

MUHC
International

Partnering for better
health worldwide



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Arthur T. Porter

MD, MBA, FRCPC

Director General & Chief Executive Officer
McGill University Health Centre



The McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) is transforming medicine every day through the application of science, technology and the highest standards of clinical excellence.

With our patient-focused, research-based approach to clinical care and education and our long tradition of collaboration with colleagues from around the globe, the MUHC is at the forefront of the dissemination of new knowledge for better healthcare.

The Research Institute of the MUHC is one of the largest concentrations of medical-research professionals in Canada and among the most successful in North America in medicine, pediatrics, surgery, neurosciences, women's health, oncology and mental health. With McGill University, we train thousands of healthcare professionals each year from every continent.

The MUHC is also managing one of the largest hospital-facility construction and renovation projects in Canadian history. This initiative will consolidate our activities on two state-of-the-art campuses by 2010.

Our expertise in education and training, public health consultation and facility development can be of incalculable benefit to our international partners. As a world leader in innovative healthcare research and delivery, the MUHC looks forward to partnering with you for successful healthcare transformation.

Dr. Michael Churchill-Smith

MD, FRCPC
President
MUHC International



As healthcare professionals, we are challenged by growing healthcare needs around the world. At the same time, we are encouraged by the firm commitment of governments and international agencies to invest in public health, primary care and advanced medical knowledge and training.

The MUHC is a leading provider of health research and clinical care in Canada, with more than 650,000 ambulatory visits, 15,000 emergency-service patients, 40,000 in-patient stays and 30,000 surgeries annually.

The research and teaching activities of the MUHC are recognized as among the very best in Canada. Our 500 researchers received more than \$100 million in grants and published almost 1,500 papers in peer-reviewed journals in 2004-2005. With over 1,250 medical students and medical and surgical residents and more than 1,500 students in nursing and allied health professions, the MUHC, in conjunction with Canada's top medical faculty at McGill University, is a major centre for healthcare education.

Our reputation for excellence, research and clinical-care partnerships reaches around the globe. Along with McGill University, the MUHC is committed to enhancing international research links and to creating clinical partnerships in Africa, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Asia.

The United Nations' Millennium Development Goals challenge the world to reinvent healthcare by applying science, technology and innovation. The MUHC has the expertise to deliver on that challenge. Our international efforts are deeply rooted in the Canadian commitment to healthcare accessibility and international responsibility.

Across all our clinical missions and in all our partnerships, the MUHC applies the highest standards of excellence and professional accountability.

MUHC International

MUHC International works with partners to improve healthcare by building capacity or providing key services directly. We bring the resources of the MUHC and McGill University to the international arena. Our healthcare professionals have extensive experience enhancing care and transforming medicine, applying new knowledge and working to the highest professional standards.

MUHC International and its partners can improve healthcare by building capacity or providing key services directly. Its acknowledged expertise in core clinical missions allows MUHC International to assist partners in the transfer, application and assessment of medical technologies, procedures and clinical services.

Targeted and culturally appropriate approaches that deliver cutting-edge clinical, research and academic excellence are the hallmark of our international partnerships. Recent examples of MUHC International innovations include our *Visiting Professor Program* with medical institutes in Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and our collaboration with the Bahamas' Ministry of Health, assisting with the strategic development of the nation's healthcare system.

The MUHC's \$1.5 billion renewal of its clinical, teaching and research facilities has further increased our expertise in hospital development. This expertise includes site planning, design, and technology assessment and procurement.

MUHC International can help partners build professional teams and a full spectrum of facilities to support healthcare innovation and excellence.





Research Experience

Biomedical research is at the heart of healthcare innovation. The MUHC Research Institute advances knowledge, innovation and technology through interdisciplinary, collaborative research.

The Research Institute of the MUHC is an internationally recognized biomedical and healthcare research facility. The Institute's 500 researchers and 1,000 graduate and post-doctoral students investigate a wide array of fundamental and clinical issues, in over 300 labs. In 2004, our investigators generated close to \$100 million in public and private research funds, published more than 1,200 peer-reviewed scientific papers and produced a wide range of new products, diagnostics and therapeutics. Every year, the Institute recruits talented new academics from around the world and initiates research of global importance and impact.

Last year, Research Institute investigators reported numerous new inventions to the Technology Transfer Office of McGill University. McGill recognizes and rewards investigators and has in place one of the most generous intellectual property policies in Canada.

The Institute's activities are inextricably linked to the clinical programs of the MUHC. This linkage facilitates the transfer of new knowledge to clinicians and managers, helping ensure patients receive the most up-to-date care.

The principle of translating new scientific knowledge quickly into improved patient care can be applied in virtually any healthcare setting. MUHC International is a reliable partner when transferring research findings into clinical practice – no matter what or where.





Pediatric and Adolescent Clinical Care Experience

The MUHC's long history of innovations in pediatric and adolescent medicine reflects our expertise and our dedication to continuous improvement. This history dates back to the founding of the Montreal Children's Hospital (MCH) in 1904.

Pediatric specialties include cardiology and cardiac surgery, neurology and neurosurgery, traumatology, genetic research, psychiatry, and child-development and musculoskeletal conditions, including orthopedics and rheumatology. Our multicultural patient-centred approach includes the families of our young patients. Parents are considered an integral part of the treatment team.

The MCH Adolescent Medicine Program, the first of its kind in Canada, works to understand and respond to medical issues specific to puberty, adolescence, and young adulthood. The division also assesses the impact of psychological, cultural, and economic factors on health and disease in this important age group.

The MUHC boasts a leading-edge pediatric burn unit that uses advanced pain medication to treat patients – and often enables them to be treated as outpatients. Our expertise in telehealth and other advanced information technologies allows us to consult, diagnose and provide quality healthcare at a distance. This is a tremendous advantage when treating young children in remote areas who are too ill to transport.

MUHC International offers its partners access to the renowned pediatric and adolescent medicine expertise of the MCH and its allied researchers and practitioners.





Adult Clinical Care Experience

The MUHC's adult clinical missions are recognized for excellence in medicine, surgery, neurosciences, women's health, trauma and mental health. To serve patients better, we work in multidisciplinary teams that provide a continuum of care. Teams typically include social-service professionals, mental-health experts and "pivot" nurses who offer patients personalized care and guidance through complex treatment regimens.

We are constantly looking for ways to improve the quality and effectiveness of care. The MUHC and McGill pioneered advanced techniques such as minimally invasive surgery (MIS). We are also Canadian leaders in genetic and drug therapies which lessen the impact of medical interventions, reduce recovery times and enhance patient outcomes.

State-of-the-art equipment helps our healthcare providers diagnose and treat patients more effectively. Advanced informatics and IT systems allow immediate sharing of patient information across treatment teams and sites while protecting individual privacy and professional confidentiality. Our telehealth expertise also allows us to provide specialized consultation to patients in remote locations.

In Canada, the MUHC is a recognized leader in trauma care. Our expertise is evident from the record of our provincial trauma program. This program helped reduce the death rate from severe trauma from 52% in 1993 to only 8.9% by 2002.

MUHC International links partners to some of the most advanced research and care currently available. Improving patient care and outcomes through innovation is something we do every day. Our skills in these areas are highly transferable to partners in different environments.





Emerging and Infectious Diseases Experience

MUHC International can work with partners to improve detection, treatment and prevention of existing and emerging infectious diseases, including the problem of antibiotic resistance. These are a perennial and growing challenge for all healthcare systems.

The appearance of new infectious diseases such as SARS or BSE, or of unknown viruses like HIV, cause widespread social and economic disruption. When new diseases threaten society, it's reassuring to have access to a team which includes people like Dr. Mark Wainberg, Director of the McGill AIDS Centre. Dr. Wainberg was the first person to identify 3TC as an effective antiretroviral drug. His discovery helped make AIDS a manageable chronic disease rather than an automatic death sentence.

Common infections, such as acute diarrhea and malaria, continue to kill millions in many parts of the world. McGill University and the MUHC are also world leaders in the diagnosis and treatment of tropical diseases. Against these diseases, we bring to bear our expertise in areas as diverse as advanced genomics, microbiology, immunology and medical genetics.

MUHC International can also adapt treatment regimens to lesser-resourced settings for better patient outcomes. Our comprehensive experience is an invaluable resource for our partners.





Population Health Experience

As one of North America's leading research and teaching hospitals, the MUHC is proud to be at the forefront of the population health movement – an approach which focuses on the overall health of communities as well as that of individuals.

A population health approach leads to more integrated and sustainable health systems, greater productivity for healthcare professionals and increased social cohesion. Population health is a major factor in shaping government health policy the world over.

Prevention is key in population health. The earlier action is taken, the greater the potential for population health gains. A population health approach requires evidence-based decision-making across the entire range of the determinants of health. It also uses strategies that take into account the full spectrum of social, economic and environmental health determinants.

The MUHC Clinical Epidemiology Unit at the Montreal General Hospital undertakes sophisticated analyses of a wide range of diseases, and of the cost efficacy of risk factor reduction strategies. Our approach to population health calls also for increased collaboration between healthcare disciplines, a greater focus on health outcomes, and regular, timely reporting of results to all stakeholders.

MUHC International can assist the health planning of partners by helping them adapt advanced population health strategies to their own unique healthcare environments.




"Public Health Successes And
Challenges In A Developing Country"
By
Senator Dr. The Honourable Marcus C. Bethel
Minister of Health & The Environment
The Commonwealth of The Bahamas
At
Medical Grand Rounds, McGill University
Montreal, Canada
September 20 & 21, 2005



Technology Experience

Technological innovation is accelerating the pace of healthcare. New high-tech equipment, and advanced genetic and drug therapies are constantly creating better healthcare options for our patients. The MUHC relies on advanced technology to constantly improve standards of clinical care, research, education and training.

One example of technical innovation is the telehealth service developed by the Montreal Children's Hospital to care for children in remote areas of Quebec. Sophisticated telecommunications and information technologies allow patients to access the MUHC's quality healthcare closer to home and – very soon – at home. Real-time consultations, diagnostic tests, conferences and medical rounds at a distance are all possible, thanks to our telehealth services.

MUHC International offers the most up-to-date expertise to help partners assess the efficacy, safety and cost-effectiveness of medical technologies. This expertise is invaluable when making strategic decisions on technology acquisition.





Teaching and Education Experience

Teaching is one of the core missions of the MUHC in partnership with the McGill Faculty of Medicine and the McGill Schools of Nursing, Rehabilitation and Communication. Programs like the McGill *Visiting Professor Initiative* and new technology-driven services like telehealth are already providing global access to McGill's teaching excellence.


With over 1,250 medical students and medical and surgical residents and more than 1,500 students in nursing and allied health professions, the MUHC – together with McGill University's outstanding medical faculty – is a leading centre for healthcare education. We are proud of the cultural diversity of our students and of our international reputation.

McGill's Faculty of Medicine is recognized as among the very best in the world. The School of Nursing at McGill University has long been a leader in nursing education, research and practice.

The McGill Medical Simulation Centre combines training techniques from high-risk professions (e.g. aviation) with the latest medical-simulation technologies. Fully integrated into McGill's professional programs, the Centre provides healthcare professionals with hands-on training in difficult and potentially dangerous procedures – without risk to patients. The Molson Medical Informatics Project also opens new frontiers of education, by bringing advanced multimedia technology to the teaching of medical and healthcare topics.

Excellence in healthcare can only come through excellence in healthcare teaching. MUHC International connects its partners and clients with McGill's unmatched resources for education and training.






“Health, peace and security are ‘dependent on the fullest co-operation of individuals and States.’ That interdependence is at the heart of a good relationship.”

**Lee Jong-Wook, Director General,
World Health Organization**

Addressing the first WHO Forum entitled
Making partnerships work for health



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