



Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
Académie canadienne des sciences de la santé

NEW FELLOWS 2023

Jason Acker, Professor, University of Alberta; Senior Scientist, Canadian Blood Services



Dr. Jason Acker is an outstanding mentor, educator and advisor who is internationally recognized for his leadership and scholarly contributions to the transfusion sciences and cryobiology communities. He is an innovative scientist whose paradigm-shifting research discoveries have advanced the preservation of cell-based therapeutics. He is a collaborative researcher who successfully brings together multidisciplinary teams to support the translation of novel discoveries into innovative products. Through his service with national and international organizations he has actively contributed to improving practices, policies and standards which have enhanced the quality and utilization of cell therapies, and advanced the biobanking industry.

Aminu Bello, Professor, Division of Nephrology, Department of Medicine,
University of Alberta



Aminu Kasarawa Bello is a Professor of Medicine (Nephrology), University of Alberta (U of A). He trained at Usmanu Danfodio University, Sokoto, Nigeria, University of Sheffield, UK and U of A, Edmonton, Canada. His work has produced over 200 scientific publications, and is internationally recognized for his work in the development of Global Kidney Health Atlas under the auspices of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN), the largest project of its kind and the first to determine the capacity for kidney care at a global scale. This work has led to collaborations with renowned professional societies, and the WHO to inform governments and stakeholder organizations of the burden and best practices for kidney disease prevention and treatment.

Carla Prado, Professor of Human Nutrition, University of Alberta



Carla Prado is a Professor at the University of Alberta and a member of the Royal Society of Canada College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. Her internationally recognized work assesses and disseminates evidence on the importance of body composition, particularly low muscle mass, to predict health outcomes such as cancer survival. This work is changing clinical practice. She is designing targeted nutritional strategies to optimize body composition and improve health in multiple diseases, and in immigrant health. Recent recognitions of her pathbreaking work include Canada's Top 40 Under 40 award and Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100.

Toshifumi Yokota, Professor, The Friends of Garrett Cumming Research & Muscular Dystrophy Canada Endowed Research Chair, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Alberta



Dr. Toshifumi Yokota, a Professor of Medical Genetics at the University of Alberta, is globally recognized for pioneering advancements in the treatment of muscular dystrophy. The trailblazing work on the development of the ground-breaking antisense oligonucleotide-mediated therapy for Duchenne muscular dystrophy resulted in the FDA-approved drug viltolarsen. As a scholarly contributor to over 100 peer-reviewed articles, an editor of three influential books, and a valued board member for numerous journals and organizations, Dr. Yokota's relentless dedication to the medical field continues to revolutionize therapies for muscular dystrophy and rare diseases.

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