

# Dr. Mark Evans

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# Who's Steering the Ship?



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# Outline

- ▶ Christopher Columbus (hospitalist-like spirit)
- ▶ History of Hospitalist Medicine in Canada
- ▶ Tie these two stories together
- ▶ Finally we will look to the Future



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# Columbus and the Egg



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**Once he had shown the way to  
the New World, nothing was  
easier than to follow.**



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**Key Point:**

**When the Status Quo is not  
acceptable...**

**New ways have to be found to  
reach our goals**



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# Drivers for Change - Globally

- ▶ Fragmentation of Patient Care by Specialization
- ▶ Increasingly Complex Aging Population
- ▶ Escalating Cost of Health Care
- ▶ Specialty Organized Around Site of Care



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# Drivers for Change - Calgary

- ▶ All the Global Drivers
- ▶ Fewer Family Physicians Providing Inpatient Care
- ▶ Increasing Numbers of Unattached Patients
- ▶ Low Remuneration for Hospital Work
- ▶ Little Input into Hospital Restructuring
- ▶ Feeling Unsupported
- ▶ Growing Frustration



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# Columbus Had What You Need

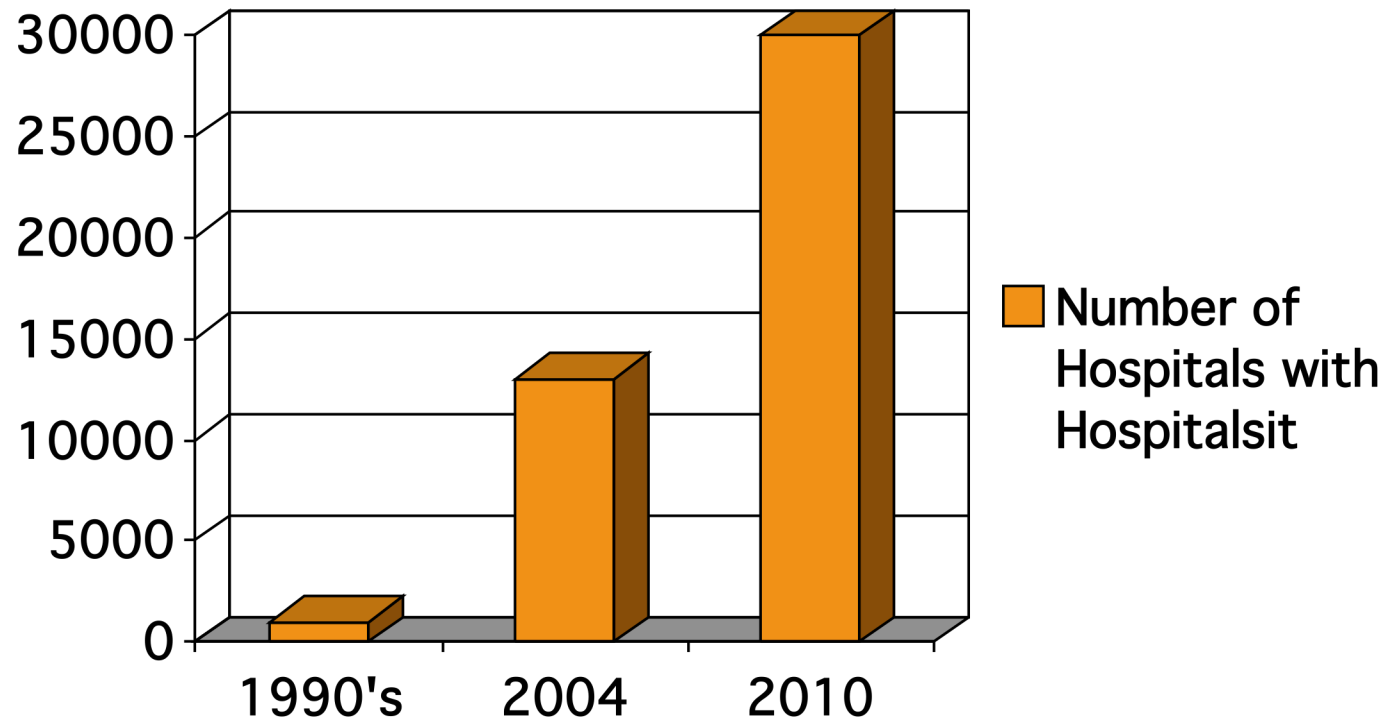
- ▶ 1. He saw a need to breakout of the current dogma
- ▶ 2. He had a supportive administration



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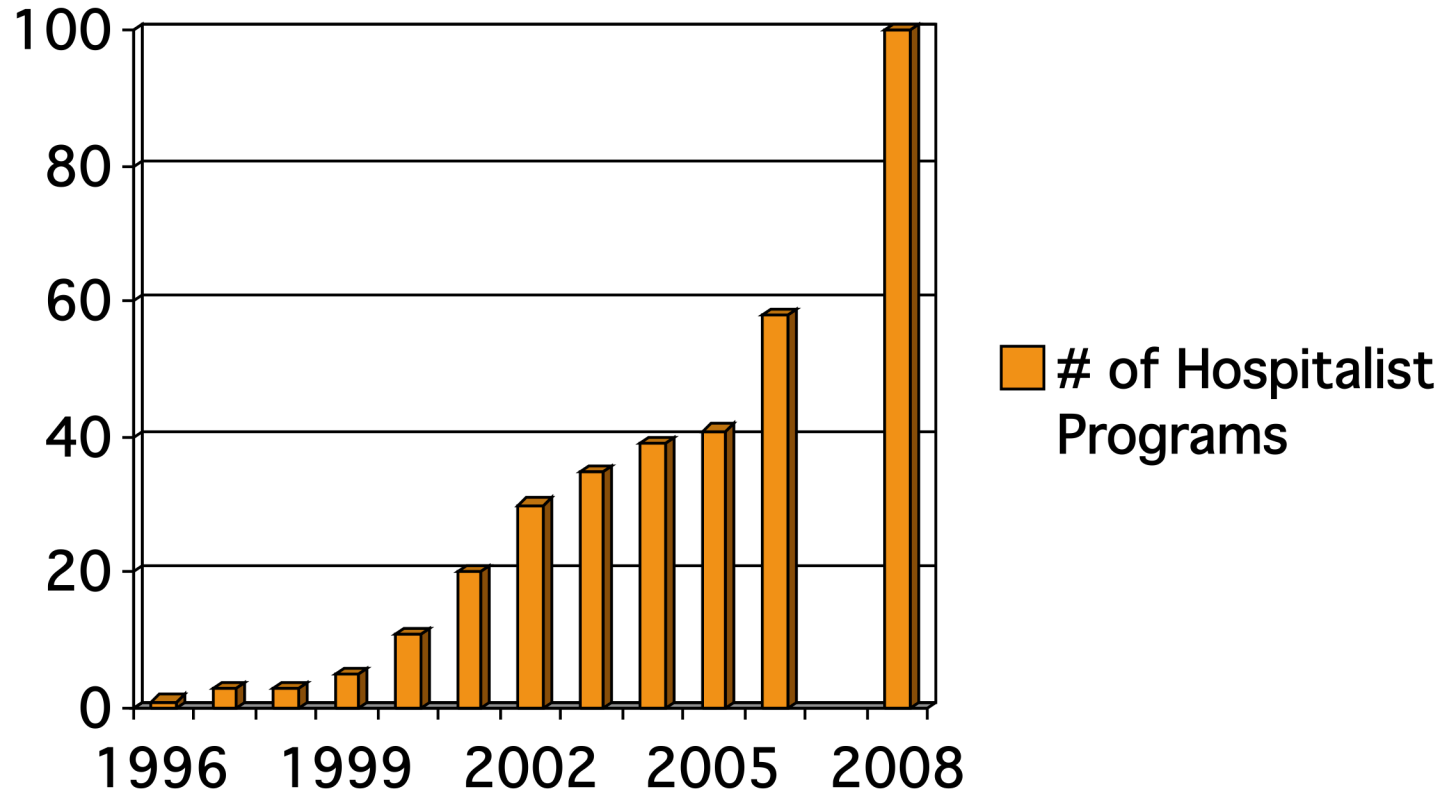
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# Growth of Hospitalist Medicine in USA



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# Growth of Hospitalist Medicine in Canada



Canadian Hospitalist Workload Survey 2008  
Dr. D. Wilton



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# Obstacles

1. We are NOT Indispensable...

...if we are the only ones  
who know our value.

2. “Them that has the gold makes  
the rules”

(Clarence D. Long US Congressman 1963-1985)



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# Stepping Stones

## **We Can Be Indispensable**

- ▶ Start with a vision statement or governing principles for you local group.
- ▶ Figure out what the Admin guys want - read their Strategic Plan online.
- ▶ Link up with like minded Hospitalist - a good start would be the Canadian Chapter of the SHM
- ▶ Look for opportunities to expand your role and your program
- ▶ Support the community Family Doctors



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# The Future:

- ▶ Crack some eggs and lead the way because it will be Hospitalist steering the Health Care Ship in the next 10-15 years.
- ▶ We need to work our way into every aspect of a hospital's business - this is our house, this is where we work
- ▶ We are the Hospital Specialists.



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# Thank you



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