

Curriculum vitae

Full name: Johan Gunnar Eriksson
Date and place of birth: May 5th 1958, Helsinki, Finland
Permanent position: Professor in General practice
University of Helsinki



Education and training

1976 High School Graduation, Shawnee Mission East, Kansas, USA
1978 High School Graduation, Lönnbeckska Gymnasiet, Helsinki, Finland
1986 Licentiate in Medicine (MD), University of Helsinki
1987 Licensed Physician, University of Helsinki
1994 Specialist Rights in Internal Medicine, University of Helsinki
2005 Specialist Rights in General Practice, University of Helsinki

Professional appointments

1987-1988 General Practitioner and resident, City of Helsinki
1989-1991 Residentsip in Internal Medicine and Anesthesiology, Malmi Municipal Hospital, Helsinki
1992-1994 Residentsip in Internal Medicine, Helsinki University Central Hospital, III Dept. of Medicine
1993- 2009 Consultant, Helsinki Out-Patient Diabetes Centre
1994-1996 Researcher, Academy of Finland
1996-2001 Senior researcher, National Public Health Institute
2001-2006 Head of Unit, National Public Health Institute, Helsinki Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Diabetes and Genetic Epidemiology Unit
2006- Professor of General Practice, University of Helsinki
2008- Chief Physician, Helsinki University Hospital, Unit of General Practice
2010- Director, Program of Public Health Research, Folkhälsan Research Center

Publications

Over 200 publications in internationally peer-reviewed journals.

Research interest

Professor Eriksson's research interest include pathogenesis of Type 2 diabetes and the metabolic syndrome, prevention of Type 2 diabetes and the role of exercise in the treatment of Type 2 diabetes. He has been closely involved in the Finnish Diabetes Prevention Study which was the first randomized study to show that lifestyle intervention is effective in the prevention of type 2 diabetes. In 1994 he initiated the Helsinki Birth Cohort Study (HBCS) and he has been the PI of that study from the beginning. Over 20 000 individuals are included in the epidemiological part of HBCS. Within the HBCS the importance of prenatal and postnatal growth in relation to adult health outcomes has been assessed. The importance of genetic and epigenetic factors are also focused upon within the HBCS. There are more than 80 original publications based upon findings from the HBCS. Professor Eriksson is also involved in studies focusing upon the importance of early growth in contemporary cohorts.