

Canadian Health Informatics Awards 2010 Award Recipients

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
D'INFORMATIQUE DE LA SANTÉ



CANADA'S HEALTH
INFORMATICS ASSOCIATION

...now including Canada's Telehealth Professionals

Leadership in Health Informatics

**Francis Lau, PhD, eHealth Research Chair,
University of Victoria (UVic)**



Francis Lau and COACH
President Lydia Lee

This award pays tribute to the outstanding, ongoing contributions of an individual whose leadership is broadly recognized in the health informatics (HI) community, often at the national level. This leader's contributions extend over many years. The honoree had made significant contributions to advancing the Canadian HI agenda and significantly

contributed to or strongly influenced health outcomes or health systems improvements.

The wide-ranging contributions of 2010 winner Francis Lau span health information system evaluation, terminology standards,

palliative care informatics and HI education and reflect his integrated, collaborative approach to eHealth.

His current leadership with the eHealth Observatory at the UVic School of Health Information Science shows how innovative health information science methodologies can evaluate the effects of the electronic health information system across the life cycle. In his words: "The aim of our research is to engage the healthcare community to help us create and use new knowledge systems that focus on adding value to patient care and safety."

Career Highlights

- Establishing the largest known anonymous Palliative Performance Scale assessment database
- Publishing, with Canada Health Infoway, an evidence-based Health Information Systems conceptual framework, which Infoway adopted to evaluate the impacts of electronic health record (EHR) implementation initiatives across Canada and a meta-systematic review paper that is now used nationally as THE guide to design EHR evaluation studies and methods



Rohit Prakash of Practice Solutions, Dr. Jeremy Theal, Dr. William (Bill) Pascal of CMA, Maureen Charlebois, COACH Board

This award salutes a practicing, community-based medical doctor who has shown outstanding leadership or innovation in the

use of health IT in medical practice. Colleagues recognize the recipient as a champion in advancing the use of IT for healthcare delivery. The recipient has provided demonstrable leadership in encouraging the appropriate use of IT for healthcare and made innovative use of IT to improve medical practice or healthcare.

The 2010 winner, Dr. Jeremy Theal, brings an "infectious" commitment and passion to leveraging health IT to improve patient care at North York General Hospital (NYGH). As the

Community-Based Physician Leader/Innovator

(Presented by the Canadian Medical Association & Practice Solutions Ltd)

**Dr. Jeremy Theal, Gastroenterologist & Director,
Medical Informatics, North York General Hospital**

physician lead for the hospital's eCare Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE) system, he engaged 80+ frontline, hospital-based physicians to assist in the design of patient views and order sets and reached out to the other scopes of practice at NYGH to take a true inter-professional approach.

On top of this, he spearheaded a Canadian first – creating a library of more than 300 CPOE order sets that integrate regularly-updated, contextual evidence from medical literature into the physician's ordering workflow and are customized to NYGH clinical practice. Patients are also benefiting from new procedures and policies resulting from a related review initiated by Dr. Theal.