



DR ANTHONY K CHAN (Orcid ID : 0000-0003-1551-3995)

Article type : Obituary

### **Dr. M. Patricia Massicotte Obituary**

Anthony K. C. Chan,<sup>1</sup> Gabrielle deVeber,<sup>2</sup> Paul Monagle<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada

<sup>2</sup>The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada

<sup>3</sup>The Royal Children's Hospital, Parkville, Vic. 3052, Australia

#### **Corresponding Author:**

Anthony K. C. Chan

McMaster University, Department of Pediatrics

1280 Main Street West, Room 3N27

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

L8S 4K1

Telephone: (905) 521-2100 ext.73464

Fax: (905) 521-1703

E-mail: akchan@mcmaster.ca

This article has been accepted for publication and undergone full peer review but has not been through the copyediting, typesetting, pagination and proofreading process, which may lead to differences between this version and the [Version of Record](#). Please cite this article as [doi: 10.1111/JTH.15164](https://doi.org/10.1111/JTH.15164)

This article is protected by copyright. All rights reserved

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** All authors declare no conflict of interest.

## **Dr. M. Patricia Massicotte Obituary**

Dr. M. Patricia Massicotte, or Patti to those fortunate enough to have known her, was truly a one-of-a-kind physician, researcher, colleague and friend. Patti had a larger-than-life presence, always with a smile, a laugh and an infectious enthusiasm for her work in pediatric thrombosis. She exuded compassion and kindness to all, especially to the children under her care and their families.

Patti received her Bachelor's (1973-1977) and Master's (1978-1980) degrees from the University of Waterloo. She worked with the late Dr. Maureen Andrew in her research lab at McMaster University and was inspired by her to become a physician. Thereafter, she completed medical school (1983-1986) at McMaster University and did her fellowship (1992-1997) in Thrombosis with Drs. Jack Hirsh and Maureen Andrew. We were fortunate to be working alongside Patti as Thrombosis Fellows in Dr. Andrew's laboratory at the same time, and those years started lifelong friendships and collaborations between Patti and the three of us. Realizing the paucity of information on pediatric thrombosis, Patti's determination to help this vulnerable patient population led her to be one of the first persons to conduct randomized controlled trials in children receiving anticoagulants for the treatment of deep venous thrombosis and/or pulmonary embolism, and also as thromboprophylaxis for those with central venous catheters. She played a pivotal role in the REVIVE and PROTEKT trials examining anticoagulant use in the pediatric population, setting the standard for RCTs in this area for the past 20 years. She was unwavering in her pursuit of evidence-driven care for these children.

Patti was a tireless advocate for children and her work became internationally renowned, so much so that she was recognized as one of the world's leading pediatric blood specialists. For her expertise, she was recruited in 2003 by the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta. It was at Stollery that Patti created a landmark program in pediatric thrombosis. Along with her great friend and colleague Mary Bauman, they created the KidClot Thrombosis & Anticoagulation Program; a multidisciplinary team to provide consultation and expert care to pediatric patients on anticoagulants. Patti and Mary set the standard for warfarin anticoagulant management with the EMPOWERMENT

studies setting benchmarks in home management of warfarin in children. Her team, through Aisha Bruce, performed key studies in quality of life assessment of children on anticoagulation. The Edmonton program attracted the makers of the artificial Berlin Heart to choose Stollery as the site to expand the life-saving device in North America. In collaboration with her colleagues, the development of the Edmonton Anticoagulation and Platelet Inhibition Protocol, dubbed the “Edmonton Protocol”, became the standard of care worldwide for children requiring ventricular assist devices.

Considered as one of the founding members of the world’s pediatric thrombosis community, Patti’s significant contributions to this field, in terms of clinical care and research, will be her lasting legacy. She has published over 200 papers and has been involved with pediatric guidelines and statements from the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines, 2008) and the American Heart Association (AHA Scientific Statement Prevention and Treatment of Thrombosis in Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease, 2013). She was a Co-Chair (2000-2003) and then Chair (2004-2006) of the Pediatric and Neonatal Thrombosis and Hemostasis Subcommittee of the ISTH, a group she led with typically collaborative enthusiasm. A pediatric thrombosis expert, she was a sought-after speaker and Patti traveled the world disseminating her knowledge at meetings, conferences and symposiums. She was generous with her time and kind to all and mentored and supported countless other paediatric haematologists. In 2019, Patti was a finalist in the Canada-wide Women of Vision program. Patti’s humility stood out. Despite her extensive knowledge and expertise, she always listened to anyone’s viewpoint and carefully considered evidence rather than opinion in coming to decisions. She loved connecting people and encouraged collaboration at all times. We caught up at every opportunity, with countless meals and conversations at meetings, a chance to catch up with a friend talking about work and family. As much as she loved her work, there was nothing closer to her heart than her four children Kyle, Lauren, Michaela and Liam. Although her travels took her across the globe, she was never far from her children, often talking on the phone with them, and always ready to share a photo and a story about them with anyone who would listen.

The last time we all met was in July 2020 in a virtual meeting room to discuss updating the book *Andrew's Pediatric Thromboembolism and Stroke* (2006), as well as to discuss the organization of an upcoming webinar series in pediatric thrombosis. At the time, Patti was undergoing treatment, but this did not dull her enthusiasm to contribute what she could despite her situation. Her passion for helping children was ever-present. Her dedication to her work, her patients and her family is inspiring. She leaves behind a wonderful family, countless friends and colleagues, and many children who have benefitted from her clinical expertise and legacy of evidence-based treatment. We have lost a giant in the field of pediatric thrombosis, a true leader and a well-loved dear friend. She will be missed in Canada and throughout the world.

Anthony K. C. Chan

Gabrielle deVeber

Paul Monagle

