

Brief Biography

Mohamed A. Karmali, MB ChB, DSc., MRCP (UK), FRCP (C)

Mohamed Karmali graduated in Medicine from the University of Glasgow in 1972, and went on to specialise in Internal Medicine and Medical Microbiology at the Universities of Glasgow and Toronto. Formerly the Head of Microbiology at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children (1989-1998), and Director-General of the Laboratory for Foodborne Zoonoses, Public Health Agency of Canada (1999-2016), Dr. Karmali is now retired and works as a public health consultant

In the early 1980s Dr. Karmali and his team conducted pioneering research that led to the discovery of the causal link between Shiga-producing *E. coli* (STEC) and the hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS). He subsequently made numerous contributions on the topic of STEC and HUS in areas including diagnosis, epidemiology, pathogenesis, and immunity. He helped to organize the first International VTEC symposium in Toronto in 1987, and has continued to serve on the International Steering and Scientific Program committees of subsequent International VTEC symposia.

Dr. Karmali has published over 130 papers, has been a Consultant to the World Health Organization, and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology. He has won several awards including the ASM's Becton-Dickinson Award for Research in Clinical Microbiology in 2009, a medal of honor by the Buenos Aires Legislature in 2013 for his discovery of the cause of HUS, the Dr. Andrés Petrasovits Award for Excellence in Public Health by the Public Health Agency of Canada in 2015, and Doctorate of Science *honoris causa* from the University of Guelph, 2015.