

Francis Smith



M.D, FFRRCSI, FRCR, FRSC(Ed), FRCP(Ed), FFSEM.
Clinical Professor of Radiology at the University of Aberdeen
and Professor of Health and Sports Science the Robert Gordon
University.

Prof Smith obtained his medical training at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland graduating in 1970. After residencies in medicine, orthopaedic surgery and radiology, he completed his radiological training at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto Canada. After returning to Aberdeen in 1980, he pioneered the clinical application of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), starting the world's first clinical trial of MRI in 1980 and the world's first diagnostic MRI service at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary in 1981. Between 1980 and 1991 he worked in collaboration with a number of clinicians exploring the applications of MRI, being the first to show the potential of MRI to the examination of the abdomen and pelvis as well as for the study of pregnancy. He published the first clinical applications of MRI to musculoskeletal radiology, head and neck malignancy, liver and pancreatic disease, pelvic malignancy and pregnancy. He has over 250 publications in peer reviewed Journals, 32 book chapters and co-authored 5 textbooks.

In 1982 he was the inaugural President of the Society of Magnetic Resonance Imaging and in 1990 he received the Gold medal from the International Society for Magnetic

Resonance Imaging. Between 1984 and 1991 he was Editor in Chief of Magnetic Resonance Imaging. In 1999 he was the recipient of the Barclay Medal and in 2009 was the Sir Godfrey Hounsfield Memorial lecturer from the British Institute of Radiology. He is currently Clinical Director of Medserena Upright MRI Centre in London. He has considerable experience of MR imaging of the spine and specialises in the application of upright MRI in patients following whiplash injury of the cervical spine and those with low back pain. These examinations are performed either standing or sitting upright during the examination, rather than lying down as is the common practice.

Between 1980 and 1997 working as a Consultant in Nuclear Medicine he also pioneered the use of Single Photon Emission Tomography (SPECT) for the measurement of regional cerebral blood flow performing the preclinical evaluation of the technetium labelled blood flow agent Hexamethylpropylene Amine Oxime, as well as publishing the earliest papers on its value in the assessment of patients with dementia. He performed some of the earliest work on the use of Positron Emission Tomography (PET) for the diagnosis and staging of malignant disease.

In addition to being a Consultant Radiologist specialising in Musculoskeletal Radiology, he is also a qualified Sports Medicine Physician. He is currently, and has been since 1996, an examiner for the Diploma in Sport & Exercise Medicine of the Faculty of Sport and Exercise Medicine. Since 2009 he has been Visiting Professor and external examiner in Sports Medicine for the University at the West Indies. From 1995 - 2015 he was one of two Club doctors for Dundee United Football Club and has a Sports Medicine practice catering to all sportsmen and women. In this practice he combines his knowledge of sport and sports medicine with both ultrasound and MRI scanning.