

# RICARDO FABIAN GONZALEZ-FISHER MD, MPH, FACS

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A Public Health Professional with extensive experience in community participation to provide solutions to systemic health equity issues, previously a senior medical professional with significant healthcare and leadership experience in various roles, including Chief Medical Officer and Clinical Research. A licensed general surgeon and surgical oncologist in Mexico now focuses on public health in the United States. Holds exceptional leadership and administrative and educational experience gained through multi-faceted work in hospitals, universities, and research centers. Promoter of holistic care focused on patient and caregiver education, creating a true patient-centered approach, producing publications, delivering university lectures, and writing for diverse audiences. Community Health outreach and engagement.

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Clinical Research            | ✓ Hospital & Facility Planning | ✓ Program Development |
| ✓ General Surgery & Oncology   | ✓ Medical Education & Teaching | ✓ Public Health       |
| ✓ Community Health Initiatives | ✓ Staff and Peer Training      | ✓ Leadership          |

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER • 2018 – Present**

### **CATEGORY II FACULTY (College of Health and Applied Sciences)**

Teaching several pre-graduate classes such as pathophysiology, public health, dynamics of health, dynamics of disease, and ethics in healthcare, assisting with developing course material, supervising students, regularly publishing journal articles, serving on several committees, attending conferences, writing proposals for grants, delivering presentations, and handling other administrative duties.

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Publication of academic papers in peer-reviewed journals.
- Active participation in community research programs to empower community members for health equity.
- Awarded 2021 Career Catalyst faculty recognition.
- Restructured classes for asynchronous teaching during the pandemic.
- Developed ethics in healthcare curriculum as open educational resource class.
- Participated as a speaker in several local and national television interviews.

**SERVICIOS DE LA RAZA • Denver, CO • 2016 – Present**

### **RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (COMMUNITY BASED PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH) 2017-PRESENT**

Designed the rules and regulations for equitable engagement in research with different academic partners, serving as the liaison between academia and communities.

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Developed bylaws for a research program for the agency (in progress).
- Established formal relationships with the Latino Research and Policy Center of the University of Colorado.
- Currently a PI for the NIH-funded CO-CEAL project.
- Sub-investigator for the NIH-funded *Campeones de la Salud* project in Eagle County.
- Engaged in partnership with several community organizations to participate in different funded programs.

### **VENTANILLA DE SALUD COORDINATOR (MEXICAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN DENVER) 2016- PRESENT**

Implementation and application of community health educational programs focused on preventive care. Serve as a patient advocate, providing navigation through the complexities of the healthcare system. Coordinate and partner closely with several advocate groups, safety-net providers, private sector providers, academic research and policy organizations, and publicly funded clinics and hospitals to achieve the Triple Aim by reducing patients seeking attention at emergency services and promoting their integration into an established medical home. The VDS is the largest public health initiative for immigrants in the United States.

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

*Continued...*

- Delivering education to approximately 1350 persons per week.
- Screened 120 persons per month, referring at least 20 people to primary care each month.
- Established a community-based advisory board
- Established alliances with different safety-net clinics and various universities to deliver more health opportunities to our people
- Organizing community-centered COVID-19 testing and vaccine clinics, reaching more than 15,000 people state-wide during the pandemic.
- Obtained funding for different services such as free dental care, free cervical and breast cancer screening
- Since 2020 was trusted with a mobile health unit from the Mexican Ministry of Health (one of eleven in the United States) to provide services throughout our State

### **HORIZONS CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER • Denver, CO • 2015 - 2016**

#### **CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR**

Assisted in the implementation of open and closed clinical studies. Served as patient liaison with the Principal Investigator and guided the administration of compliance with ongoing clinical studies. Participated integrally in the informed consent process by communicating clearly and openly with potential study patients about protocols open to enrollment, attending sponsor prequalification visits, monitoring visits, and study termination visits. Managed and responded promptly to data clarification requests. Coordinate with PIs and the company to ensure that clinical research and related activities follow Federal regulations, the company's SPOs, and sponsoring agency policies and procedures. Collaborating with other clinical research team members, ensured adherence to protocols and timely documentation, submitted study data, processed specimens, and shipped biological specimens.

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Participation in 15 clinical trials with follow-ups varied from 3 months to one year.
- Recruited approximately 200 subjects with 130 enrolled patients and above 80% retention in the different studies

### **CENTRAL MEDICO QUIRURGICA DE AGUASCALIENTES • Aguascalientes, Mexico • 1999 - 2011**

#### **CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, 2006 - 2011**

Collaborated with the senior leadership to represent and advocate for the Hospital before key external stakeholders, including the federal government, statewide elected officials, constituent groups, local government, professional associations, businesses, labor organizations, and federal agencies. Led hospital remodeling planning and logistics while the facility was in full operation. Planned and coordinated team efforts towards attaining accreditation by Joint Commission International and re-certification by the National Authority. Provided the community with health information by promoting social projects, monthly newsletter publications, and radio and television interviews. Lead Department staff in developing and implementing medical assistance programs to provide free services to people in need (Cataract surgery, cleft lip surgery, diabetes screening, breast cancer screening, among others). Established a quality training program for nursing staff and managed many relationships with partners and stakeholders to leverage a complex system environment to bring services to beneficiaries and achieve quality outcomes according to international, national, and corporate standards.

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Collaborated with eight different universities to serve as clinical grounds for interns; instructed doctors in Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) over thirteen years.
- Ensured all medical and surgical services complied with state and federal regulations.
- In coordination with senior operations leadership, developed, monitored, and oversaw the implementation of strategic and business development plans.
- Established and developed relations with American investors, resulting in the installation of a state-of-the-art Radiation Therapy Facility -the most advanced private radiation therapy unit in Mexico.
- Reported program results to the Board of Directors, making improvement recommendations in policies and procedures that were further adopted statewide.
- Functioned as liaison between our hospital and the federal, state, and local government.

**CHIEF OF STAFF, 2002 - 2006**

Worked with other departments to develop statistical data and management information reports to analyze and evaluate the value outcome of all medical programs.

Directed, supervised, and evaluated over 300 personnel through medical, nursing, and maintenance activities to ensure the success of our programs. Delivered strategic planning recommendations for hospital remodeling, ensuring facility readiness and continued compliance with regulations. Approved and integrated a clinical research system in collaboration with the pharmaceutical industry and several medical specialists. Opened a new state-of-the-art intensive care unit.

**KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Developed, directed, and managed the planning of new programs and services, including the expansion of the medical building, the creation of a hospital-based medical society, the complete remodeling of the 30-year-old hospital building, attainment of accreditation, and marketing efforts.
- Established and oversaw a Strategic Quality Maintenance program, including all hospital services, documenting and reporting to appropriate authorities, the public, and certification bodies.
- Chaired and participated in various committees, including Ethics, Quality Control, Education, Infection Prevention and Control, and Morbidity-Mortality.
- Attended national and international meetings and regional conference calls to create awareness of changing policies.
- Obtained a Sanitary License for the hospital (2005) and a Quality Certification from the Ministry of Health.

**CHIEF OF MEDICAL EDUCATION, 1999 - 2002**

Led the delivery of pre-graduate medical and nursing education in the hospital, ensuring that hospital, national, and international standards were met. At the same time, the strategic direction of the institution was supported. Acquired responsibility for delivering the educational contract between the hospital/ physicians/ national authorities and the universities involved in the process. I implemented a continuous educational program for our staff and different medical specialties to ensure compliance with credentialing requirements and interprofessional collaboration in patient care. With the participation of specialists and staff, I developed a patient outreach educational program that included communication materials and newsletters to communicate all our programs and policy changes effectively.

**KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Introduced a General Medicine Internship Program to host 12 interns from two Mexican universities; graduates followed specialty training paths into the best hospitals in the region, with one graduate holding an academic appointment as a Neurosurgeon in Santa Clara, CA.
- Identified new and existing staff training needs and worked with department staff to develop related training programs.
- Successfully expanded medical staff from 14 to over 100 specialists by implementing ATLS courses for doctors, granting professional benefits to those accredited, holding weekly medical conferences, and establishing a community.

**CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

**General Surgeon & Surgical Oncologist** (1999 - 2015) ▪ CMQ Hospital ▪ Aguascalientes, Mexico

**Surgical Oncologist** (1997 - 1999) ▪ ABC Medical Center ▪ Mexico City, Mexico

**Surgical Oncologist** (1994 - 1995) ▪ ISSSTE ▪ Aguascalientes, Mexico

**General Surgeon** (1991 - 1999) ▪ ABC Medical Center ▪ Mexico City, Mexico

**EDUCATION & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**PACT council chair** (2024 - ) ▪ Colorado Clinical and Translational Institute ▪ University of Colorado ▪ Denver, CO

**ASSOCIATE FACULTY (2018 - ) [ETHICS IN HEALTHCARE] METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER DENVER, CO**

**Professor of Surgery for Interns** (2006 - 2012) ▪ CMQ Hospital ▪ Aguascalientes, Mexico

**Assistant Professor of Surgery** (2011 - 2012) ▪ Universidad Autónoma de Aguascalientes ▪ Aguascalientes, Mexico

**Assistant Professor of Oncology** (1997 - 1999) ▪ Escuela Medico Naval ▪ Mexico  
**Professor of Oncology** (1997 - 1999) ▪ Universidad Anáhuac ▪ Mexico City, Mexico  
**Associate Professor of Clinical Practice** (1994 - 1996) ▪ CMQ Hospital ▪ Aguascalientes, Mexico  
**Associate Professor of Family Practice Residency** (1994 - 1995) ▪ ISSSTE ▪ Aguascalientes, Mexico  
**Fellow in Experimental Surgery** (1983 - 1984) ▪ INNSZ ▪ Mexico City, Mexico

## EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

### PhD candidate (Bioethics)

Instituto de Investigaciones en Bioética | Monterrey, MX | 2024

### Master of Public Health; Health System Management and Policy

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO | Denver, CO | 2015

### Business Management and Governance Certificate program

ESCUELA DE DIRECCION DE EMPRESAS | Aguascalientes, Mexico | 2006

### Fellowship in Surgical Oncology

INSTITUTO MEXICANO DEL SEGURO SOCIAL | Mexico City, Mexico | 1994

### General Surgery Residency

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO | Mexico City, Mexico | 1991

THE AMERICAN BRITISH COWDRAY HOSPITAL

### Professional Degree in Medicine (Doctor of Medicine)

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO

ESCUELA MEXICANA DE MEDICINA – UNIVERSIDAD LA SALLE Mexico City, Mexico | 1984

## RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

- *Repair of Non-Circumferential Injuries of the Common Bile Duct with Peritoneal and Gallbladder Grafts in Dogs* (1987)
- *Current Trends in Cholecystectomy at the ABC Hospital* (1989)
- *Feasibility of Biliary Lithotripsy at the ABC Hospital* (1990)
- *Early Gastric Cancer, Retrospective Review of Cases in the Hospital de Oncología Centro Medico Nacional Siglo XXI* (1992)
- *Recurrence Patterns of Retroperitoneal Liposarcomas* (1993)
- *Gastrointestinal Myosarcomas, 25 Years' Experience at Hospital de Oncología, Centro Médico Nacional Siglo XXI* (1993)
- *Gallbladder Volvulus – a case report-* (1993)
- *Prevalence of Use of Alternative Treatments in Surgical Patients* (2004)
- *The Edwin Smith Surgical Papyrus* (2005)
- *Industry-sponsored Cancer Clinical trials (14) as investigator* (2008)
- *The Chest Wound of General Shields in the Battle of Cerro Gordo April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1847* (2014)
- *Air in the portal vein* (2015)
- *Prevalence of Low Levels of Vitamin D in Breast Cancer Patients Who Live in Latitudes 21-22 North* (2016)
- *Lt1 William T Fitzsimons* (2017)
- *Ethical issues related to planning and responding to COVID-19 pandemic* (2020)
- *It Should Not Require a Pandemic to Make Community Engagement in Research Leadership Essential, not Optional.* (2021)
- *Community-level screening for type 2 diabetes risk in Mexicans living in Colorado* (2021)
- *The maladies of an emperor.* (2023)

***A complete list of publications and research activities can be provided by request.***