



David L. Sackett OC, FRSC, MD, MDHC x 2, ScD, FRCP (Ottawa, London, Edinburgh).

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After training in internal medicine, nephrology and epidemiology, David Sackett coined the term “clinical epidemiology” and began his first career (age 32) as the founding Chair of Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics at McMaster University’s new medical school. In his second career he began to design, execute, interpret, monitor, write and teach about randomized clinical trials, an activity that continues to the present, some 200 trials later. His third career was dedicated to developing and disseminating “critical appraisal” strategies for busy clinicians, and ended when he decided he was out of date clinically and returned (at age 49) to a two-year

“retreading” residency in Hospitalist Internal Medicine. His fifth and sixth careers were largely clinical, as Physician-in-Chief at Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals, and as Head of the Division of General Internal Medicine for the Hamilton region. In 1994 a chair was created for him at the University of Oxford, where he took up his seventh career as foundation Director of the NHS R&D Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine, Consultant on the Medical Service at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Foundation Chair of the Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group, and Foundation Co-Editor of Evidence-Based Medicine. Retired from clinical practice in 1999, he began his eighth career by returning to Canada and setting up the Trout Research & Education Centre, where he reads, researches, writes and teaches about randomized clinical trials. Along the way, he has published 11 books, chapters for about 60 others, and about 300 papers in medical and scientific journals.