

SPEAKER PROFILES

Chronic Disease Management Update 2019

EASTERN CARIBBEAN: MARCH 9-16, 2019



David Fitchett, MD, FRCPC, FACC, FESC

(Cardiology)

Dr. David Fitchett graduated from Cambridge University in the UK in 1970, and continued his clinical training at The Middlesex Hospital Medical School, London. His cardiology training was at The Brompton and Hammersmith Hospitals where he completed his MD thesis in Clinical and Experimental Studies of Heart Muscle Disorders. In 1978 he came to The Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal where he was director of the CCU, and medical director of the cardiac transplant program.

He is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, the European Society of Cardiology and of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada.

In 1997 he came to St Michael's Hospital in Toronto as Director of the Cardiac ICU (a position he held for 10 years) and was Associate Director of the Division of Cardiology for 5 years.

Dr. Fitchett was the Chair of the Macro-Vascular section of the Canadian Diabetes Association 2013 Guidelines.

Dr. Fitchett has over 300 reviewed publications, abstracts, and book chapters. His research interests are cardiovascular prevention clinical trials in diabetes and metabolic syndrome.

Dr. Fitchett is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto and a Staff Cardiologist at St Michael's Hospital. He is a general invasive cardiologist with a special interest in ischemic heart disease, diabetes and heart disease, hypertension and the prevention of cardiovascular disease.

David C. W. Lau, MD, PhD, FRCPC

Dr. David Lau is Professor of Medicine, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Cardiac Sciences at the University of Calgary. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Diabetes, President of Obesity Canada, and Vice-President of the Canadian Association of Bariatric Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Lau is a practicing endocrinologist who specializes in diabetes, obesity and lipid disorders. His research interests include fat cell biology in health and obesity, development of insulin resistance in obesity and diabetes, and cellular mechanisms of diabetic vascular complications. He is also involved in population health and clinical research programs in diabetes, obesity and lipid disorders. Dr. Lau has published over 100 scientific papers in peer-reviewed medical journals, periodicals and books.

Dr. Lau was Chair of the evidence-based Obesity Canada Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) Steering Committee and Expert Panel, and lead author of the 2007 CPG publication in the Can. Med. Assoc. Journal. Dr. Lau was a member of the 1998, 2003 and 2008 Canadian Diabetes Association Clinical Practice Guidelines Expert Panel, as well as the expert panel of the 2009 Canadian Cardiovascular Society Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of dyslipidemia and prevention of cardiovascular disease in the adult. Dr. Lau is a member of the expert panel committee on the 2013 CDA CPG as well as the 2012 Canadian dyslipidemia CPD update.

In 2004, Dr. Lau was honored as the top 20 notable Calgarians, and top 50 Albertans for his exemplary contributions to improve the health of Albertans.

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Dr. Marni Brooks, BSc, MSW, MD, CCFP, FCFP

Dr. Marni Brooks is a Toronto based Family Physician specializing in the area of Cannabinoid Medicine. Other interests include working in the area of Addiction Medicine (which she did for 11 years), acute primary care management and advocacy work as Executive Chair and Council Member at the Ontario Medical Association (OMA). In fact, she founded the first Medical Interest Group in Cannabinoid Medicine in the country at the OMA. Finally, Dr. Brooks is also an Independent Medical Examiner, responsible for diagnosing and making treatment recommendations for suspected Substance Use Disorders.

Dr. Brooks is a graduate of McGill University where she completed her Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in psychology and focusing her thesis in the area of pediatric pain. A physician in Sydney, Australia sponsored her in order to assist him with his paediatric pain research.

Upon her return to Canada, Dr. Brooks completed a Master of Social Work degree where she spent one year training at the Addiction Research Foundation in the Youth and Family Clinic 21-day Residential Program, in order to help youth struggling with addiction. She spent her other year of training in Women's Health at the Bay Centre for Birth Control. Her interests continued after she completed her medical degree and family medicine residency at the University of Toronto. She is also a Fellow in Family Medicine.

Dr. Brooks is committed to educating her physician peers as well as patients and caregivers on the benefits of cannabis for a variety of health conditions, either as sole therapy or in conjunction with other treatments.