

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1010-1125

P02: The crash of SwissAir flight 111 (*simultaneous interpretation*)

Speaker(s):

Dr. John Butt, CM, MD, FRCPath

Category

General Interest

Learning Outcomes

1. Grasp principles of identification, specifically dental, fingerprints, DNA and x-ray, and learn why informal methods are used cautiously
2. Understand why next of kin become the clients and how to relate to them successfully
3. Understand the role of authorities involved and of pitfalls in dealing with others (e.g., cooperating with identification experts from military and police jurisdictions)
4. Appreciate the extent of this accident (loss of 229 persons) and the extent of two complex workplaces with hundreds working successfully to identify the dead and unravel the cause of the largest civilian air disaster ever in Canada

Session Description

Twenty years ago, Dr. John Butt, who in 1998 was the chief medical examiner for Nova Scotia, was one of the principals in the crash investigation of Swiss Air 111, which occurred close to Halifax. Dr. Butt led a team of some 400 persons in ultimately successfully identifying all the passengers and crew members within just over three months of the September 2, 1998, crash.

In this presentation, you will also hear some curious anecdotes of the incident: a watch still operating on the ocean floor a year later; how 228 identified persons added up to 229; some difficult issues with potentially worse public relations; of finding one serious French translation error caught at the last hour; of how postmortem x-ray showed unexpected findings, including extra body parts.

Speaker Bio

John Butt originates from Calgary, graduating as an MD from the University of Alberta so long ago that there "wasn't even an alphabet." First off, John didn't want to be a doctor; he chose pathology. This was a calculated choice, one where he reluctantly understood that he wouldn't have live patient contact again...until the biggest event in his life, Swiss Air 111, drew him to next of kin and families. He was an original in forensic pathology in Canada in 1974. He was the leader in developing a new death investigation system in Alberta and became their first chief medical examiner. Later, in Nova Scotia, when the Swiss Air crash occurred, he held the same position.

John Butt received wide acclaim for his work but points out that it was a large number of good people that brought successful identification of 229 persons. In 2000, he received membership in the Order of Canada.

LABCON2019 –Détails de la session

Le samedi 25 mai de 10 h 10 à 11 h 25

P02 : L'écrasement du vol 111 de Swiss Air (*traduction simultanée*)

Conférencier(s) :

D^r John Butt, CM, MD, FRCPath

Catégorie

Intérêt général

Résultats d'apprentissage

1. Saisir les principes d'identification, surtout dentaires, des empreintes digitales, de l'ADN et des rayons X, et apprendre pourquoi des méthodes informelles sont utilisées avec prudence
2. Découvrir pourquoi les parents proches deviennent les clients, et comment communiquer avec eux de façon efficace
3. Comprendre le rôle des autorités impliquées et les obstacles que l'on rencontre en faisant affaire avec d'autres personnes (par ex., collaborer avec des experts en identification des domaines militaires et policiers)
4. Apprécier l'étendue de cet accident (perte de 229 personnes) et la collaboration entre deux environnements de travail complexes impliquant des centaines de personnes s'efforçant d'identifier les morts et de découvrir la cause de la plus importante catastrophe aérienne civile dans l'histoire canadienne

Description de la session

Il y a une vingtaine d'années, le D^r John Butt, qui en 1998 était le médecin légiste en chef de la Nouvelle-Écosse, a eu un rôle principal dans l'enquête de l'écrasement du vol 111 de Swiss Air près de Halifax. Le D^r Butt a dirigé une équipe d'environ 400 personnes pour enfin identifier avec succès tous les passagers et membres d'équipage en seulement trois mois de la date de l'écrasement du 2 septembre 1998. Pendant cette présentation, vous découvrirez également quelques anecdotes curieuses de l'incident : une montre trouvée au fond de l'océan qui fonctionnait encore un an plus tard; comment 228 personnes identifiées ont totalisé 229; certaines difficultés avec des relations publiques déjà mauvaises; une erreur grave de traduction française découverte à la dernière minute; et comment une radiographie post-mortem a révélé des conclusions imprévues, y compris des parties de corps supplémentaires.

Biographie du conférencier

Le D^r John Butt vient de Calgary et il a obtenu son diplôme en médecine de l'Université de l'Alberta il y a si longtemps qu'il « n'existait même pas d'alphabet ». Au début, John ne voulait pas devenir médecin; il a choisi la pathologie. C'était une décision délibérée, et il savait à contrecœur qu'il n'allait plus avoir contact avec des patients vivants. C'est-à-dire, jusqu'à ce qu'il ait rencontré l'événement le plus marquant de sa vie, l'écrasement du vol 111 de Swiss Air, où il a dû faire affaire avec les parents proches et les familles des victimes.

Il est devenu l'un des premiers à pratiquer la pathologie judiciaire au Canada en 1974. Il a été chef de file en développant un nouveau système d'enquête des décès en Alberta et est devenu le premier médecin légiste en chef de cette province. Plus tard, en Nouvelle-Écosse, lors de l'écrasement de Swiss Air, il avait le même rôle.

Le D^r John Butt est vastement reconnu pour son travail, mais il précise que bon nombre de personnes ont collaboré pour identifier avec succès les 229 victimes. En 2000, il est devenu membre de l'Ordre du Canada.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 26, 1145-1301

D01: Blood bank? This is trauma. We are activating the MTP

Speaker(s):

Nicole Caldwell, BSc, MLT

Category

Transfusion Science

Learning Outcomes

1. Brief overview of the New Brunswick trauma program
2. Coagulation challenges
3. What is going on in the trauma room?

Session Description

This will be a general lecture on the topic of supporting the trauma patient suffering from massive hemorrhage. While activation of the protocol has the technologist quickly providing blood products to the patient, there are numerous health care professionals performing procedures in the trauma room. Ever wonder what they are all doing and what challenges they might face?

Speaker Bio

Nicole is a blood bank technologist at The Moncton Hospital in New Brunswick. She received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Prince Edward Island in 2001 and her medical laboratory technologist diploma from the New Brunswick Community College in 2004.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1145-1300

D02: Persistent mild increase of human chorionic gonadotropin – Am I pregnant?

Speaker(s):

Yu Chen, MD, MSc, PhD, FACB, FCACB, DABCC (Clin Chem; Toxicology)

Category

Chemistry

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the biochemistry and function of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG)
2. Explain differential diagnosis for a persistent low-level increase of serum hCG levels
3. Describe quiescent gestational trophoblastic disease, a benign condition characterized by a low-level increase of serum hCG

Session Description

Pregnancy, ectopic pregnancy, retained products of conception, false positive human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) test results, pituitary production of hCG, gestational trophoblastic disease and nontrophoblastic cancer are all possible causes of increases in serum hCG levels. A false-positive result of serum hCG, if undetected, may lead to unnecessary chemotherapy or hysterectomy. Recently, we reported a persistent mild increase of hCG levels in a 31-year-old woman after spontaneous abortion (CMAJ 2017). In this lecture, quiescent gestational trophoblastic disease as well as the work up of differential diagnosis for a persistent low-level increase of serum hCG levels will be described.

Speaker Bio

Dr. Chen is the chief and medical director of the Department of Laboratory Medicine, Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital and Upper River Valley Area, Horizon Health Network, which includes a full range of pathology and laboratory medicine services at a busy regional laboratory and 3 satellite labs in the Fredericton region, New Brunswick. He has published 50 research papers, including some on high-profile journals, such as NEJM, Circ Res, Med Res Rev, Clin Chem and CMAJ, and over 50 abstracts and meeting presentations. Dr. Chen received several research awards from the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) and the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists (CSCC). Dr. Chen is an associate professor of the department of pathology at Dalhousie University.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1145-1300

D03: What does Choosing Wisely have to do with medical laboratory professionals?

Speaker(s):

Amanda VanSpronsen, MSc, BSc (MLS), MLT

Valentin Villatoro, MEd, BSc (MLS), MLT

Laura Zychla

Category

Education, Management

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the extent of unnecessary diagnostic testing in health care
2. Appreciate the impacts of unnecessary diagnostic testing in health care
3. Develop ideas about how medical laboratory professionals (MLPs) can become more involved in initiatives to reduce unnecessary tests and procedures

Session Description

Choosing Wisely Canada (CWC) is an initiative about reducing unnecessary tests and procedures in health care. A movement is afoot for MLPs to become involved with CWC. CSMLS and the University of Alberta are collaborating to create a list of CWC recommendations that represent activities within our scope of practice. This multi-stage project is currently underway, and efforts to engage MLPs are a central activity. At this session, you will hear about overall project progress as well as be able to voice your recommendations. The results of this round-table discussion will support the validation process used to create the final MLP CWC recommendations. Come and be inspired by the ideas around you in round table discussions, and lend your expertise to this important initiative.

Speaker Bio

Amanda VanSpronsen is an associate professor in medical laboratory science at the University of Alberta, and her research interests include MLT professional development and appropriate laboratory utilization.

Valentin Villatoro completed his MEd in Health Sciences Education, and he continues to build his expertise in pedagogy and ways to engage learners.

Laura Zychla holds research positions with the CSMLS and Cancer Care Ontario. She has an extensive consulting background in research and analysis, with a focus on creating evidence-based health and education policy for the applied health professions. She has been highly involved in the creation of competencies for the Clinical Specialist Radiation Therapist and Personal Support Worker professions. Recently, for the medical laboratory profession, she has lead projects involving mental health knowledge and tool production, fostered national collaboration through the creation of the 'Simulation Knowledge Exchange - Research Network', helped create ethics based policy to support professionals and is continuing to advance knowledge transference through involvement in news curation and educational resource initiatives.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1145-1300

D04: Fundamentals of immunohistochemistry and an introduction to modern digital pathology

Speaker(s):

Terence Litavec, BSc, MLT, SH(ASCP), QIHC

Category

Histotechnology, Information Technology

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the mechanisms of immunohistochemistry (IHC) and other similar methods of tissue staining used in anatomic pathology
2. Outline the procedure for validating IHC antibodies for diagnostic and clinical use
3. Discuss the significance of the role of antibodies in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer and other types of neoplastic and autoimmune diseases
4. Provide background information about the newest advances in digital imaging relating to IHC and other types of fluorescent staining procedures

Session Description

Immunohistochemistry (IHC) is a branch of anatomic pathology that focuses on the identification and classification of solid tumors and hematopoietic cell lines in all types of body tissues. This lecture will outline each step of the IHC stain procedure and show the microscopic visual outcomes of a variety of IHC techniques. Additionally, there will be an introduction to the most recent advances in the field of digital pathology that facilitate the distribution of the stained images for collaborative diagnosis. It promises to be a dazzling visual display that will capture the interest of technologists and health care providers of all disciplines!

Speaker Bio

Terence Litavec is the current MLT director of the BCSLS, and he has worked as a medical laboratory technologist for the past 15 years. He has worked at Kelowna General Hospital in the core laboratory for four years. Before that, he worked at Tacoma General Hospital and PhenoPath Laboratories, both in Washington State. He is certified by both the CSMLS and the ASCP. He is a certified specialist in hematology and coagulation, and he also has bench experience working in immunohistochemistry, flow cytometry, transfusion services and some molecular methods, such as fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) and polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

LABCON2019 –Détails de la session

Le samedi 25 mai de 11 h 45 à 13 h

D05: Médecine personnalisée en oncologie: rôle du laboratoire

Conférencier :

Sylvain Mailhot, MD, Pathologiste Anatomique

Catégorie

Histotechnologie

Résultats d'apprentissages

1. Reconnaître les caractéristiques d'une cellule cancéreuse et comprendre certaines voies de transduction utilisées par celle-ci
2. Comprendre certains points de contrôles immunitaires importants en oncologie
3. Comprendre l'importance de la pharmacogénomique en oncologie
4. Comprendre les différentes armes de notre arsenal diagnostique permettant une médecine personnalisée

Description de la session

Cette présentation a pour but de démontrer l'importance des laboratoires biomédicaux dans le développement de la médecine personnalisée en oncologie. Une revue sommaire des caractéristiques d'une cellule cancéreuse et du système immunitaire sera faite. Par la suite, à partir d'exemples concrets, différents tests de laboratoire permettant une médecine personnalisée en oncologie seront brièvement expliqués (ex : immunohistochimie, SISH, FISH, PCR, séquençage génique). Des lames virtuelles seront utilisées lors de la présentation.

Biographie du conférencier

D^r Mailhot pratique la pathologie anatomique et hématologique depuis plus de 20 ans. Il a un intérêt pour l'oncologie, plus particulièrement pour les tests diagnostiques permettant d'améliorer les succès thérapeutiques.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1400-1515

E01: Use of thromboelastometry in the trauma situation

Speaker(s):

Rania Elhalabi, BSc, MLT

Category

Hematology, Transfusion Science

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the principle of the instrument
2. Explore situations where the technology should be used
3. Learn the advantages and benefits of this type of testing to the organization and patient

Session Description

Thromboelastometry is a relatively old technology being used in the hospital setting. Popular in European countries this type of testing is relatively new in Canada. The purpose of thromboelastometry is to obtain the quantitative and qualitative coagulation state of the patient. This patient is usually in a trauma crisis situation, with bleeding that is idiopathic. Thromboelastometry can distinguish between a surgical bleed or coagulation bleed. The benefits and advantages to this testing are numerous and will be explored in this presentation. Several interpretations and case studies will be also be presented to illustrate the performance of this technology.

Thromboelastometry allows for a multidisciplinary approach to the patient's care by including the hematology lab along with transfusion medicine.

Speaker Bio

Rania Elhalabi is a medical laboratory technologist (MLT) who completed her Bachelor of Science at Mount Allison University. She then went on to complete a degree in medical laboratory science. She is currently the coagulation supervisor in the hematology department at the Moncton Hospital for the past eight years. Rania has volunteered both locally, provincially and nationally in her professional societies. Rania is passionate about the MLT profession and is also involved in many initiatives in her workplace.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1400-1515

E02: Reforming laboratory services in New Brunswick: Our challenges and future outlook

Speaker(s):

Yves Goudreau, MHSA

Category

Management, Leadership

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the issues confronted with a New Brunswick context
2. Learn tools and methodologies used to guide our health authorities and province in facing our current staff shortages
3. Comment on our approach in dealing with our issues as best practices will be presented
4. Have an open discussion on a national stage of issues confronted by all jurisdictions

Session Description

The session will focus on the current issues in laboratory services in New Brunswick particularly as it relates to the Vitalite Health Network, which is a francophone authority. I will discuss our challenges, our method for evaluating our system and the steps that we will be undertaking to reform our system. Our reform, in my mind, is a method that should be considered by other jurisdictions and this presentation will allow for discussion in the end.

Speaker Bio

Yves has been in health care management at various managerial levels and has managed a wide-range of departments/services. He has a Master's degree in Health Administration and is currently the director for laboratory services with the Vitalite Health Network. Yves is an avid adventurer who holds a private pilot's license and loves to travel internationally. On his 50th birthday, he reached the base of Mount Everest, which was a life-long dream. In 2019, he hopes to reach Mount Kilimanjaro.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1400-1515

E03: Educator Ignite

a) Throw away the sandwich: Giving and receiving effective feedback

Speaker(s):

Valentin Villatoro, MEd, BSc (MLS), MLT

Amanda VanSpronsen, MSc, BSc (MLS), MLT

Category

Education, Management

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the characteristics of an effective feedback interaction
2. Describe how feedback can be used to improve professional practice
3. Distinguish between examples of poor and effective feedback
4. Utilize strategies discussed in the session to provide effective feedback to colleagues, employees and students in a professional setting

Session Description

Are you constantly finding yourself in situations where you need to provide feedback to others? Whether you're training a new colleague on the job, performing formal student training or muddling through performance appraisals, you will often find yourself in a position where you need to give feedback. The problem is, most of us never receive any formal training on how to do this effectively. You have probably heard of the sandwich method and other similar techniques used to give constructive feedback. We are asking you to throw away the sandwich into the metaphorical compost bin and learn better ways to approach the difficult task of giving feedback to others.

Speaker Bio

Amanda VanSpronsen is an associate professor in medical laboratory science at the University of Alberta, and her research interests include MLT professional development and appropriate laboratory utilization.

Valentin Villatoro completed his MEd in Health Sciences Education, and he continues to build his expertise in pedagogy and ways to engage learners.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1400-1515

E03: Educator Ignite

b) Encouraging critical thinking in learning and teaching

Speaker(s):

Kalwinder Randhawa, MLT, MEd

Heather McMullen, MLT, BScMLS, MEd

Category

Education

Learning Outcomes

1. Explore strategies and methods for encouraging critical thinking
2. Gain theoretical knowledge through presentation and small group activities
3. Draw on your experience as a learner and teacher to identify environmental factors that influence learning
4. Evaluate the utility of theoretical concepts

Session Description

The world becomes a better place as we develop critical thinking processes, both individually and collectively. We probably can't change the world, but we can work within our sphere of influence, the medical laboratory, to make small changes that have great impact. Whether orienting a new colleague, training a student or teaching in the classroom, we are all educators. As educators, we have a responsibility to make sure we are explicitly clear about our meaning, intention and expectations if we want positive outcomes. Consider this idea: teaching = learning. To effectively teach in complex environments, the psychomotor, cognitive and affective domains of learning all need to be addressed. What does this look like, and how do we know whether we've accomplished our goals? Come to this session, and together we will explore strategies and methods for encouraging critical thinking and the development of intellectual traits and virtues.

Speaker Bio

Heather McMullen and Kal Randhawa teach in the medical laboratory science program at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT). They bring clinical and educational perspective from their careers as medical laboratory technologists and their personal experiences as learners and teachers. Heather has worked in Alberta, Ontario and British Columbia, and Kal in Ontario and British Columbia. They both hold a Masters of Education in curriculum and instruction and believe that you can do serious work without taking yourself too seriously.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1400-1515

E03: Educator Ignite

- c) A pilot project with drastically reduced clinical placement weeks in medical laboratory science

Speaker(s):

Peter J. Bridge, PhD, FCCMG, FACMG

Category

Simulation, Clinical Placement

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand how Michener could reduce basic clinical rotation length from four to three weeks per discipline
2. Appreciate that the peer-learning model is a superior educational method
3. Appreciate that authentic, high-fidelity simulated clinical education in school does not replace all clinical education but can allow clinical sites to focus their precious time, resources and energy on topics that only they can teach
4. Consider the great benefit of using the saved time (five weeks) for enrichment activities of mutual benefit to the students and the site

Session Description

CSMLS has identified a massive gap between national output of new technologists and predicted retirements. While schools and employers readily agree that it is essential to increase enrollment in the programs, the commitment of resources and, in particular, more clinical placements has not materialized. The Michener Institute of Education at UHN has successfully piloted a model to place more students in a paired peer-learning system for shorter rotations at one site and is now ready to offer this to an expanded list of suitable placement sites. The win-win scenario is significantly more students rotating through a site with minimal, if any, increase in teaching hours by clinical staff. The saved time can be invested in activities of mutual benefit to both students and the site.

Speaker Bio

Dr. Peter Bridge was the director of clinical molecular genetics laboratories and a professor of medical genetics in three different provinces between 1987 and 2010 (from before the Human Genome Project until after its completion). He became a fellow of the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists in 1989 (molecular genetics) and was a founding fellow of the American College of Medical Genetics in 1992. For the last eight years he has been the academic chair of medical laboratory sciences, which includes medical laboratory science, genetics technology, and diagnostic cytology, at the Michener Institute of Education at UHN in Toronto.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Saturday, May 25, 1400-1515

E04: Twin placental pathology - Are they identical?

Speaker(s):

Cassie Buick, MLT

Category

Histotechnology

Learning Outcomes

1. Identify key anatomical features of the placenta
2. Distinguish mono/mono, mono/di and di/di twin placentas
3. Differentiate various placental anomalies
4. Understand how epigenetic factors can influence identical twins
5. Determine whether the three sets of twins who work at The Moncton Hospital are identical or fraternal

Session Description

Every twin has been asked the question “are you identical or fraternal?”, but in reality not every twin knows the answer to this question. An excellent resource for determining twin zygosity is placental pathology. This presentation will focus on identifying monochorionic (identical) twins, the anomalies and risks associated with these placentas, as well as, how and why epigenetic changes can begin before we are even born. The Moncton Hospital laboratory is fortunate to have three sets of twins who have provided us with their placental pathology reports. Using this information can you determine whether these sets of twins presented to you today are identical or fraternal?

Speaker Bio

Cassie is CAP certified as both a surgical and autopsy Pathologists' Assistant; she hails from British Columbia and is fortunate to have had the opportunity to work and train in Ontario, Manitoba, and New Brunswick. She is currently a PA at the Moncton hospital where she works with an incredible and collaborative team who help fuel her love of pathology.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Le samedi 25 mai de 14 h à 15 h 15

E05: Les dilemmes éthiques dans les services de la santé

Conférencier :
Claire Johnson

Catégorie
Ethics

Résultats d'apprentissages

1. Identifier les dilemmes éthiques souvent rencontrés dans les services de la santé
2. Identifier les valeurs derrière les dilemmes éthiques
3. Analyser le contexte et la situation afin d'arriver à une solution
4. Apprendre à communiquer la prise de décision éthique avec autrui
5. Développer des outils pour encourager la prise de décision éthique au sein de l'organisation de soins de santé

Description de la session

Cette séance portera sur la prise de décision éthique dans les services de soins en santé. Ensemble, on verra les genres de dilemmes éthiques vus couramment dans les services de soins de la santé. Ainsi que les outils disponibles pour aider avec la prise de décision et le partage de ces informations avec les membres de l'équipe de soins.

Biographie du conférencière

Claire Johnson est une diététiste, avec une maîtrise en administration publique qui a œuvré longtemps au réseau de la santé Vitalité et au service correctionnel du Canada où elle a eu la chance de voir plusieurs dilemmes éthiques dans les services de la santé. Elle est actuellement professeur à l'Université de Moncton en gestion des services de la santé, pendant qu'elle attend pour faire sa soutenance orale qui est l'étape finale de l'obtention de son doctorat en santé des populations de l'Université d'Ottawa.

LABCON2019 – Session Details

Le samedi 25 mai de 15 h 30 à 16 h 45

P03: Les stratégies de modernisation du Réseau de santé vitalisé. Dans un contexte de pénurie de main-d'oeuvre spécialisée.

Conférencier :
Gilles Lanteigne

Catégorie
Intérêt général

Résultats d'apprentissages

1. Comprendre les enjeux spécifiques au N.-B.
2. Évaluer les plans mis en place par le Réseau de santé Vitalité
3. Analyser les résultats obtenus

Description de la session

À l'instar des autres organisations Pan canadiennes du domaine de la santé, le Réseau de santé Vitalité fait face à de nombreux défis en matière de modernisation et de transformation de ses services. L'ampleur de ce défi, dans un contexte de pénurie sévère de la main d'oeuvre spécialisée (personnel infirmier, médecins, pharmaciens, etc.) rend la transformation plus complexe et les moyens de réussite doivent être multiples et reposent sur des changements organisationnels importants et sur une technologie de fine pointe. La session s'attardera à présenter les défis et aussi les réussites de l'opération en cours.

Biographie du conférencier

En août 2015, Gilles Lanteigne s'est joint au Réseau de santé Vitalité à titre de président- directeur général. Chef de file reconnu, il compte plus de 30 années d'expérience en tant que cadre supérieur dans des postes stratégiques. Il a été directeur général de l'Hôpital général du Lakeshore, de l'Hôpital communautaire du Pontiac et du Centre d'accès aux soins communautaires de Champlain ainsi que vice-président exécutif d'Agrément Canada.

M. Lanteigne est titulaire d'un doctorat en santé publique, d'une maîtrise en administration des affaires et d'une maîtrise en service social. Il détient le titre de Certified Health Executive (CHE) du Collège canadien des leaders en santé et il est fellow de l'American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE). En outre, il est comptable professionnel agréé (CPA) et comptable général accrédité (CGA).

Depuis de nombreuses années, il est expert-visiteur pour l'International Society for Quality in Health Care et aussi pour Agrément Canada.

Il siège à plusieurs conseils d'administration, notamment celui de l'Institut canadien d'information sur la santé (ICIS), de l'Institut atlantique de recherche sur le cancer (IARC), de Service Nouveau-Brunswick (SNB) et de SoinsSantéCAN.

Il possède une vaste expérience sur le plan international et il a oeuvré en Europe, en Asie, au Moyen-Orient, en Afrique du Nord et en Amérique du Sud.