Salim Yusuf, D.Phil, FRCPC is a distinguished University Professor of Medicine at McMaster University, Director of the Population Health Research Institute, and is Chief Scientist at Hamilton Health Sciences. He holds a Heart and Stroke Foundation Research Chair, was a Senior Scientist of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (1999-2004), and has received (among others) the Lifetime Research Achievement award of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society, the Paul Wood Silver Medal of the British Cardiac Society, the European Society of Cardiology gold medal, the American Heart Association Clinical Research Award, and over 35 other international and national awards for research, induction into the Royal Society of Canada, and appointment as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

He has led over 25 major trials and several of them have changed medical practice. He has published over 900 articles in refereed journals, rising to the second most cited researcher in the world for 2011. He is Past President of the World Heart Federation, where he is initiating an Emerging Leaders program in 100 countries with the aim of halving the CVD burden globally within a generation.