



CSCC Award for Research Excellence

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Dr. Lawrence de Koning

Dr. Lawrence de Koning is the recipient of the 2025 CSCC Award for Research Excellence. This award is presented to an individual or group as a mark of recognition of their contribution to research directly or indirectly related to clinical chemistry in Canada.

Dr. de Koning has contributed significantly to the field of clinical biochemistry in Canada. He is recognized as a passionate advocate for clinical biochemists' roles in research, innovation, and patient care. He is currently an Associate Professor at the University of Calgary and a Clinical Biochemist with Alberta Precision Laboratories in Calgary, Alberta. He completed a PhD in Health Research Methodology (nutritional and genetic epidemiology) from McMaster University in 2009, and concurrent postdoctoral fellowships in nutritional epidemiology and clinical chemistry at Harvard University from 2009-2012. He became board certified by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry in 2013 and a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry in 2015. Dr. de Koning has been directing the pediatric clinical biochemistry testing laboratory at Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary, Alberta, Canada since 2012.

Dr. de Koning is passionate about novel biochemical markers for dietary intake and inflammation, and assessing their impact on cardiovascular risk. He has published several high impact articles on abdominal

obesity and dietary patterns that have received media coverage. He is also driven by lab quality improvement and pediatric clinical biochemistry. He has 76 peer-reviewed papers, 79 conference presentations, and 2 book chapters, and has shared his knowledge at over 70 presentations. His research contributions focus on clinical biochemistry and data science to solve problems in maternal health and all areas of pediatric medicine, and he engages in epidemiologic investigations to help find innovative solutions.

Dr. de Koning has been successful throughout his research career at securing grant funding for his research, both on his own and in collaboration with others. He engages in mentoring young researchers, such as clinical biochemistry fellows, medical residents, and medical laboratory technologists. He also works to mentor colleagues within their clinical research and continues to encourage many across his teams to build their involvement in lab medicine research through collaborative projects and publications. He is a faculty member of the University of Calgary / Alberta Precision Laboratories Clinical Biochemistry Fellowship Program, an active mentor in the University of Calgary Bachelor of Health Sciences Mentorship program, and he has been a member of several graduate supervisory committees.

Although research is a passion for Dr. de Koning, he is also heavily involved in demanding clinical service. His comprehensive knowledge, understanding, and experience supports solving challenging clinical investigations, fosters positive relationships with other healthcare providers, and ultimately enhances the clinical biochemistry profession. Dr. de Koning further supports the field of clinical biochemistry professionally at the local and national level, including through his roles with the CSCC (previous Councillor; current Co-Chair of the Pediatric and Perinatal Biochemistry Special Interest Group), the Alberta Association of Clinical Laboratory Doctoral Scientists (AACLDS; current Chair), and the Alberta Society of Clinical Chemists (ASCC; Past President, Past Secretary). He also supports numerous activities within the Association for Diagnostics and Laboratory Medicine (ADLM), the University of Calgary, and is an active peer reviewer for multiple journals.