

# Harnessing Technological Innovation to Improve Health Care

Featured Speakers:

## Dr. Irfan Dhalla



Dr. Irfan Dhalla is a general internist and Health Quality Ontario's Vice-President of Evidence Development & Standards. In this role, he and his colleagues promote evidence-based health care and policy in Ontario. Dr. Dhalla continues to practice at St. Michael's Hospital, where he cares for inpatients and teaches medical students and residents. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto, with a cross-appointment to the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation. Dr. Dhalla's research, which has focused on improving health care through innovation and changes in policy, has been recognized with several major awards.

## Karen Michell



Karen Michell joined CAHO as Executive Director in October 2009. Karen works with CAHO's 24 member hospitals to champion the academic and research missions of these hospitals. Under her leadership, CAHO has put a spotlight on the value of health research to patients and the health care system. Through strategic collaborations, Karen also enabled the creation of the Adopting Research to Improve Care (ARTIC) Program, now in partnership with Health Quality Ontario. Prior to joining CAHO, Karen spent 14 years at the Canadian Bankers Association, including as Vice President, Banking Operations

## Shirlee Sharkey



Shirlee Sharkey is the President and CEO of Saint Elizabeth, a national health care organization known for its social innovation and strong financial performance. Her team of over 8000 conducts over 6.5 million health care visits annually and delivers exceptional care to Canadians. Shirlee joined Saint Elizabeth in 1992, and through her leadership, the organization has enjoyed exponential growth as well as national expansion. Currently the Chair of Ontario Health Technology Advisory Committee, Shirlee is an influential leader in the global innovation community. An accomplished author of numerous academic as well as mainstream articles, Shirlee is often called upon to provide her expertise on the health system, leadership and innovation.

## Zayna Khayat



Zayna Khayat is a senior advisor in health system innovation at MaRS Discovery District. At MaRS, Zayna plays a critical role in helping get health technology innovations adopted by healthcare systems in Ontario and around the world. Zayna is also an adjunct professor in the Health Sector Strategy stream at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. Zayna was previously director of development at the Ivey International Centre for Health Innovation. Prior to this, she had an 11-year career in strategy consulting in the global health and life sciences sector. She holds a PhD in biochemistry from the University of Toronto and the Hospital for Sick Children, with a focus on insulin action and diabetes.