Brief CV: John T. Truman MD, MPH 2021

John Truman was born in Canada and received his MD from the University of Toronto in 1960. He trained in pediatrics and hematology at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston 1960-1965, and was a research fellow in biochemistry at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark 1965-1967. He received an MPH from Harvard in 1983 and was Visiting Fellow of Magdalen College, University of Oxford 1987-2007.

His career has been divided equally between Harvard and Columbia:

At Harvard he was Chief of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology at the Massachusetts General Hospital 1967-1988 and Associate Professor at Harvard.

At Columbia he was Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics at Columbia’s affiliate in Morristown, New Jersey 1988-1997, and Deputy Chairman at the Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital of New York from 1997 until his retirement in 2008 (Acting Chairman 2001-2002). He is currently Professor Emeritus and Special Lecturer at Columbia.

In 2014 he returned to Massachusetts as Honorary Pediatrician at the Massachusetts General Hospital. The annual *John T. Truman Lecture in Pediatric Hematology-Oncology* at the MGH was inaugurated in 2018.

Special interests:

1) The epidemiology and clustering of childhood leukemia, having been intimately involved with the Woburn leukemia cluster noted in the book and film ‘A Civil Action’;

2) The ethical implications of decision-making on behalf of children with potentially fatal diseases, having been intimately involved in the Chad Green leukemia case ‘Custody of a Minor, parts I & II’;

3) International medicine, having been closely involved with early childhood leukemia trials in China and South America;

4) The history of medicine from the Enlightenment to the present, having written on the careers of Drs. John Gregory (Edinburgh), Samuel Bard (New York), William Potts Dewees (Philadelphia), Oliver Wendell Holmes (Boston), William Osler (Baltimore and Oxford) and Wilder Penfield (Montreal).

He is an enthusiastic harpsichordist, opera buff, bagpiper and birder.

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