

**RESUMÉ**  
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**EXPERIENCE**

**07/2017 to present:** Health Science Specialist; Department of Veterans Affairs, Pacific Islands Health Care System, Office of Research & Development, 459 Patterson Rd., Honolulu, HI.

Serving as the Research Coordinator to the Million Veteran Program (MVP). Primary duties include recruiting & enrolling Veterans, assist in public relations (PR) & outreach activities, and train/mentor newly hired staff. Manages, on behalf of the Local Site Investigator, all correspondences of the research program including regulatory approvals, decisions, and submissions of reportable events and continuing reviews to local and/or central Institutional Review Board (IRB). Thorough understanding of research protocols in human subject research and protection, including selection & exclusion of subjects, assessment of safety & adverse effects, quality control & assurance, ethical & privacy issues, and data handling & recordkeeping.

Previously assisted on a clinical trial related to the role of telehealth in group diabetes education in rural settings (04/2014-06/2017). Work resulted in a published abstract and publication.

**06/2014 to present:** Laboratory Director Consultant, Independent contractor, Honolulu, HI.

Serving as a Laboratory Director to several CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments)-accredited laboratories involved in human testing in the areas of clinical chemistry, hematology, microbiology, and toxicology. Responsible for overall laboratory operations and quality management, including evaluation and approval of all standard operating procedures (SOPs) & policies, and ensuring that the working environment is compliant with all applicable State and Federal laws and regulations, including CLIA, OSHA, DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration), and FDA. Responsible for preparing reports and correspondences to Health Administrators on status of the laboratory, including suggestions for improvements and potential problem areas. Ensure that all corrective actions are taken up timely.

Ensure that all SOPs are up to date, assists with biennial accreditation site visits, as well as assisting during regulatory inspections. Thorough knowledge of the principles, methods, and tools of quality assurance and quality control to ensure that patient test results are of the highest standard. Possess strong analytical and procedural skills to a variety of tasks, including method validation, a procedure used to demonstrate the suitability of an analytical method for an intended purpose. Maintain a database on all tasks that need to be completed on a regular basis (ex. annual training competencies, bi-annual instrument calibration) for tracking purposes and compliance. Research and analyze problems such as instrument malfunctions, failed proficiency testing, and staffing issues that could jeopardize patient safety and recommend a corrective action plan to senior laboratory staff and/or health administrators.

**03/2010 to 06/2013:** Clinical Laboratory Scientist; Naval Health Clinic Hawaii, 480 Central Ave., Pearl Harbor, HI.

Served as a generalist in a federal CAP (College of American Pathologists)-accredited clinical laboratory rotating in the areas of Chemistry, Hematology, Urinalysis, Serology, and Phlebotomy. Served as the CAP Coordinator with knowledge in federal and state laws and regulations on medical laboratory services. Also served as the Education Coordinator ensuring compliance with training requirements, including HIPAA, for all staff. Established a phlebotomy program for the clinic allowing enlisted Corpsmen to become nationally certified as phlebotomist. Provided numerous educational training sessions to laboratory staff and health

care providers on topics such as hemoglobin A1c/diabetes, cardiac markers, and thyroid testing. Assisted and edited numerous SOPs.

**06/1994 to 08/2008**; Professor and Chair; University of Hawaii, 2444 Dole St, Honolulu, HI.

Served as Professor and Program Director of the Medical Technology program, a NAACLS (National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences)-accredited program. Thorough understanding of the principles, practices, and concepts in laboratory medicine and medical research, including quality control and quality assurance. Instructor to courses in clinical biochemistry, molecular diagnostics, and medical student education. Ability to instruct others in a comprehensible and clear manner, excellent written skills.

Mentored and advised undergraduate students, graduate students, and junior faculty with their individual research projects. Responsible for day-to-day management of the research laboratory and associated projects. Assisted staff/students in resolving problems related to research protocols and identifying resolutions to those unanticipated problems. Assisted with protocol execution, data analysis, and data reporting. Work resulted in numerous publications, abstracts, and oral presentations (many as invited speaker). Thorough understanding of dissemination of results and publication policies. Excellent public speaking ability.

Responsible for managing the education program including maintaining program accreditation, clinical affiliation agreements with clinical sites, and periodic review of curriculum, faculty, and budget. Knowledge of statistics and computer operations sufficient to perform data analysis, as well as, preparing SOPs, technical & budget reports, and evaluate data for compliance within applicable guidelines. Provided oversight to the entire re-accreditation review process that involved a task force committee. Program awarded an outstanding 5-year re-accreditation term with no deficiencies under my leadership. Served on numerous departmental committees (ex. Admission, Curriculum, Personnel).

Served as Secretary to the Faculty Senate of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) which serves as the policy-recommending body for the faculty within the school. Responsibilities included maintaining a roster of committee members, scheduling and/or coordinating monthly meetings, distributing pre-meeting materials, and writing/compiling the minutes for school-wide distribution.

Served as member of the University of Hawai'i Radiation Safety Committee. Committee sets policies for the use of radioactive materials, reviews research laboratories involving radioactive use, and ensures compliance with the Federal NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) policies. Provided expertise to unique and difficult problems with solutions to avert any adverse impact on research and/or employees while still ensuring continuity of research and compliance.

Served as member of the Editorial Board for the journal of *Clinical Biochemistry*, as well as being an invited reviewer to other scientific journals. Duties included reviewing manuscripts and evaluating its suitability for publication. Prepared a detailed reviewer report that included identifying problems and issues requiring corrections, additions, and edits before manuscript was accepted into journal. Applied extensive knowledge in the topic matter, including addressing issues dealing with regulations and policies that govern research compliance (ex. IRB, OLAW (Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare), etc...).

Served on the American Heart Association (AHA) Research Board and the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) Medical Research Advisory Board Committee. Duties included discussing policies, reviewing budget, reviewing grant applications, and reviewing annual research progress reports. Provided subject matter expertise including underlying regulations with ensuring research compliance. Prepared a detailed reviewer report that included identifying problems and issues requiring corrections, additions, and edits before grant proposal was awarded.

Served as the Principal Investigator to numerous research grants with awards totaling \$1.2 million. Established and maintained a basic science research program, the first within the Department of Medical Technology. Studies concentrated primarily on the biological and molecular mechanisms by which phytochemicals may improve the metabolic syndrome (pre-diabetes). Gained skills in performing a variety of complex tasks related to the approval and maintenance of research projects, including the necessary regulatory approvals, decisions, and submissions tied to the project. Managed reports and correspondences with the University's Office of Research Compliance and other regulatory committees (ex. Biosafety, Radiation Safety, IACUC (Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee), IRB), as well as medical research organizations such as the National Institute of Health (NIH) and AHA.

**06/1997 to 08/2005**; Laboratory Director; no-cost; University of Hawaii, 2444 Dole St, Honolulu, HI.

Served as Laboratory Director of the University of Hawaii-Native Hawaiian Health Research (NHHR) program, a human clinical study on health disparities among Native Hawaiians and other ethnic groups. Responsible for the overall operation and administration of the laboratory including establishing a quality assurance program, maintaining CDC certification, overseeing laboratory technicians, contributing expertise to the core researchers/staff of the program in the set-up of new assays, and co-authoring on publications and grant proposals. Work involved working with facility managers and coordination of administrative services. Thorough understanding of regulations and standards of various regulatory (ex. IRB) and credentialing groups (ex. CDC), as well as budgeting, procurement, and personnel issues. Ability to delegate work, oversee people & projects, and adapt to changing priorities.

Reviewed research grant proposals and publications before submission. Gained knowledge of procedures for assessing research compliance with federal laws, regulations, and guidelines, including IRB and the Human Research Protection Program.

### EDUCATION

**Cambrian College**, Sudbury, ON, Canada; Associate Degree in Medical Technology, Attended 09/01/1983 to 05/23/1986; Graduated on 05/24/1986; 3.4 out of 4 Point GPA; 151 Semester Hours.

**Lakehead University**, Thunder Bay, ON, Canada; Bachelor in Medical Laboratory Science, Attended 09/01/1986 to 05/20/1989; Graduated on 05/27/1989; 3.4 out of 4 Point GPA; 81 Semester Hours.

Achieved First Class Standing. Honors thesis project: Measurement of serum apolipoproteins A and B in subjects with coronary artery disease.

**University of Windsor**, Windsor, ON, Canada; Doctorate in Clinical Chemistry, Attended 09/01/1989 to 05/30/1994; Graduated on 06/11/1994; 3.5 out of 4 Point GPA; 60 Semester Hours.

PhD dissertation: Hormonal regulation of apolipoproteins B, E and A-I gene expression in human hepatocytes. Mentored by Dr. Khosrow Adeli (currently at Univ. of Toronto).

### RECOGNITIONS, AWARDS, AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Received the "Special Contribution Award" for exceptional contribution at the Department of Veteran Affairs, Office of Research & Development (2019).
- Received "On the Spot Award" for exceptional contribution at the Naval Health Clinic Hawaii, Laboratory (2011).
- Recognized as a fellow member of the AACC (American Association for Clinical Chemistry) Academy (FAACC). Previously known as FACB (2007).
- Recipient of 27 research and education grant awards, all as Principal Investigator. Over \$1.2 million received.
- Established the first research laboratory within the Division of Medical Technology, John A. Burns School of Medicine. With grants obtained primarily externally, the laboratory became equipped with state-of-the-art instruments and became a viable laboratory to conduct both basic science and clinical research.
- Published 37 papers in peer-reviewed journals, numerous invited papers, abstracts, many as lead or senior author.
- Presented over 60 oral presentations, many as an invited speaker. Many presentations were also given by mentored-students in which many of whom have won awards and accolades at local and national conferences. List of publications and presentations available upon request.
- Medical Technology program re-accredited by NAACLS (National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences) for a 5-year term under my leadership as Program Director (2008).
- Received the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) Scientific Research Award (1999).
- Received the Province of Ontario Graduate Scholarship (1991, 1992, 1993).
- Received the DuPont Travel Award for Trainees in Clinical Chemistry (1992).

### **PROFESSIONAL LICENSES/CERTIFICATES**

- Licensed as a CLIA-Laboratory Director for the States of Hawaii (#374), California (#DRH-02002746), Florida (#DI 46030), and Nevada (#66626-DIR-0).
- Licensed as a Medical Technologist for the State of Hawaii (#3877).
- Certified in Molecular Diagnostics by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry (ABCC, #104)
- Certified in Clinical Chemistry (CC) by the National Registry for Certified Chemist (NRCC, #3861).
- Certified as a Medical Technologist (generalist) by the American Medical Technologists (AMT, #2619978).
- Certified as a Technologist in Chemistry (C) and Molecular Biology (MB) by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP, #4410, #4940).
- Foreign education evaluated as equivalent to U.S. education. Report available upon request.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- Member of the American Association for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) and the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC).
- Member of the local State chapter of the American Association for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS)-Hawaii. Served on the Nomination Committee (1994-1995, 2019-2020), Education Committee (1996-1998), Professional Affairs Committee (1999-2007), and Planning Committee for the Annual Clinical Laboratory Symposium (2014).
- Previous member of the Hawaii Community Foundation Medical Research Advisory Board Committee (2002-2008), the American Heart Association (AHA) of Hawaii Research Board Committee (2000-2002), AHA of Hawaii Speakers Bureau (1999-2005), and "Clinical Biochemistry" journal editorial board committee (2001-2016).