

# Tribute to Dr. Salman Anwar

By Nadil Zeiadin, MD CM, FRCPC

The sudden and tragic loss of Dr. Salman Anwar has left an indelible mark on everyone who knew him. A young and talented rheumatologist, Salman completed his training in Internal Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan and his fellowship in Rheumatology at the University of Manitoba. He then joined the rheumatology group in Newmarket in 2022. In a short span, he left a profound legacy marked by compassionate care and a commitment to his patients that few could match.

Salman was driven by an unwavering dedication to his work and approached each day with purpose and passion. His patients knew him not only as a skilled physician but as a kind-hearted individual who genuinely cared about their well-being. He took the time to understand each of them, forging deep, meaningful relationships and often went beyond what was expected. He was one of the first rheumatologists to join the Centre of Arthritis Excellence (CARE), playing a key role in establishing multidisciplinary models of care. He participated keenly in educational workshops for patients and was deeply involved in the educational development of both residents and staff. Driven by a desire to serving patients in underserved communities, Salman collaborated with local partners to provide clinics in Sudbury on a regular basis.

Beyond his clinical skills, Salman was an exemplary team member who proved to be a true friend to his colleagues. He was always there when needed, ready to lend a helping hand, whether it was during a challenging case or in the small, day-to-day tasks that kept the team running smoothly. His presence brought a sense of camaraderie and stability; he



lifted others with his optimism and jovial demeanour. Salman's willingness to step in during difficult times was not just a testament to his character but also to the depth of his commitment to those around him. He was, in every sense, the friend that everyone could count on.

Yet above all, Salman's heart belonged to his family. His wife, Noor, and young son, Sammi, were his greatest joys, and he held an unwavering devotion to them. Salman cherished every moment with his family, balancing his

demanding work with a steadfast commitment to being a loving husband and father. He was also deeply connected to his parents and extended family, showing a profound respect for the values they instilled in him and carrying them forward in his own life. Salman's faith and principles guided him daily, as did his belief in social justice and doing the right thing, even when it was difficult. His kindness and integrity were rooted in his conviction that compassion and fairness were the cornerstones of a life well lived.

Salman's life, though cut short, remains a powerful reminder of the impact one person can have. His devotion to medicine and the care he provided will live on in the memories of his patients and colleagues, who were fortunate enough to know him. His loss leaves a void that will not be filled, yet his spirit and kindness will continue to inspire those who knew him to carry on his legacy of compassion, dedication, and friendship.

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