

We gather today in our home because Article 51 of the Academic Statute and the proposal for the appointment as "Honoris Causa" Professor of Dr. Gordon Henry Guyatt, submitted by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, has been considered favorably and unanimously by the Honorable Superior Council of the Faculty of Medicine.

In his request, the Dean pointed out that over the years, Professor Dr. Gordon Henry Guyatt has left a lasting mark on contemporary medicine. Numerous generations of students and physicians, whose learning has been enriched by his commitment and passion for teaching, have been shaped and continue to be in a new and enriching paradigm.

Today, it is an honor for me to present Professor Dr. Gordon Henry Guyatt and describe in detail his contributions to the medical world.

Gordon has set the gold standard for conducting and evaluating health research and coined the phrase "evidence-based medicine" (EBM), one of the leading advocates globally for Promoting Quality in Clinical Research.

Who is consistently named one of the world's most-cited scientists, pioneered the development of EBM at McMaster, publishing his first description in a 1991 article. Now used worldwide, EBM is healthcare based on the best available, up-to-date evidence on medical options.

Was also the lead editor of the "Users' Guides to the Medical Literature," a guide for clinicians who wish to incorporate EBM principles into their practice and proposes initiatives that enhance the rigor, reliability, robustness, and transparency of research in natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.

Has published more than 1,500 peer-reviewed articles, cited over 340,000 times on Google Scholar, and more than 180,000 times on the Web of Science.

Prof. Dr. Gordon Henry Guyatt Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact at McMaster, has expressed that he "perceives as his biggest contribution, conducting research to inform clinicians of the relative merits of interventions in health."

His research in the field of clinical epidemiology aims to establish the infrastructure for clinical practice reviews and provides a foundation upon which other researchers can make truly spectacular discoveries.

One of Guyatt's most proudest achievements is playing a key role in the development and evolution of the Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development, and Evaluations (GRADE) approach to medical research.

GRADE is a framework for developing and presenting evidence summaries, providing a systematic approach for creating recommendations in clinical practice guidelines to achieve the best treatment for patients. Has significantly improved patient care and safety by enabling clinicians to access clear and concise recommendations on the treatment of specific conditions.

Previously, clinicians struggled with unstructured, misleading, or contradictory evidence when seeking guidance on treating patients.

The GRADE research led by Prof. Dr. Gordon Henry Guyatt has led to the implementation of formal practice guidelines to assist clinicians in using the best recommendations when caring for their patients.

GRADE principles are now being adapted to help clinicians make diagnoses and prognoses by comparing multiple approaches in a network analysis. It has been adopted by more than 110 organizations worldwide, including the World Health Organization.

Gordon is addicted to exploring new ideas, explaining them with utmost clarity, and finding joy in their implementation.

Prof. Dr. Gordon Henry Guyatt has also been instrumental in reforming randomized clinical trials (RCTs), demonstrating the dangers of stopping trials early based on significant treatment effects. This has led to RCTs adopting stricter stopping rules.

He has also played a crucial role in promoting health status interventions that ensure the safety of healthy patients by avoiding excessive and untested controls.

There is no scientist, living or deceased, who has contributed as much to promoting the quality of clinical research in the health sciences as Prof. Dr. Gordon Henry Guyatt. He is a researcher of the highest caliber who has been instrumental in putting McMaster University on the map as a hub for truly transformative health sciences research that directly benefits millions of people worldwide.

Prof. Dr. Gordon Henry Guyatt is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a member of the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

I consider the recognition as an Honorary Professor to be a well-deserved tribute to his invaluable contributions. It is an honor for our University to have his honorary chair, which clearly reinforces our principles of Patient Safety, Medical Research, and health promotion framed in our related institutes and community outreach activities.

Director de la Carrera de Medicina, Dr. Hugo Catalano.