



Wade honoured for lifetime of leadership in patient safety

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For immediate release

The Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety (MIPS) has bestowed a Lifetime Achievement Award upon Dr. John G. Wade for his internationally-recognized pioneering work in patient safety.

A graduate of the U of M medical school in 1960, John Wade's name has been synonymous with patient safety and excellence in healthcare in Manitoba and beyond for decades. Wade can be described as the “*Father of Patient Safety in Canada*”. His leadership led to the creation of both the Canadian Patient Safety Institute and the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety.



Dr. John Wade

Dr. Wade chaired the National Steering Committee on Patient Safety, which presented its final report, “*Building a Safer System – A National Integrated Strategy for Canadian Health Care*”. This critical document led to the creation of the agency responsible for guiding the patient safety agenda in Canada, the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI). In December, 2003, he was appointed CPSI’s founding board chair.

While serving as CPSI chair, he led the provincial committee developing framework recommendations for an institute of patient safety in Manitoba. Based upon its findings, the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety was established in 2004 and is now recognizing a decade of service to Manitobans.

In recognition of Dr. Wade’s instrumental role in the birth of the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety, MIPS established an award in his name in 2005. The *Dr. John Wade Patient Safety Initiatives Grant* recognizes excellence in the important work of patient safety in Manitoba.

“Dr. Wade has brought great honour to Manitoba”, said Jan Currie, MIPS board chair. “He is more than deserving of being honoured as the first person to ever receive a *Lifetime Achievement Award* from the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety.”

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In his career, Dr. Wade has chaired the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada's Health and Public Policy committee and spearheaded the internationally-recognized CanMEDS initiative. Replicated by countries on five continents, it is currently the world's most recognized and widely applied physician competency framework.

He was instrumental in developing the *Canadian Anesthesia Guidelines to Practice*, which dramatically improved the outcomes of anesthesia. He has been a leading advocate for the use of simulation to teach and assess the performance of individuals and teams of health care providers. Simulation replicates real healthcare situations in a safe environment without risk to actual patients.

He has served as Manitoba's Deputy Minister of Health, Dean of Medicine at the University of Manitoba, Vice President of Medical Services at Health Sciences Centre and Chair of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Board. Currently, he is a Professor Emeritus of Anesthesia and Dean Emeritus of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba; and serves on several boards.

Dr. Wade received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Annual General Meeting of the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety on May 26, 2014 that preceded *Growing The Legacy*, MIPS' educational event recognizing a decade of continuing service by the organization.

Created in 2004, the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety promotes, coordinates and facilitates activities that have a positive impact on patient safety throughout Manitoba while enhancing the quality of healthcare for Manitobans. The Institute's patient safety initiatives like *It's Safe To Ask* have also been replicated across Canada and internationally.

Patient safety can be defined as activities that caregivers, patients and families engage in to prevent harm to patients and work towards providing the safest possible care. Examples are disclosure, studying patient incidents to find ways to prevent them, apology, creating standard procedures such as checklists, and creating cultures that are open to patient and caregiver team input.

More information on MIPS is at www.mips.ca and www.safetoask.ca.

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