

2016 CSCC Award for Outstanding Contribution to Clinical Chemistry
Sponsored by Siemen Healthcare Canada

Dr. Jawahar (Jay) Kalra



The CSCC is pleased to recognize the commendable career of **Dr. Jawahar (Jay) Kalra** by identifying him as the recipient of the **2016 CSCC Award for Outstanding Contributions to Clinical Chemistry**. This award recognizes Dr. Kalra's outstanding service to clinical chemistry through leadership in clinical service, research and education.

Dr. Kalra was born in India but came to Canada at the age of 21, in 1971, to begin postgraduate studies in the Department of Biochemistry at Memorial University in St. John's. There he obtained his PhD (1976) and later his MD (1981) degree. He then went on to Ottawa where he completed his residency training in laboratory medicine. Shortly there after, Dr. Kalra moved to Saskatoon where he's continued his career for the past 30 years. Dr. Kalra was certified as a clinical chemist by the CSCC in 1986, became a fellow of the Royal College of

Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (FRCPC) in 1987, Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry (FCACB) in 1989, and Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, (FCAHS) in 2005. Today he is professor of pathology, and educator and researcher in the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan. At the U of S he also served as Department Head of Pathology (1991-2000) and of Laboratory Medicine with Saskatoon District Health (1994-2000).

Dr. Kalra has a long history of involvement with local, national and international organizations focusing on clinical chemistry. He has been a member of CSCC for more than 30 years. As an active member he has served on the education committee (1986-1994); the steering committee and the CSCC working group on quality management (2012-present); and the organizing committee for the CSCC/CAMB annual meeting in Saskatoon (2009).

Locally in Saskatchewan he has been a member of the Saskatchewan Society of Clinical Chemistry (SSCC) since 1985, serving as secretary-treasurer, vice-president, past-president and president (1989-91 and 2003-06). He has also served CAMB in the same offices. Additionally, he is actively involved with the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC), especially serving as chair of the Rocky Mountain Section (2010-2011). More broadly in laboratory medicine, he was president of the Intersociety Council of Laboratory Medicine of Canada (ICLMC 1994-96); president of the Canadian Chairs of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (CCPLM 1995-2000); and has held several offices in the Canadian Association of Pathologists, including a role as president (1999-2000). These roles distinguish Dr. Kalra as a leader in laboratory medicine in Canada.

Apart from his various leadership roles, Dr. Kalra's contributions to clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine are evidenced through his research and his championing of quality in health care. He has received significant research funding over his career as principal or co-investigator (more than \$2.2 million). His research productivity to date is demonstrated in more than 100

publications in peer-reviewed journals, and hundreds of other publications including conference proceedings, abstracts, and non-peer reviewed literature. A major theme of his work is quality management and medical error reduction. This coupled with his book entitled *Medical Errors and Patient Safety – Strategies to Reduce and Disclose Medical Errors and Improve Patient Safety* has gained him recognition as an expert in these areas. More significantly, Dr. Kalra generously shares this knowledge through seminars and lectures which include CSCC Conference symposia in 2012; roundtables including a recent CSCC Thursday roundtable, and many CSCC and AACC and other conference roundtable sessions; and recently the Provincial Laboratory Medicine rounds in Newfoundland (2015). He continues to lecture across Canada and abroad.

These many contributions and leadership in service, education and research have earned him a number of prestigious awards. Of particular relevance to clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine, he was recipient of the "Excellence of Research Award 1994", CSCC; "Outstanding Speaker Award from 2007-2012", AACC; CSCC Best Poster awards in 1991 and 1992; 2012 "CAME/ACÉM Certificate of Merit Award" for Outstanding Contributions to Medical Education, Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME); "American Society for Quality (ASQ) Service Award 2010-2011"; and "American Society for Quality Leadership Award" 2015. In addition to this he has received certificates of recognition for leadership and service from CCPLM (1995-2000), Canadian Association of Pathologists (1997 and 1999-2000), and CAMB (1993-1995). He also remains active as a community leader which has earned him wide recognition over the years including 2013 RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award, 2015 Memorial University Alumni Award for Community contributions and the Government of Canada's 2015 Paul Yuzyk Award for Multiculturalism.

Dr. Kalra's continued and active participation in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine in Canada and internationally has earned him the respect of his colleagues and peers. We, his colleagues in the CSCC, also honor his outstanding contributions and achievements through identifying him as the 2016 recipient of the CSCC Award for Outstanding Contributions to Clinical Chemistry.