



## Proust questionnaire: David Patrick, MD

### What profession might you have pursued, if not medicine?

Music. I play jazz and rhythm and blues, and it might have been fun to focus on that for a while.

### Which talent would you most like to have?

I wish I were more handy. I like doing small projects but it takes me a while to get them right.

### What do you consider your greatest achievement?

Sharing a life with Patricia, raising kids, and keeping it real.

### Who are your heroes?

Those Battle of Britain Spitfire and Hurricane pilots. They gave us a much brighter future. Oh, and Louis Pasteur.

### What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Satisfying work or play in the absence of negative energy.

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Dr Patrick is an infectious disease physician and epidemiologist, serves as professor at UBC's School of Population and Public Health, and provides service as a medical epidemiologist at the BCCDC. His primary focus is the control and study of emerging infectious diseases with a strong emphasis on the problem of antibiotic resistance at the population level.

### What is your greatest fear?

White people playing bongos.

### What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?

I concern myself too much with being conciliatory.

### What characteristic do your favorite patients share?

Interesting world travel and experiences.

### What is your favorite activity?

Spending quality time with my wife, followed by making music.

### On what occasion do you lie?

I never lie, or just did. You tell me.

### Which words or phrases do you most overuse?

"That's right."

### Where would you most like to practise?

I'm here in Vancouver by choice.

### What medical advance do you most anticipate?

People finally figuring out that per-

sonalized prevention has even more potential than personalized diagnosis and treatment.

### Which living physician do you most admire?

Everyone who had the guts to go to West Africa and help out during the Ebola crisis.

### What is your most marked characteristic?

I can find the humor in almost anything, and this can really be annoying to some people.

### What do you most value in your colleagues?

Compassion.

### Who are your favorite writers?

Kurt Vonnegut and Richard Dawkins.

### What is your greatest regret?

Attempting to microwave a roast.

### What is your motto?

Onward and upward.

### How would you like to die?

I'm not sure that should be printed.

### Submit a Proust Questionnaire—your colleagues will appreciate it.



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