

Legendary urologist Yosh Taguchi retires

By Mike Cohen

At 83 years young, prominent urologist Dr. Yosh Taguchi has decided to retire, following a remarkable career that spanned more than 50 years. But worry not, says Dr. Andrew Steinberg, cofounder and president of Elna Urology at Décarie Square, “because we will take care of all of his patients.”

When I met Dr. Taguchi last week, Elna Urology’s director of operations Shirley Zimmerman and her team were interacting with him as if he was still on staff. “I’m retired, but I really love this place,” he told me. “I might not be able to write prescriptions, but I still intend on being around to give advice.”

Dr. Taguchi is a true success story. Born in Japan, he and his family came to Canada in 1937. From 1942 to 1946 they were forced into an internment camp in Hope, BC. They would end up in Montreal, where mom and dad found work. Yosh attended the High School of Montreal, studied psychology at McGill and then successfully applied for medical school. Urology came calling almost immediately. “I knew that I was smarter with my hands than my head,” he said.

In 2013 prominent businessman and philanthropist Lucien Rémillard officially announced the creation of the \$1 million Yosh Taguchi Chair in Urology at McGill’s Faculty of Medicine to focus on cancer-related research in urology. Remillard was among the many patients Dr. Taguchi saw over the course of decades at the Royal Victoria Hospital of the MUHC.

“Dr. Taguchi was such a major influence on my career,” said Dr. Steinberg. “He taught so many of us to be great doctors, but just as important, to be human and compassionate. He is kind and caring to all of his patients. They love him. He never lost his temper or lost his cool. Zen, though and through.”

Outside of McGill, Dr. Taguchi is best known for his best-selling books *Private Parts: An Owner’s Guide to the Male Anatomy* and *The Prostate: Everything you Need to Know about the Man Gland*. Now that he is officially retired he is considering a third book and spending more time with his wife Joan, four children and six grandchildren.

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Distinguished honour for BCC founders

David Guttman (right) and Jack Moon (left) were recently awarded the Governor General of Canada’s Meritorious Service Medal. Guttman and Moon, both bladder cancer patients, founded Bladder Cancer Canada (BCC), the first and only Canadian patient advocacy organization dedicated to bladder cancer issues.

Guttman’s vision for BCC has always been a simple one: “To assist others on this journey to be more informed and confident of their future.” The CUA extends its congratulations to both recipients.

