

[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

## SMRC researcher Dr. Ivan Litvinov awarded FRQS Chercheur-boursier clinicien – Senior

[Montreal, QC – May 14, 2025] St. Mary's Research Centre, affiliated with McGill University, is pleased to announce that SMRC Clinician Scientist Dr. Ivan Litvinov has been selected for the "Chercheurs-boursiers cliniciens – Senior" award from the Fonds de Recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS).



The goal of this award is to support clinician-scientists conducting high-impact health research that contributes to improved care, training, and innovation across Quebec's health system. This competitive funding will support Dr. Litvinov's current project titled: *Élucider la pathogenèse moléculaire, améliorer le diagnostic et la prise en charge des patients atteints de cancer de la peau et de maladies inflammatoires de la peau, en mettant l'accent sur les populations autochtones du Nord du Québec* (Elucidating the molecular pathogenesis, improving diagnosis and management of patients with skin cancer and inflammatory skin diseases, with a focus on indigenous populations in northern Quebec).

SMRC is proud to celebrate this important milestone for Dr. Ivan Litvinov. Since joining our research centre in March 2025, Dr. Litvinov has already made important contributions to the advancement of SMRC's cancer care and patient-centered research priorities. We look forward to the continued growth and impact of his research.

### Background

Dr. Ivan Litvinov is an Associate Professor in the Division of Dermatology of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at McGill University. He earned his Ph.D. in cellular and molecular medicine at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland, and his medical degree at McGill, completing dermatology residency training at the McGill University Health Centre. Prior to joining the faculty at McGill, Dr. Litvinov practiced as an Assistant Professor of dermatology at the University of Ottawa between 2015-2017. From 2019-2021, Dr. Litvinov served as regional director (Quebec) of the Canadian Dermatology Association, and during 2021-2023 he served as the president of the Skin Research Group of Canada. In 2020, Dr. Litvinov received the Early Career Award in Cancer from CIHR and the 2019 President Cup Award for his contributions to dermatology and research.

Dr. Litvinov currently serves as the treasurer of the International Society for Cutaneous Lymphomas and as the treasurer of the Canadian Dermatology Foundation. He practices dermatology at St. Mary's Hospital Centre and provides call coverage for the hospital.

## Research Focus

Dr. Litvinov specializes in skin diseases research, particularly studying cutaneous lymphomas, keratinocyte carcinomas, and melanoma. His lab is currently studying the molecular pathogenesis of skin cancer, focusing on application/translation of discovered molecular knowledge into clinical practice. A large portion of his team is also focused on patient public involvement (PPI) research, with the goal of promoting sun safety among Canadian youth. His most recent research efforts are focused on co-creating dermatologic care and augmenting skin research in northern Indigenous communities of Nunavik. This research is supported by various grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Canadian Cancer Society, Cancer research Society, LEO Foundation, Canadian Dermatology Foundation and Montreal Dermatology Research Institute.

This FRQS funding will support further dermatological research in northern Quebec, examining skin cancer and various skin diseases amongst Indigenous populations. It will also contribute to public education on UV-related health risks.

## About St. Mary's Research Centre

St. Mary's Research Centre is embedded in St. Mary's Hospital Centre, an installation of the Montréal West Island Integrated University Health and Social Services Centre. Our research spans across four domains: Cancer Care, Surgical Sciences, Primary Care & Health Systems, and Older Adult Care. We care deeply about the community of St. Mary's Hospital Centre, and this proximity is reflected through core research themes such as patient engagement, self-management, and knowledge transfer to the clinical community and wider population. We also integrate into clinical settings through family and emergency medicine, community gynecology, and oncology clinical trials. At our core, our mission is to provide accessible and innovative patient-centred care to the communities we support, through engaged and thorough research.

### For inquiries:

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