

Dr. Shaf Keshavjee

Surgeon in Chief at University Health Network

Toronto, ON, CA

A gifted surgeon with decades experience at the forefront of innovative research into lung transplantation

Biography

Dr. Shaf Keshavjee is a Thoracic surgeon and Director of the Toronto Lung Transplant Program. He is Surgeon-in-Chief, James Wallace McCutcheon Chair in Surgery at University Health Network in Toronto, and Professor Division of Thoracic Surgery and Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Keshavjee completed his medical training at the University of Toronto in 1985. He subsequently trained in General Surgery, Cardiac Surgery and Thoracic Surgery at the University of Toronto followed by fellowship training at Harvard University and the University of London for airway surgery and heart-lung transplantation respectively. He joined the faculty at the University of Toronto in 1994 and was promoted to full professor in 2002. Dr. Keshavjee served as the Chair of the Division of Thoracic Surgery at the University of Toronto from 2004 to 2010. He was also the inaugural holder of the Pearson-Ginsberg Chair in Thoracic Surgery.

Dr. Keshavjee's clinical practice is in thoracic oncology, lung cancer and lung transplantation. He has a passion for surgery and innovative research. He is a scientist in the McEwen Center for Regenerative Medicine at UHN. He leads a team of researchers in a leading research program and is widely published in the field. His specific research interest is in lung injury related to transplantation. His current work involves the study of molecular diagnostics and gene therapy strategies to repair organs and to engineer superior organs for transplantation.

Dr. Keshavjee has served on the board of directors of the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation, The Canadian Society of Transplantation and on the Governing Council of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery. He has received numerous awards for contributions to his field, including the George Armstrong Peters Young Investigator Award, Canada's Top 40 Under 40 Award, the Colin Woolf Award for Excellence in Medical Education and the Lister Prize in Surgery - the highest award for research achievement in the Department of Surgery. He is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences and has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree from Ryerson University, as well as an Honorary Doctorate of Science from Queen's University. He has also received two Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals and the Order of Ontario.

Industry Expertise

Research, Health Care - Providers, Public Policy, Health Care - Services, Health and Wellness

Areas of Expertise

Lung Transplantation, Clinical Research, Medical Research, Molecular Diagnostics, Gene Therapy, Surgical Leadership, Thoracic Surgery, Ex-Vivo Process for Transplant, Surgery and Critical Care, Multi-Organ Transplant

Affiliations

Toronto General Research Institute, Division of Experimental Therapeutics, Latner Thoracic Research Laboratories : Senior Scientist & Director, Division of Thoracic Surgery & Institute for Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, University of Toronto

Event Appearances

C. Walton Lillehei Lecture

Society of Thoracic Surgeons : 50th Annual Meeting Online

Can a human lung breathe outside the human body?

TedMed 2010

Education

University of Toronto

Fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons of Canada Cardiac Surgery

University of Toronto

Fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons of Canada Thoracic Surgery

University of London

Fellowship Lung Transplantation

University of Toronto

MD. Medicine

University of Toronto

Fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons of Canada General Surgery

Harvard University

Fellowship Airway Surgery

Accomplishments

Doctor of Science honoris causa, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada

This honorary degree is bestowed on those who share the spirit of Ryerson University's mission to advance the well-being of our local and global community with learning and discovery at the ingenious edge.

Doctorate of Science (DSC) – Honorary, Queen's University, Kingston, ON, Canada.

Awarded to luminaries who have made outstanding contributions to society on a national or international scale.

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellowship (FCAHS)

Fellows of the Academy are elected in the basis of their demonstrated leadership, creativity, distinctive competencies and commitment to advance academic health sciences.

Order of Ontario

Inducted in to the Order of Ontario for his leading work in lung transplantation. Dr. Keshavjee's advances in organ preservation and repair have significantly increased the number of donor lungs used to save lives with lung transplantation.

Lister Prize in Surgery

The highest award for research achievement in the Department of Surgery.

Canada's Top 40 Under 40 Award

Canada's Top 40 Under 40, established in 1995, is a national program that uniquely celebrates the achievements of 40 Canadians in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, who have reached a significant level of success before the age of 40.

The program is designed to promote mentorship and professional development by introducing these leaders to the established business community and by promoting them as role models for young Canadians.

George Armstrong Peters Young Investigator Award

Awarded to a young investigator who has shown outstanding productivity during his/her initial period as an independent investigator as evidenced by research publications in peer reviewed journals, grants held, and students trained.

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