship Program at the University of Ottawa. She completed her general surgery residency and master's in biomedical sciences at the University of Montreal and did her Surgical Oncology Fellowships at the University of Toronto and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne, Australia. Her clinical practice focuses on the treatment of patients with Melanoma, Soft Tissue Sarcoma/GIST, and Gastric cancer. She is a Clinician Investigator at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI). She leads many collaborative research projects nationally and internationally in melanoma and soft tissue sarcoma. She is the Regional Chair of the Melanoma and Gastric Cancer Communities of Practice for Eastern Ontario and on the Cancer Care Ontario Skin Cancer Advisory Board as well the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Melanoma Measures Panel. She is the Chair of the Research Evaluation Committee of the Trans-Atlantic Australasian Retroperitoneal Sarcoma Working Group (TARPSWG) and a member of the Society of Surgical Oncology (SSO) Sarcoma Disease site group. She is a section editor for Sarcoma for Annals of Surgical Oncology and a topic editor for Current Oncology. She is the CPD Chair and member of the Board and Executive of the Canadian Association of General Surgeons (CAGS) and is also the Chair of the Surgery and Surveillance working group of the NCIC-Canadian Cancer Trials Group (CCTG). She sits on the Executive of the Canadian Society of Surgical Oncology (CSSO) and the Canadian Gastric Cancer Association (CaGCA). She has more than 60 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters and is the local PI for multi-international randomized clinical trials like the MELMART-2 and STRASS 2 trials at The Ottawa Hospital.

**Target Audience:** Practicing surgeons looking for a broad-based up to date CME experience.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Debate complex decision making in common general surgery cases
- Describe surgical approaches to common general surgery cases

**SPEAKERS:**

*"I would like to thank our speakers for taking the time away from family and friends to dedicate their time to come present and share knowledge and experience with our members with the goal to continue improving quality care across Canada."*  
Carolyn Nessim

**Ramzi M. Helewa MD, MSc, FRCSC**  
Colon and Rectal Surgery, Endoscopy, and General Surgery  
Associate Professor, Department of Surgery  
General Surgery Site Specialty Lead and Academic Lead, St. Boniface Hospital  
Program Director, Colorectal Surgery Residency Program  
Research Director, General Surgery Residency Program  
University of Manitoba



Dr. Ramzi Helewa is a colorectal surgeon from Winnipeg. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Manitoba. He is also the Program Director for their Colorectal Residency program.

**Kimberly A Bertens, MD MPH**  
Section Head- Hepatobiliary Surgery  
Assistant Professor of Surgery  
Senior Investigator- Ottawa  
Hospital Research Institute  
The Ottawa Hospital



Dr. Bertens completed medical school and General Surgery residency the University of Western Ontario. She then went on to complete a fellowship in Hepatobiliary surgery at Virginia Mason Medical Centre in Seattle, Washington. In addition, Dr. Bertens has completed a Masters of Public Health with a focus in quantitative methods at the Harvard School of Public Health. Her research interests include the interface between sociodemographic factors and access to surgical care, and clinical trials in HPB oncology.

**Michelle Nostedt, MD**



I am a General Surgeon practicing in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. I am affiliated with the University of Manitoba. As a rural general surgeon, my practice is quite wide and varied and includes endoscopy, typical general surgery, c-sections, emergency gynecological procedures, amputations, minor urological procedures. Outside of work, I enjoy, kayaking, biking, eating ice cream with my two kids and husband, and growing vegetables in my garden.

**Erin Bonisteel,  
B.Sc (Hons), MD**



General Surgery PGY3 (will be PGY4 at time of conference), MUN  
Bio: "Dr. Erin Bonisteel is a PGY4 General Surgery resident at Memorial University of Newfoundland. She completed her MD at Memorial University after completing Bachelor of Sciences in Biochemistry at Mount Allison University. Her surgical interests include rural/community surgery and MIS."

**Matthew Laviolette, MD**



Dr. Laviolette grew up in rural central Ontario. He was the first graduate of the Honours Bachelor of Science and Paramedicine program at the University of Toronto and worked as a paramedic for 5 years before attending the Northern Ontario School of Medicine in Thunder Bay where he undertook his medical undergraduate training. He completed his General Surgery training at the University of Ottawa in 2019. Dr Laviolette now lives and works in Sault Ste Marie, ON with his wife and four children where he enjoys a broad community practice and the spoils of living in Northern Ontario.

**Mo Yu Lanny Li, MD CM,  
MSc, FRCSC**



Dr. Li is a colorectal surgeon in St. John's and a clinical assistant professor at the Memorial University of Newfoundland. Her clinical practice focuses on complex benign anorectal disease, complex IBD and rectal cancer care. Her para-clinical interest centres on health economics and health technology evaluation.

**Maziar Fazel Darbandi,  
MD BSc**



I was born in Iran and moved to Winnipeg with my family in 2004. I completed my Bachelor of Science before starting medical school at the Max Rady College of Medicine in 2019. I became passionate about general surgery during my training and was overjoyed to match to the program at the University of Manitoba in 2023.



**Agenda:**

**8:00-8:30am:** Breakfast and Welcoming Remarks (Dr. Carolyn Nessim, Ottawa, ON)

**8:30-8:50am:** Peri-anal abscess and fistula on call

**Chair:** Dr. Jillian Vallis

**Case presenter:** Dr. Adele Orovec, PGY2 Dalhousie

**Panelists:** Dr. Lanny Li (St-John's, NFLD), Dr. Eric Hyun (Winnipeg, MB), Dr. Ramzi Helewa (Winnipeg, MB)

**8:50-9:20: Update Speaker:** Dr. Lanny Li (St-John's, NFLD): update on managing complex peri-anal fistulas.

**9:20-9:30:** Q & A

*Learning Objectives:*

By the end of the session the learner will be able to:

- 1) Classify peri-anal abscesses and fistulas based on their imaging characteristics and describe the indications for varying emergent imaging modalities (i.e. CT vs. MRI)
- 2) Describe the approach of management of perianal fistulas in the acute care setting
- 3) Describe the role of fistulotomy vs. seton placement in the acute peri-anal fistula

**9:30-9:50: Incidental abdominal mass NYD on Scan**

**Chair:** Dr. Megan Delisle (Winnipeg, MB)

**Case presenter:** Dr. Ilinca Georgescu, PGY2 Dalhousie

**Panelists:** Dr Stephen Hiscock (Salmon Arm, BC), Dr. Brent Zabolotny (Winnipeg, MB), Dr. Matthew Laviolette (Sault Ste-Marie, ON)

**9:50-10:20: Update Speaker:** Dr. Brent Zabolotny (Winnipeg, MB) to discuss management and approach to abdominal mass NYD

**10:20-10:30am:** Q+A

*Learning Objectives:*

By the end of the session the learner will be able to:

- 1) Discuss a differential diagnosis of incidental abdominal masses.
- 2) Describe and approach to diagnosis and management of abdominal masses in a community setting.



- 3) Discuss the roles and modalities of tissue biopsy of abdominal masses.

**10:30-10:50:** Break

**10:50-11:10am: Upper GI Bleed** (Bleeding Ulcer that needs advanced endoscopy technique to stop the bleeding and it re-bleeds - what is the next step)

**Chair:** Dr. Jillian Vallis – (St-John’s, NFLD)

**Case presenter:** Dr. Vanessa Wiseman, PGY4 Queens

**Panelists:** Dr Andrew Smith (Thunder Bay, ON), Dr. Michelle Nostedt (Portage la Prairie, MB), Dr. Sonny Dhalla (Winnipeg, MB)

**11:10-11:40am: Update Speaker:** Dr. Sonny Dhalla (Winnipeg, MB) – Update on the management of upper GI bleeds with technical tips and tricks

**11:40-11:50am:** Q + A

*Learning Objectives:*

By the end of the session the learner will be able to:

- 1) Describe the evaluation and initial resuscitation approach to the patient with an acute upper GI bleed.
- 2) Describe an approach to the endoscopic assessment and management of bleeding duodenal ulcers.
- 3) Explain indications and approaches for surgical management of a bleeding duodenal ulcer.

**11:50-12:30pm:** Lunch

**12:30-12:50pm: Complex Breast Case**

**Chair:** Dr. Lakho Sandhu (Sacramento, CA)

**Case presenter:** Dr. Rheann Brownstone, PGY2 Dalhousie

**Panelists:** Dr. Rebecca Wharburton (Vancouver, BC), Dr. Pamela Hebbard (Winnipeg, MB), Dr. Justin Rivard (Winnipeg, MB)

**12:50-13:20pm: Update Speaker:** Dr. Rebecca Wharburton (Vancouver, BC): Update on Her-2 positive breast cancer and BRCA

**13:20-13:30pm:** Q+A

*Learning Objectives:*

By the end of this session the learner will be able to:

- 1) Describe the most up-to-date neo-adjuvant and adjuvant treatment for HER-2 positive breast cancer



- 2) Describe the role immunotherapy plays in the management of Her-2 positive breast cancer.
- 3) Discuss the approach to a young BRCA breast cancer patient.

**13:30-13:50: Locally advanced colon cancer, MSI high**

**Chair:** Dr. Megan Delisle (Winnipeg, MB)

**Case presenter:** Dr. Erin Bonisteel, PGY3, MUN

**Panelists -** Dr. Fayez Quereshy (Toronto, ON), Dr. Sameer Apte (Ottawa, ON) Dr. Farhana Shariff (Winnipeg, MB)

**1:50-2:20: Update Speaker** – Dr. Farhana Shariff (Winnipeg, MB): update on locally advanced colon cancer and the role MSI plays in managing colon cancer.

**2:20-2:30pm: Q + A**

*Learning Objectives:*

By the end of this session the learner will be able to:

- 1) Describe the role of immunotherapy in MSI high colon cancer.
- 2) Discuss the surgical approach to locally advanced colon cancer.
- 3) Discuss the option of neo-adjuvant therapy.

**14:30-14:50pm: Break**

**14:50-15:10pm: Complicated Gallbladder with Choledocolithiasis**

**Chair:** Dr. Carolyn Nessim (Ottawa, ON)

**Case presenter:** Dr. Maziar Darbandi, PGY1 (Winnipeg, MB)

**Panelists:** Dr. Andrew McKay (Winnipeg, MB), Dr. Blaire Anderson (Edmonton, AB), Dr. Kim Bertens (Ottawa, ON)

**15:10-15:40pm: Update Speaker** Update on management of choledocolithiasis

**15:40pm-15:50pm: Q + A**

*Learning Objectives:*

By the end of the session the learner will be able to:

- 1) Discuss the best management of Cholangitis.
- 2) Discuss technical tips and tricks for Bile Duct Exploration
- 3) Discuss technical tips for Acute Cholecystitis

**15:50-16:00pm: Closing remarks** (Dr. Carolyn Nessim)

**Date:** Wednesday, September 25, 2024



**Location:** RBC Convention Centre, 375 York Ave, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3J3

**Time:** 08:00 -16:00

**Cost:**

\$450; Member

\$500; Non-Member

\$300; Resident and Fellow Member

\$350; Residents and Fellow Non-Member

\$250; Respiratory Therapists, Nurses, Retirees, Medical Students

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