

# CPD 2015-2016

## ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

### CPD > Moving Forward

The past year has been one of engagement with our community and partners in continuing professional development (CPD). New and innovative methods of learning including the use of social media, web-based learning, live videoconferencing and simulation-based learning have allowed us to reach our community in different ways. We are tackling crucial issues including the opioid crisis and refugee health through our program offerings. Innovative research has allowed our faculty to apply scholarship to their work in CPD.

CPD has continued to play a leadership role in continuing health professional education. More than 400 programs and conferences were accredited in the 2015-2016 academic year. The 2016 Indigenous Health Conference, led by Dr. Anna Banerji, was highly successful in bringing together almost 700 health professionals, elders and students interested in health and reconciliation.

Innovation continued at CPD. The IDEAS Introductory Quality Improvement program, offered in collaboration with six Ontario university CPD offices, IDEAS (Improving & Driving Excellence Across Sectors), Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC), and the Health Quality Ontario and Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, ran for a second year. The CPD University Collaborative won the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons CPD Providers Innovation Award highlighting the ability of this partnership to build capacity for quality improvement across the province. CPD also developed a unique mentorship program for the new Office of Life Long Learning at the University of Alberta. The program leveraged CPD's expertise in accreditation and has guided University of Alberta Office of Lifelong Learning through the process of establishing and managing a continuing education office. The success of these collaborations and partnerships highlight CPD's core values of inclusiveness, social responsibility, innovation and inter-professionalism.

Change and growth will continue to be key themes for CPD over the next year. We have embarked on an ambitious strategic planning process that will help guide the future of U of T CPD. Our goal is to address emerging issues in CPD such as competency-based education, integration of quality improvement and CPD, workplace and team-based learning and engagement of our stakeholders, patients and families. I look forward to working with our faculty, staff and partners as we transform to meet the changing needs of continuing education. Your thoughts about CPD's next steps are welcome. Please share @uoftcpd.



Suzan Schneeweiss

**Suzan Schneeweiss MD, MEd, FRCPC**



Dr. Shady Ashamalla - Conference Director - TaTME

## TaTME Proctorship Network Will Turn Rectal Surgery Upside-down

In June 2016, The Canadian Congress on Transanal total mesorectal excision (TaTME) brought together the leading rectal surgeons from around the world and formally introduced Canada to a procedure with enormous potential. The TaTME method is already dramatically improving oncologic and functional outcomes for patients internationally. Soon, with the creation of the Canadian TaTME Proctorship Network, surgeons in Canada will have accessible resources and training to gain experience in this innovative technique.

Historically, rectal surgery has had rather morbid connotations. Traditional procedures in the field employ a 'top-down' method, involving entry through the abdomen. Patients have typically experienced high variability in recovery, with the ostomy pouching system being a common component of rehabilitation. The TaTME method literally turns the approach upside-down, sparing the abdominal muscle and making the surgery far less invasive overall.

Conference Director Dr. Shady Ashamalla, who travelled abroad to learn the technique before bringing it to Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, is using the conference as a stepping-stone toward national integration. "We feel that we now have enough experience and expertise locally in Canada that we don't think people need to be travelling internationally to learn the technique," he said in a phone interview. Building off of the success and momentum from the conference, CPD is now operating a one-day cadaveric program repeating every three months to train surgeons in TaTME.

Inspired by similar networks established by colleagues in the Netherlands, Dr. Ashamalla and CPD have initiated the Canadian

TaTME Proctorship Network. The network will identify rectal surgeons experienced in the technique from across the country and establish them as proctors. Any Canadian rectal surgeon looking for TaTME training will soon be able to connect with their local proctor through a centralized online resource.

"Once the connection is made, there is a set curriculum established with a beginning and end point to the training process, with the end point signifying the surgeon's readiness to start performing the procedure in their own practice."

This curriculum will emphasize a continuous link between learner and proctor, which will involve in-person shadowing, a standardized competency assessment and consistently open lines of communication throughout the training process. Upon completion, learners can be assessed to become proctors and continue to grow the network.

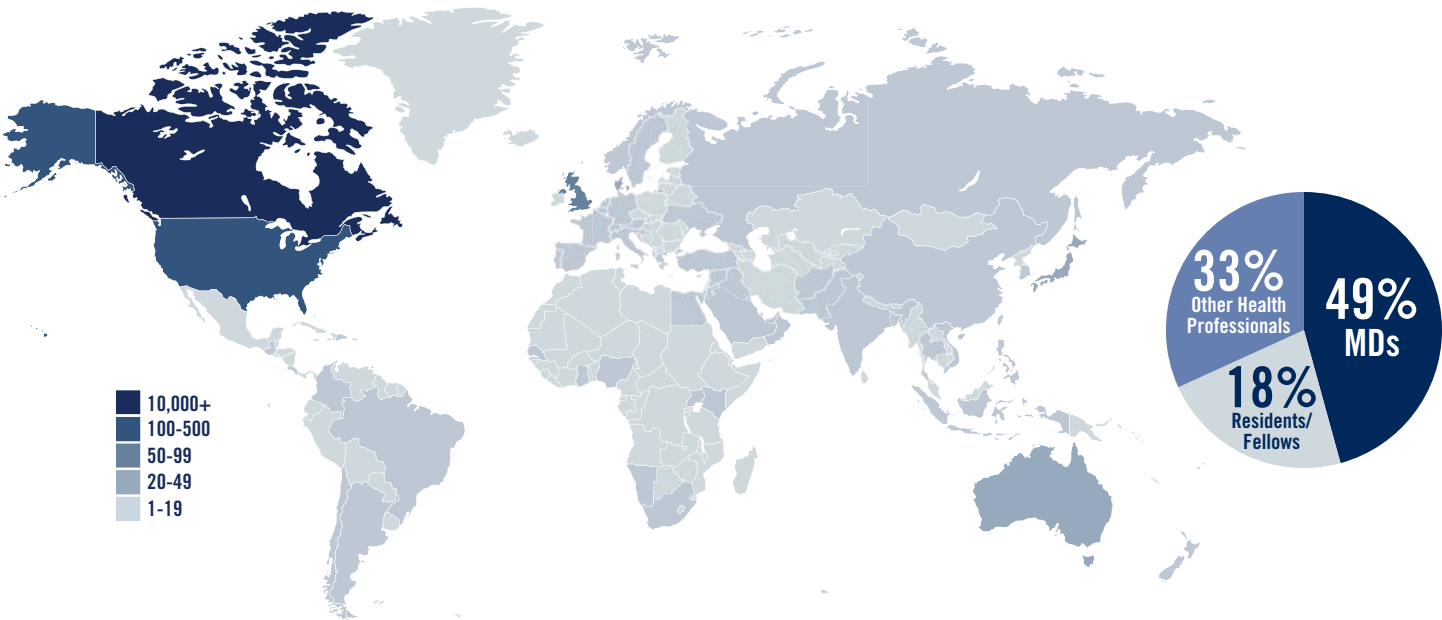
The implementation of such a national program has the potential to extend beyond TaTME and into other innovative surgical procedures. By creating a program that is organized, credentialed and monitored, the TaTME Proctorship network can indeed act as a template for safe, thoughtful and effective surgical training.

Dr. Shady Ashamalla is Head of the Division of General Surgery Minimally Invasive Surgical Oncology at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Toronto.

# 2015-2016 Facts & Figures

## CPD Learners

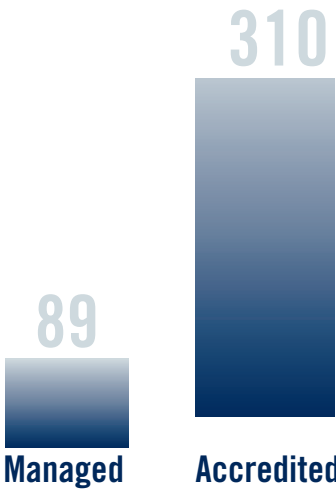
Map showing countries CPD registrants travel from to attend programs and conferences. The target population includes all health care professionals at the local, provincial, national and international levels.



## CPD Programs and Conferences

CPD accredits and manages medical education programs and conferences. Accredited programs and conferences are certified to meet the academic excellence of the University of Toronto. Managed programs and conferences are accredited through U of T and also benefit from CPD's expertise in event logistics, marketing and promotion, registration and financial management.

Total # of Events: 399



## Thank-you to our CPD Department Leaders

Continuing Professional Development is fortunate to have a dedicated group of continuing education directors and leaders committed to providing high quality CPD programs. With 15 Departmental CPD Directors and more than 500 conference directors, a wide range of programs are offered to meet the diverse needs of our learners. We are grateful to them for their hard work as they serve a vital role in advancing lifelong learning for health care professionals and improving quality of healthcare to our patients.



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Department of Surgery



**Yvonne Chan**  
Department of Otolaryngology



**Phil Ellison**  
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**Cathy Evans**  
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**CPD** Continuing  
Professional  
Development

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