Supervisor/Project Information Form

Due February 6, 2020 by email to crems.programs@utoronto.ca

Supervisor Name: Tomer Feigenberg, MD.

Project Title: The impact of minimally invasive surgery for the management of advanced stage ovarian cancer

Hospital/Research Institution: Trillium Health Partners

Email: tomer.feigenberg@thp.ca

Field of Research (2 keywords): surgery, ovarian cancer

Department: Obstetrics and Gynecology

School of Graduate Studies Appointment (IMS, LMP, IHPME etc)? /No: If YES, please name:

Brief Project Description (<300 words):
Background Epithelial ovarian cancer (EOC) accounts for the highest fatality ratio of gynaecological cancers in the developed world (1). EOC is typically diagnosed at an advanced stage requiring a multi-modal therapeutic approach of cytoreductive surgery followed by chemotherapy or neoadjuvant chemotherapy before surgery. Interval debulking surgeries (IDS) for the management of advanced EOC have traditionally been performed as time and resource-intensive laparotomies. Over the past decade, the utility of minimally invasive surgery (traditional laparoscopy and robotics) has significantly increased for the management of various...
gynecologic malignancies such as endometrial, cervical and early ovarian cancers. Improvements in surgeon’s skills, surgical technique, and novel minimally invasive platforms such as the da Vinci surgical system have allowed to safely preform highly complex MIS gynecologic and non-gynecologic procedures. A few small case series, non-randomized phase II trial have shown that MIS approach can be successfully applied to selected cases of advanced and recurrent ovarian cancer, however, the paucity of data and lack of randomized trials limits its application in many centres. In Canada, few centres have integrated MIS in different capacities for selected patients diagnosed with advanced stage ovarian cancer, while other centres typically do not use MIS in this patient’s population.

Objectives:
The objective of the current multi-Centre, retrospective, non-randomized trial is to assess the impact of MIS in the management of patients diagnosed with stage III-IV ovarian cancer, by comparing data from 2 different centres with different approaches to MIS (Trillium Health Partners and Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre).

Data will be collected by the student at the two centres and will include procedure lengths, intra and post-operative complications, conversion rates and length of hospital stay. Oncological data will include volume of residual disease at the end of surgery, time to chemotherapy after surgery and time from initial chemotherapy to recurrence.

The student will work closely with gynecologic oncologists at both centres, participate in data analysis and is expected to present the results at local and national meetings, and will participate in manuscript preparation.