

Connie D'Astolfo, DC, Dip HA, PhD (cand)
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Curriculum Vitae

Academic Qualifications:

- **PhD Candidate**, Faculty of Health- York University, (Health Management and Policy Stream)
Toronto, ON. September 2009 to present.
- **Graduate Diploma in Health Administration**
University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine: Outcomes and Evaluation, June 2008.
Coursework includes program planning & evaluation, clinical epidemiology, statistics, outcome evaluation, policy & economic analysis and knowledge transfer/exchange.
- **Doctor of Chiropractic Degree**
National University of Health Sciences
Lombard, Illinois. April 2001
- **Bachelor of Science degree in Human Biology** (summa cum laude)
National University of Health Sciences
Lombard, Illinois. April 1999
- **Bachelor of Arts Degree, Honours** (Philosophy and Anthropology)
University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario, 1991-1995

Continuing Education Seminars and Certificates:

- Independent Chiropractic Evaluator Program, Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College.
Toronto, ON. September – December 2008 (55 hour certified program)
- Advanced Project Management, October 30-31, 2007
- SAS Training: Data Manipulation: October 17- November 21, 2007
- Introduction to Policy: OPS course, October 4-5, 2007

- Policy Cabinet Submissions: MOHLTC, HSSD course, July 2007
- Canadian Association for Health Service and Policy Research (CAHSPR) Conference, June 2007. Toronto ON
- Association of Chiropractic Colleges and Research Agenda Committee Conference, March 10-14, 2006. Washington DC, USA
- Ontario Medical Association: Complementary Medicine Section: Nutrition for Docs: Exploring Evidence, Controversies and Concerns. May 29–30, 2004
- New York State Chiropractic Association Conference, “Asserting Chiropractic Leadership in an Integrated Health Care Environment”. May 22-23, 2004, NY.
- Association of Chiropractic Colleges and Research Agenda Committee Conference, March 10-14, 2004. Las Vegas, USA
- Whiplash Conference, *Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College*, October 2001

Summary of Relevant Knowledge and Skills:

- Research and analytical skills: ability to synthesize and critically evaluate research and scientific data. Knowledge of research methodology/techniques as well as the application of research to policy design, implementation and health care modeling. Demonstrated ability to conduct administrative data/statistical analyses.
- Demonstrated strategic policy and clinical program design and evaluation skills: ability to evaluate and develop evidence based strategic health policy and frame researchable questions related to policy or systems planning, clinical program evaluation and design, system performance and accountability. Skilled in clinical policy analysis, submissions and presentations.
- Clinical experience and solid knowledge in disease processes, public health and clinical epidemiology. Up to date in disease prevention and infection control literature and best practices
- Teaching experience: College level clinical anatomy and physiology
- Understanding of knowledge exchange/transfer processes and how to develop partnerships with stakeholders/clients.
- Solid knowledge of Ontario government process and priorities, emerging health system issues. Understanding of the Canadian health care system, delivery of healthcare, policy and legislative process.
- Outcome Evaluation
- Health economic analysis: i.e. cost effectiveness analysis, cost benefit analysis
- Feasibility Assessments and Program Evaluation
- Survey design and evaluation.

- Experienced and trained as an independent clinical evaluator; paper reviews, expert witness and independent clinical evaluations and functional evaluations
- Demonstrated project management skills and team lead
- Problem-solving skills; interpersonal skills, knowledge of computer software applications including project management (MS Project) and statistical programs (SPSS)

Current Position:

Clinical Director and President of SPINEgroup - specializing in conservative spine care, disability and chronic disease prevention and management as well as clinical research and policy consulting. Vaughan, ON.

Current Research Projects

- Primary Investigator for Spine Care Project in collaboration with Extendicare Canada. 2009 to current

Previous Positions:

- April 2007 to Jan 4, 2008
Senior Policy Analyst, Population Health and Integration Unit, Health Systems Strategy-MOHLTC
Projects/Products completed:
 - Depression Action Plan (CDPM Strategy) Lead
 - Maternal/Infant/Child Health Strategy team member (led development of 4 project charters)
 - Neurodegenerative disease paper -proposal
 - Policy for responding to proposals that impact the local health system
- January 2006 – February 2007
Project Lead/Senior Policy Analyst; MOHLTC, Long Term Care Homes Branch
Projects/Products completed:
 - Evaluation and Re-development of the *High Intensity Needs Program* (program designed to manage clinically complex LTC residents and prevent avoidable hospital transfer and chronic disease prevention and management)
 - LTC sector survey development, rollout and evaluation
 - Administrative data analysis (Hospital Admission Data Set)
 - Wound care Strategy Development – strategy to encourage and direct cost effective management of wounds, risk assessment and prevention
 - Hospital Avoidance Strategy Development
 - Extensive stakeholder negotiation and facilitation and Team Lead

- March 2005 – January 2006
Adjunct Researcher
Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, Division of Graduate Studies/Research
- January 2002 – March 2005
Staff appointed chiropractor at *Tendercare Living Centre* (Long Term Care Facility.)
Director of an inter-disciplinary pain management program
- January 2001 - June 2001
Instructor of Physiology and Neuroanatomy / Clinical Neurology
The Canadian College of Massage and Hydrotherapy, Toronto, Ont.
- March 2000 – August 2000, clinician
Ravenswood Hospital, Chicago, Illinois.
Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois.
- January 1998 - January 2001
Columnist for “The Synapse”, *National University of Health Sciences.*

Honours and Awards:

- Honour’s and Dean’s List, National University of Health Sciences, 1998- 2001

Teaching

- March- April 2005
Clinical Rotations for Clinical Sciences Residents at the *Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College*
Clinical rotations at Tendercare Living Centre, LTC Toronto, ON
Focus on integrated/collaborative assessment/diagnosis and management of NMS conditions in the geriatric LTC population.
- January 2001 to May 2001
Intermediate level Human Physiology
Department of Clinical Sciences, *Canadian College of Massage and Hydrotherapy*, Toronto, Ontario
Lectured to intermediate level student, prepared, administered and evaluated student performance/exams
- January 2001 to June 2001
Advanced level Neuroanatomy and Clinical Neurology
Department of Clinical Sciences, *Canadian College of Massage and Hydrotherapy*, Toronto, Ontario
Lectured to advanced level students, prepared, administered and evaluated student performance/exams

Publications

Texts/Chapter Author:

- “*Handbook of Clinical Chiropractic Care*” by L. H. Wyatt, 2nd edition, Jones and Bartlett, 2005 “*Geriatrics and Hospital/LTC Protocol*” chapters.

Peer Reviewed Publications:

- D'Astolfo CJ, Humphreys BK: *A record review of reported musculoskeletal pain in an Ontario long term care facility. BMC Geriatrics* 2006, 6:5
- Shoff C, D'Astolfo C. *Phantom Limb Pain/ Sensation Treated with Logan Basic Chiropractic Technique: A Report of Two Cases.*, *Journal of Chiropractic Education*, March 2005

Professional Trade Publications:

- October, 2003 *Canadian Chiropractor*, *Chiropractic Management of Geriatric Patients in LTC*
- April 2003, *Canadian Chiropractor*, *A Call for Collaborative Reform- Chiropractic Integration into the Primary Care and Hospital System*
- December 2002, *Canadian Chiropractor*, *The Health Human Resource Problem*

Publications for Public Education:

- February/March 2002, *New Directions*, *The Effects of Nutrition on Learning*
- January 2002, *Every Day Living – Health Matters*, *The Role of Chiropractic in Pain Management*
- December 2001/January 2002, *New Directions*, *Size or Quality- What Affects Intelligence?*
- June 1999, *Eye for the Future Magazine*, *The Brain*

Poster Presentations

- Connie D'Astolfo, DC; Kim Humphreys. **Back Pain in an Ontario Long Term Care Facility: A pilot study.** Association of Chiropractic Colleges and Research Agenda Conference, Washington DC, March 2006.
- Christopher Shoff, DC; Connie D'Astolfo, DC, **Phantom Limb Pain/ Sensation Treated with Logan Basic Chiropractic Technique: A Report of Two Cases.** Association of Chiropractic Colleges and Research Agenda Conference, Las Vegas. March 2005

Conference/Institutional Presentations

- New York State Chiropractic Association 2003 Convention, Presentation on *Mainstream Integration in LTC*. September 20, 2003
- Tendercare Living Centre (Long Term Care Facility), Toronto, ON, “Pain Management for the Geriatric Patient” (December, 2002)
- Mount Sinai Hospital (Wasser Pain Institute), Toronto, ON, “The Chiropractic Management of Pain”. (October 24, 2001)
- Ravenswood Hospital, Chicago Il. On the topic of “Arthritis and the Geriatric Patient” (March 2000)
- Illinois Masonic Hospital, Chicago Il. Geriatric Pain Management, January and March 2000)

Media Appearances

- March 2002, Telelatino, Canada
Multicultural Health Show
Topic: Chronic Pelvic Pain

Professional Affiliations/Services

Current:

- Registered with the *College of Chiropractors of Ontario*, 2001-present
- Member of the *Canadian and Ontario Chiropractic Associations*, 2001-present
- Editorial Board Member of *Canadian Chiropractor*, 2002-present

Past:

- Divisional Lead for United Way Campaign, MOHLTC 2007
- Program and Policy Committee, MOHLTC- LTC Homes Branch, Jan 2006-Feb 2007
- Member of the *American Chiropractic Association*, 2001-2005
- Member of the Inter-Professional Relations- Hospital and LTC Committee, *Ontario Chiropractic Association*, 2002
- Professional Advisory Committee member, *Tendercare LTC*, 2002-2004
- Medical Advisory Committee Member, *Tendercare LTC*, 2002-2004
- Accreditation Committee Member, *Tendercare LTC*, 2002-2004
- Member of the Scarborough Geriatric Society, 2003-2005
- Policy/Research Advisor to the *Men in Nursing Group* – Interest group for RNAO, January – June 2007