JUDY CHEN, Class of 2028
Education: BHSc (Bachelor's of Health Sciences), McMaster University
Supervisor(s): Dr. Taylor Hanayik, Neurosurgeon, Montreal Neurological Hospital

Project: Multimodal Imaging Biomarkers of Childhood Epilepsy

Research Description:
Drug-resistant epilepsy (DRE) is a condition where seizures cannot be controlled by medical therapy and often occur in childhood, where it can have a severely detrimental impact to the children's learning and psychosocial functioning. My research work aims to develop and validate new biomarkers that can impact diagnosis and clinical management of childhood DRE using neuroimaging datasets and supervised machine learning techniques to identify brain measures able to predict clinical characteristics and outcomes.

Why did you decide to pursue both MDCM and PhD degrees? What are your career aspirations?
I think there's so much in the field of medicine that can be advanced through research and pursuing both degrees will allow me to push this boundary forward, now and in the future.

Why did you choose to study at McGill University?
McGill has great support and strong faculty in the research fields I'm interested in, and Montreal is a very vibrant and cultural city.

What aspect of the MD-PhD program do you enjoy the most or are looking forward to?
I've really enjoyed the MD-PhD seminars that we hold on a regular basis, and continue to look forward to them as I move through the program.