

Organization Section

Necrology



Francis D. W. Lukens, M.D.

Francis Dring Wetherill Lukens, Past-President of the American Diabetes Association, died in Pittsburgh on December 4, 1978, after a long and distinguished career as a physician, investigator, educator, and medical statesman. He was born in Philadelphia on October 5, 1899, into a family prominent in the affairs of that city since its founding. He graduated from Yale University and then attended the School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, receiving his M.D. degree in 1925.

Lukens served an internship and medical residency at the Pennsylvania Hospital, and then spent 1928–1930 at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, where he studied nephritis under Warfield T. Longcope. In 1930 he returned to Philadelphia and spent two years working under T. Grier Miller in the gastroenterology division at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania during a period in which that unit carried out pioneering studies in human gastrointestinal physiology. In 1932 Lukens joined the staff of the newly established Cox Institute for Medical Research at the University of Pennsylvania. This unit, devoted to the study of diabetes mellitus, had recruited Cyril N. H. Long to serve as its first Director.

From 1932 to 1936 Long and Lukens conducted a series of classic experiments that profoundly affected the direction of research in diabetes and endocrine physiology for many years. Lukens was an exceptionally skilled experimental surgeon and was successful in reproducibly preparing and maintaining cats that were totally pancreatectomized and also subjected to either hypophysectomy or bilateral adrenalectomy. Long and Lukens reproduced the Houssay phenomenon in cats (and dogs); they then demonstrated that the removal of the adrenals prolonged the survival of depancreatized animals and diminished the degree of hyperglycemia

and hyperketonemia. It was also demonstrated that adrenalectomy decreased the dose of insulin required to control glucosuria in depancreatized animals. The effects of adrenalectomy were attributed to the removal of the adrenal cortex because they were not reproduced by adrenal demedullation and denervation. These observations established the concept that insulin regulation of glucose and lipid metabolism and the effects of marked insulin deficiency on these processes are subject to modulation by pituitary and adrenal cortical secretions.

In 1936 Lukens was appointed Director of the Cox Institute when Dr. Long accepted the Chairmanship of the Department of Physiological Chemistry at Yale; at the same time Lukens was given responsibility for the clinical diabetes service. In time he rose to be a Professor of Medicine at Pennsylvania.

In the period before World War II, Lukens' unit attracted the interest of many investigators, including Dwight Ingle, in the interaction of the β -cells, pituitary, and adrenal cortex in the regulation of intermediary metabolism. Lukens also collaborated for many years with William C. Stadie, Professor of Research Medicine. Their efforts included classic studies that established a relationship between ketone body production and the rate of ketone body oxidation in depancreatized cats and man. This helped to establish the view that increased ketone body production is the predominant factor in the development of the hyperketonemia of diabetic ketoacidosis. Lukens also collaborated with Samuel Gurin and Roscoe Brady of the Department of Biochemistry in studies of the impairment of hepatic fatty acid synthesis that results from insulin deficiency.

Lukens played a significant role in the development of standardized methods for the use of alloxan diabetic animals for metabolic studies and provided an invaluable review of this subject in *Physiological Reviews* in 1948. He became an expert in islet cell morphology and had a special interest in the ability of persistent hyperglycemia to induce pathologic alterations in β -cell structure and function; this culminated in the observation that persistent experimental diabetes could be induced by repeated glucose injections in the cat. Lukens also first noted the role of insulin in modulating the effects of growth hormone on nitrogen balance.

Throughout his career Lukens was actively involved in patient care and in clinical teaching. One of his last publications concerned the relative infrequency of clinically significant complications in a group of long-term survivors of insulin-dependent diabetes. Dr. Lukens was active in all aspects of the affairs of the American Diabetes Association over a long period and served as its President in 1959–1960. He received the Banting Medal of the Association in 1960, and in 1964 was selected as the Banting Lecturer. Dr. Lukens also served as President of the Endocrine Society in 1964–1965,

and as President of the American Clinical and Climatological Society in 1964. The Association of American Physicians selected him as their Kober Lecturer in 1967. He received numerous other honors, and served as a visiting professor both at Ankara University in 1956 and at Pahlavi University in Shiraz, Iran, in 1962.

"Luke" was an individual of distinguished appearance and manner. His piquant humor, disdain for pomposity, and constant concern for helping others gained him lifelong admiration and friendship from patients, students, and professional colleagues. His life was a model of a gracious commitment to the obligations of a responsible human being. He retired from the University of Pennsylvania in 1966, and joined the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh, where he was actively and happily involved in administration and patient care at the Pittsburgh V.A. Hospital until shortly before his death. Dr. Lukens is survived by his wife E. Martyn Lukens, who resides in Pittsburgh, his two daughters, and six grandchildren.

DIABETES PROFESSIONAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Diabetes Professional Educational Conference, sponsored by the Department of Postgraduate Medicine and Health Professions Education, will be held at the Michigan League, Ann Arbor, Michigan, on September 6–7, 1979. This conference is for social workers, nurses, and dietitians and meets the criteria for credit hours in Category I of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

For further information, contact Dr. Floyd C. Pennington, Office of Continuing Medical Education, The Towsley Center, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF INSTITUTIONAL CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

The Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social is organizing the First International Congress of Institutional Clinical Pathology, which will be held on the Congress Unit of the National Medical Center in Mexico City on October 1–5, 1979. Clinical pathologists, hematologists, bacteriologists, chemists, biologists, laboratory workers, and related professionals from the United States are invited to participate.

For further information, please write to the First International Congress of Institutional Clinical Pathology, Subdirección General Médica del I.M.S.S., Jefatura de Servicios Médicos en Estados, Campo y Solidaridad Social, Av. Cuauhtemoc No. 330–40. PISO, Mexico City.

AMERICAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE RECERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

The third Internal Medicine Recertification Examination of the American Board of Internal Medicine will be administered at test centers

throughout the United States on Saturday, October 25, 1980. Any internist who was certified or recertified in internal medicine before 1975 is eligible to take this examination.

The purpose of the examination is to provide the practicing certified internist an opportunity to demonstrate his or her current clinical knowledge and problem-solving abilities that relate to the provision of excellent care in internal medicine. The fee is \$175.

For further information, please write to American Board of Internal Medicine, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104.

SENIOR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS IN DIABETES

The NIAMDD and the Fogarty International Center of the NIH will offer a limited number of Special Emphasis Senior International Fellowships in Diabetes Mellitus for scientists from the United States to study and conduct research abroad. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, have at least five years of postdoctoral experience, hold a full-time position at a U.S. biomedical or graduate-level educational institution, be nominated by that institution, and have an invitation from a foreign host institution. Awards are made for periods of three to twelve months abroad and provide a stipend of up to \$24,000 per annum, travel costs, and host institution's allowance. Proposed projects must be clearly related to diabetes, but may have their focus anywhere along the research spectrum, e.g., etiology, pathogenesis, epidemiology, diagnosis, and/or treatment. Deadline for annual receipt of applications is October 1, with announcements of awards in March. Fellowships may be activated any time within twelve months of issuance.

For further information, please write to Senior International Fellowship Program Scholars and Fellowships Program Branch, Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20205; or call Dr. Donald Pitcairn, (301) 496-1653.

News of Affiliate Associations SIXTH ALLIED HEALTH SYMPOSIUM ON DIABETES MELLITUS

The American Diabetes Association, Northern Illinois Affiliate, will hold its Sixth Allied Health Symposium on Diabetes Mellitus, on September 13-14, at the Drake Hotel, Michigan Avenue and Walton, Chicago. The symposium is open to all nurses, dietitians, social service workers, and pharmacists interested in an update of diabetes

research and treatment procedures. The lecture series are "Diabetic Complications—Diagnosis and Treatment" and "Educational Tactics in Teaching the Diabetic: Case Histories." Participants also may attend workshops.

For further information, contact the American Diabetes Association, Northern Illinois Affiliate, 620 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611; phone (312) 943-8688.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM, ADA-NEW ENGLAND AFFILIATE

The Scientific Program of the American Diabetes Association-New England Affiliate will be held on Wednesday, October 3, at the Mount Auburn Hospital Auditorium, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Roger H. Unger, M.D., will deliver the 19th Joslin Memorial Lecture, "Glucagon, Somatostatin and Diabetes Mellitus."

For further information please contact the American Diabetes Association-New England Affiliate, 377 Elliot Street, Newton Upper Falls, Massachusetts 02164; phone (617) 965-2323.

NEW MEMBERS

The following were elected to the Professional Section as of July 1, 1979:

Naji N. Abou-Mourad, M.D., Nashville, TN
Marion J. Balsam, M.D., Pendleton, CA
A. Russel Barakat, M.D., Tehran, Iran
Francesco Belfiore, M.D., S. Gregorio di Catania, Italy
Horst E. Bibergeil, M.D., Karlsburg, German Democratic Republic
Marita J. Blessing, R.D., Kokomo, IN
Michael A. Bush, M.D., Los Angeles, CA
William G. Cushard, Jr., M.D., Sacramento, CA
Patricia J. DeRousie, Columbus, OH
Elizabeth A. DeShetler, R.D., Columbus, OH
Robert O. Emison, Spring, TX
Harrison J. L. Frank, M.D., Los Angeles, CA
Carol N. Freibaum, Chicago, IL
Rita S. Glosser, R.N., Johnstown, PA
Lillian S. Halverson, R.D., Buckhannon, WV
Emily J. Hauenstein, M.S.S., Charlottesville, VA
Richard J. Hershcope, M.D., Baltimore, MD
Low Tone (Larry) Ho, M.D., Ann Arbor, MI
Herbert F. Hope-Gill, M.D., Asheville, NC
William J. Huddleston, M.D., Hattiesburg, MS
Charles Johnson, M.D., Durham, NC
Steven H. Klein, M.D., Snellville, GA
Theodor Koschinsky, M.D., Düsseldorf, West Germany
Joseph R. Kraft, M.D., Chicago, IL
Daisy A. Kuhn, Ph.D., Northridge, CA

Thelma Linda S. Lamorena, M.D., Los Angeles, CA

Louisa S. Levy, Durham, NC

John Paul Lock, M.D., Worcester, MA

Hajera Mahtab, M.D., Milano, Italy

Susan J. McCleery, Columbus, OH

Lester D. Michels, Ph.D., Bloomington, MN

Stewart A. Middler, M.D., Beverly Hills, CA

Robert S. Modlinger, M.D., East Orange, NJ

Lawrence M. Moher, M.D., Phoenix, AZ

Noreen H. Papatgodoron, Los Angeles, CA

Vicky F. Pryor, Hagerstown, MD

Ray V. Rajotte, M.D., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Solomon Rosenblatt, M.D., La Jolla, CA

Marilyn H. Swinea, R.N., Madison, TN

Klaus H. Usadel, M.D., Frankfurt, West Germany

Stanley R. Webb, Ph.D., Richmond, VA

Franklin B. Weil, M.D., Thousand Oaks, CA

Personals

DONALD F. STEINER, M.D., Department of Biochemistry, University of Chicago, received the 1979 Passano Award on April 23 for his work in hormone precursor research, which yielded the discovery of proinsulin (precursor of insulin in the body) and preproinsulin (precursor of proinsulin).

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JOHN WARDEN CLARK, M.D., Towson, Maryland, born in 1934.

VA ADMINISTRATIVE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Veterans Administration sponsors a special program to prepare outstanding individuals to assume leadership roles within the health care system. The program—VA Administrative Scholars Program—provides a minimal two-year opportunity for midcareer health professionals and is open to all qualified individuals from health and health-related professions. Each year, five individuals are selected. Financial support will equal present compensation, up to the limit of the Office of Personnel Management scale.

Program content is largely determined by the Scholars, who create their own self-directed plans dealing with major health care issues. Competition to date has been very rigorous. Applications for the 1980 program year are due November 1, 1979. For further information, please contact Executive Director, VA Administrative Scholars Program (107), Department of Medicine and Surgery, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20420; phone (202) 389-3588.