

Dr. George Cembrowski



The CSCC is pleased to recognize and celebrate Dr. George Cembrowski's contributions to research in laboratory medicine by honouring him with the 2016 CSCC Research Excellence Award.

Dr. Cembrowski obtained his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from the University of Alberta (1971) and his PhD in Clinical Laboratory Science with a Minor in Computer Science in 1975 from the University of Wisconsin. He then returned to Canada and completed his MD at the University of Calgary in 1978. His post graduate training in the early 1980's included residencies in Clinical Pathology and Anatomical Pathology at the University of Wisconsin and in 1982 he completed the Clinical Pathology Diplomate requirements of the American Board of Pathology. More recently, in 2015, Dr. Cembrowski obtained his Executive Masters of Business Administration from the Sauder School of Business at the University of British Columbia.

George began his career in the United States as Director of STAT Laboratory at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. From the late 1980's through to 1987 he served as Laboratory Director at the Park Nicollet Clinic in Minneapolis and then returned to Canada in 1997 to his current position of Director of Medical Biochemistry for Alberta Health Services Edmonton Regional Laboratories and Associate Professor Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the University of Alberta.

While "big data", "informatics" and "data analytics" are now integral components of modern laboratory medicine, our understanding of the power and application of these tools has been shaped by laboratory pioneers in the field, including Dr. Cembrowski. Influenced by his background, knowledge and interest in computer science, from the earliest stages of his career, George focused his research on applying laboratory data to improve the quality of patient care and medical decision making. From co-authoring papers on laboratory Quality Control with James Westgard, to assessments of the accuracy of Point of Care Testing, to evaluating the performance biochemistry and hematopathology assays and analyzers, George has brought unique concepts, approaches and perspectives to laboratory medicine.

Dr. Cembrowski's publication record is testimony to his remarkable research career including: over 100 peer reviewed papers, more than 200 abstracts, 45 book chapters/invited papers and approximately 65 presentations at workshops and symposia.

On behalf of the CSCC Awards Committee and the entire CSCC membership, congratulations and best wishes on this well-deserved award.