



Gordon Guyatt, MD

One of the great innovations in general medical practice over the last several decades has been the wide acceptance and application of methodologies collectively known as Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM). McMaster University Distinguished Professor of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Gordon Guyatt is among the earliest and most effective champions of this transformative advance in health care. Concerned with the intersection between the individual clinician and the expanding universe of medical knowledge, EBM has sought to integrate the complex structures of medical science and technology with the acquired experience of practicing clinicians to best serve the needs, desires and values of patients.

Joining McMaster University's medical faculty in 1983, Dr. Guyatt made groundbreaking contributions over the next 30 years in the measurement of health-related quality of life. While serving as director of the internal medicine residency program from 1990-1997, he led the initial development of the concept of EBM, and then the formation of an international group that further developed these concepts with landmark publications in the Journal of the American Medical Association. His series of more than 35 articles - the Users' Guides to the Medical Literature - has provided the basis of EBM curricula in medical schools and residency programs nationally and internationally, making Canada a recognized leader in EBM.

Dr. Guyatt's exemplary ability to summarize a body of evidence succinctly and informatively allowed him to play a key role in the development of the Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE) approach, now adopted by more than 90 organizations worldwide.

Dr. Guyatt is one of Canada's most cited researchers with more than a thousand publications. As a researcher, theorist, educator and mentor, Dr. Guyatt's influence has been wide and deep. His extraordinary record of often-cited and enduringly important publication has helped build rational and effective medical practice in the service of patients as individuals with unique needs and circumstances.

Dr. Guyatt's achievements have helped ensure that advancements in medical science will continue to support and improve quality of life for patients throughout Canada and the world.

~WLH