Patrick Croskerry
MD, PhD, FRCP(Edin)

Professor and Director, Critical Thinking Program, Division of Medical Education, Dalhousie University

Dr. Patrick Croskerry is a professor in emergency medicine in the Division of Medical Education at Dalhousie University. In addition to his medical training, he holds a doctorate in experimental psychology and fellowship in clinical psychology.

Dr. Croskerry's research is principally concerned with clinical decision-making, especially the processes that lead to diagnostic failure, and he has published in the areas of patient safety, clinical decision-making, and medical education reform. He was the senior editor on a major text Patient Safety in Emergency Medicine published in 2009, and senior author of the recently published Diagnosis: Making Sense of the Shadows (2017).

Throughout his career, Dr. Croskerry has served on various boards and committees, including the Canadian Patient Safety Institute and the US Institute of Medicine Committee on Diagnostic Error in Medicine. In 2012, he was appointed director of the Critical Thinking Program at Dalhousie Medical School, and is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. He was nominated to the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians Top Ten List of most impactful Canadian medical educators in 2016.

Avoiding diagnostic error by understanding how physicians think
Patricia Bowles
Senior Communications Specialist

Ms. Patricia Bowles is an award-winning communications professional with expertise in public affairs, media and government relations, advocacy and marketing. She has held senior executive positions with TELUS and Westcoast Energy and also served as a political and policy advisor for the federal and provincial governments. Most recently, she was the director of communications and education at the BC Securities Commission.

Prior to joining the commission in 2006, Ms. Bowles was a senior consultant for BC’s Ministry of Attorney General providing advice on messaging for trials in BC’s Supreme and Provincial courts, in particular the Air India and Pickton trials.

Before moving to BC, Ms. Bowles was an owner and director of McLaren McCann Advertising in Toronto where she consulted for a number of clients in the health-care field.

Graeme Keirstead
LLB
Chief Legal Counsel, College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

Mr. Graeme Keirstead graduated from the University of New Brunswick Law School in 1991 and was called to the Bar in 1992. He worked in small firm settings before joining The Law Society of British Columbia in 1999 as a staff lawyer where he worked for 15 years holding various leadership positions. Mr. Keirstead joined the College in 2013.

Mr. Keirstead has spoken to groups of lawyers and other professional audiences on topics from how to avoid complaints to how to develop your own succession plan.

Patrick D. Rowe
MD, CCFP(EM), FCFP
Department Head, Emergency Medicine, University Hospital of Northern British Columbia
Trauma Director, Northern Health

Dr. Patrick Rowe is an emergency physician practising at the University Hospital of Northern BC in Prince George, BC. He has been a member of the Prince George medical community since 1993. Dr. Rowe has served in a number of leadership positions, including a term as president of the Prince George emergency group, as a member of the Department of Emergency Medicine Advisory Committee and the Northern Health Critical Care Council. Recently, he completed the Physician Leadership Program at the UBC Sauder School of Business.

Dr. Rowe has been a member of the College Board since 2013 and currently holds the position of president.
Alain Naud
MD, CCFP(F)
CHU de Québec, Université Laval

Dr. Alain Naud has practised family medicine for more than 30 years with a focus on palliative care. He has been involved with medical assistance in dying since the practice was legalized in Quebec in December 2015. Dr. Naud is a full clinical professor at Université Laval in Quebec City, and teaches at the family medicine unit at St-François d’Assise Hospital. He serves as a member of the board of directors of the Collège des Médecins du Québec and the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Québec, where he previously served as CEO of the council of physicians, dentists and pharmacists.

The story of life, end of life and dignity – medical assistance in dying, a Quebec perspective
Launette Rieb
MD, MSc, FCFP, DABAM
Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine, UBC
Dr. Launette Rieb is a clinical associate professor in the department of family practice at UBC. She also serves as a diplomate of the American Board of Addiction Medicine. Her graduate work was in the area of pain neurophysiology. She was the co-creator and initial physician director of the BC Centre for Substance Use Addiction Medicine Fellowship.

Dr. Rieb's research interests are in opioid withdrawal pain and inner city addiction issues. She works clinically at OrionHealth (Vancouver pain clinic), the Orchard Recovery Centre, and in the Immunodeficiency Clinic at St. Paul's Hospital seeing complex pain and addiction patients. Dr. Rieb is the recipient of a UBC postgraduate teaching award.

Rashmi Chadha
MBChB, MScCH, CCFP, MRCGP (Dist.), ABAM (Cert)
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, UBC
Dr. Rashmi Chadha trained as a family physician in the United Kingdom before moving to Canada where she completed a clinical fellowship in addiction medicine at the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health in Toronto. She is certified by the American Board of Addiction Medicine and is a clinical assistant professor in the department of family medicine at UBC. She works in the complex pain and addiction consult service at Vancouver General Hospital and provides medical consultation to the Prescription Review Program of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC.

Operationalizing the College standard on cannabis for medical purposes
Managing the obligation to put patients first with the reality of scarce resources

Guylaine Lefebvre

MD, FRCSC, FRCOG

Director, Safe Medical Care, Practice Improvement, CMPA

Dr. Guylain Lefebvre completed medical school and her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Ottawa, and did her fellowship in advanced gynecologic surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. In 2001, after having been on staff for ten years at the Ottawa Hospital, she joined St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto as chief of obstetrics and gynecology, where she also chaired St. Michael’s medical advisory committee.

Dr. Lefebvre’s memberships have included the Women’s Health Council of Ontario, the Medical Council of Canada Committee of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, the Accreditation Committee of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and she is currently a professor at the University of Toronto. In 2007–2008 Dr. Lefebvre was president of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada. In 2008 she received an honorary fellowship to the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists for her work in women’s health. Then in 2011 Dr. Lefebvre became the inaugural joint chair of women’s health for St. Michael’s Hospital and the University of Toronto.

In August 2015 she returned to Ottawa, joining the Canadian Medical Protective Association as director of practice improvement within the Safe Medical Care group.
The do-it-yourself practice tune-up – tips from the PPEP experience

Robert Hirzer

MD, CCFP, FCFP
Medical Advisor, Physician Practice Enhancement Program, College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC

Dr. Robert Hirzer is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario medical school and worked as a full-service family physician in Coquitlam for 35 years. During this time, he was also a clinical instructor with the UBC department of family practice. Subsequently, he remained clinically active with locum and walk-in clinic work. Dr. Hirzer has been involved with the College’s Physician Practice Enhancement Program as an assessor since 2011 and a medical advisor since 2015. He has a strong interest in continuing professional development and has participated in the College of Family Physicians of Canada’s Self Learning Program as a writer, editor and national committee member since 1994.

His first novel, The Last Plane (published in 2013), features a protagonist who is a family physician.
Psychiatry since Riverview Hospital closed – what’s going on?

Paul Dagg

MD, FRCPC

Program Medical Director, Mental Health and Substance Use Program, Interior Health Authority

Dr. Paul Dagg is currently the program medical director for the Mental Health and Substance Use Program for the Interior Health Authority. He moved to BC in 2005 to establish the Tertiary Mental Health Services for the Interior that were being developed as a result of the regionalization of services from the Riverview Hospital, opening Hillside Centre in Kamloops, and leading Tertiary Mental Health Services until 2016. He provides psychiatric and neuropsychiatric care for people with refractory illness who are admitted to Hillside Centre, a tertiary acute inpatient facility that provides services to clients from across the province. He is a clinical professor in the department of psychiatry at UBC and in 2013 was inducted as a member of the American College of Psychiatry.

Dr. Dagg has been heavily involved in postgraduate training in medicine and psychiatry and in 2016 was awarded the Duncan Graham Award for lifelong contribution to medical education in Canada by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. He is currently chair of the Corporate Accreditation Committee and a member of the Education Committee of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Until 2005, he was the assistant dean for postgraduate education in the faculty of medicine at the University of Ottawa, and associate professor and vice-chair in the department of psychiatry.
Hakique Virani
MD, FRCP, ABAM
Medical Director, Metro City Medical Clinic
Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Preventive Medicine, University of Alberta

Dr. Hakique Virani is a Royal College specialist in public health and preventive medicine and a diplomate of the American Board of Addiction Medicine. Both his public health and clinical work have been focused on special populations, including aboriginal communities, marginalized inner city patients, and incarcerated individuals. A vocal advocate for public health, he is called upon regularly to comment on media stories related to health equity, social determinants of health, and substance use disorders, and has written for several publications.

As a medical officer of health with the federal department of health, Dr. Virani led the Alberta public health response to the influenza pandemic of 2009 for the province’s First Nations, achieving triple the provincial vaccination coverage for this population and deploying rapid flu assessment clinics using remote access health technology.

In 2015, Dr. Virani championed the first naloxone distribution program on reserve in Canada in response to the opioid overdose crisis in southern Alberta, which was the impetus for a province-wide program. Dr. Virani served as a member of Alberta’s Coalition on Prescription Drug Misuse from its inception, and remains involved with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta in physician education on opioid use disorder, and the development of standards and guidelines for opioid dependency treatment. He is currently the medical director of Metro City Medical Clinic in Edmonton and Calgary.

The opioid crisis – a deeper understanding between exam rooms and ivory towers