Eppinger Prize Goes To Dr. Purcell

Dr. Robert H. Purcell, chief of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases' Hepatitis Virus Section, will be awarded the Eppinger Prize for 1979 in Basel, Switzerland, on Oct. 5. The prize is awarded every 3 years by the Falk Foundation to an outstanding scientist in recognition of significant contributions to the study of liver disease. Dr. Purcell is the fourth recipient of this prestigious prize.

Viral Hepatitis Expert

An internationally recognized expert on viral hepatitis, Dr. Purcell will be presented the $5,000 prize by Dr. Hans Popper, professor of pathology, Mount Sinai Hospital, N.Y., at an international symposium on liver disease in Basel.

Dr. Purcell joined the NIAID in 1963 and since 1967 has spearheaded the Institute's intramural hepatitis research program. Working with other scientists, Dr. Purcell has developed an experimental vaccine for hepatitis B that is ready for human testing.

In addition, in 1973 he was the leader of

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National Institutes of Health

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U.S. Delegation Meets With Japanese Officials In Tokyo

NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson and Dr. John H. Bryant, Director of the PHS Office of International Health, were members of a delegation that met in mid-September with Japanese officials in Tokyo to discuss new or expanded initiatives in scientific cooperation.

The U.S. delegation was headed by Frank Press, Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Cooperative proposals considered included: recombinant DNA research, environmental toxicology and health, immunization, development of animal models for biomedical research, hypertension, nutrition and human development, connective tissue disease, and neurological/communicative disorders.

The continuation of research collaboration between the U.S. and Japan on the effects of ionizing radiation was also discussed.

Dr. Fredrickson leads the way at the beginning of Secretary Harris' NIH tour. See more about Secretary Harris' visit on page 12.

Vaughan Gives Mider Lecture Oct. 17

Dr. Martha Vaughan will deliver the G. Burroughs Mider Lecture on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 8:15 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium.

Dr. Vaughan, chief of the Laboratory of Cellular Metabolism since it was established in 1974.

Cellular Metabolism of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, will speak on the Regulation of Cyclic Nucleotide Metabolism.

For a number of years, Dr. Vaughan's laboratory has investigated those processes that regulate the biosynthesis and destruction of cyclic AMP and cyclic GMP, nucleotides that mediate the effects of many hormones, drugs, and other effectors, including bacterial toxins, on fundamental cellular functions.

Lab Studies Described

She and her colleagues have studied factors involved in the recognition of cholera toxin by the cells, as well as the enzymatic mechanism thought to be important in the activation of adenylate cyclase by choleragen, namely the AMP-ribosylation of adenylate cyclase or a regulatory protein of the adenylate cyclase system.

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Short Course in Medical Terminology Offered

A short course in Medical Terminology will be presented by the NIH Career Education Center (formerly Upward Mobility College) from 9 to 11 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, Oct. 15 through Nov. 19, in Bldg. 31.

The course, which requires no special knowledge of medical terms or anatomy and physiology, will teach students the elements of medical terms—their roots, prefixes, and suffixes.

Enrollment is open to all NIH employees. To register, submit an HEW 350 form to the Career Development Branch, DPM, Bldg. 31, Rm. B2C-39, by Oct. 10. The course offers two college credits, but may be taken without credit. For more information, call 496-6211.

Solar Energy Exhibits To Be Displayed

October is Solar Month and a program of demonstrations and exhibits by local manufacturers and distributors of solar equipment, and available solar technology will be presented, according to the NIH Solar Transition Committee.

The following organizations will participate:
Monday, Oct. 9
Nasatka and Sons, Inc.
Tuesday, Oct. 10
Futuristics Solar Systems Corp.
Tuesday, Oct. 16
Solar International

or 18
Solar Science Industries, Inc.

The exhibits will be on the lawn on the east side of Bldg. 37 and will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition, Nasatka and Sons, Inc. will have a slide presentation on Tuesday, Oct. 9, at noon in Bldg. 36, Rm. 18-11.

Fredrickson Heads CFC; Campaign Begins Soon

Drs. Fredrickson (l) and Lipsett review campaign materials for this year's drive.

The 1979 NIH Combined Federal Campaign has officially been set in motion with the announcement that Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director, will serve as chairman, and Dr. Mortimer B. Lipsett, Clinical Center Director, will be vice chairman.

Dr. Lipsett has appointed Lanny Newman, chief of the Office of Clinical Reports and Inquiries, CC, to act as campaign coordinator.

After the B/1/D coordinators and keypeople have been appointed, a training session will be held in early October, with the campaign scheduled to begin during the second or third week of October.

Applications Due Oct. 3 For Graduate Training In Administration

The Career Education Center (formerly the Upward Mobility College) is currently accepting applications for enrollment in its first series of graduate level courses. Closing date for applications is Oct. 3.

Staffed and taught by full-time faculty of the American University, these courses are designed to provide present and future NIH managers with an academic core of managerial experiences in Public Administration, Financial Management, Computer Science, Administration of Science, and Personnel Administration.

Classes meet once a week from 5:30 to begin the week of Oct. 8: centrally at no additional cost to B/V/D's or individuals and is administered by the Career Development Branch, DPM.

The following fall semester courses will begin the week of Oct. 8:
- Managerial Accounting and Budgeting
- Introduction to Organization Development
- Management of Research and Engineering
- Public Management

For more information, call the Career Development Branch, 496-6271.

The NIH Tennis Club will hold a meeting Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 11:30 a.m. in Conf. Rm. 4, Bldg. 31, to elect officers for next year. Nominations will be welcome.
Employee Help Needed To Fight Mail Costs

Almost everyone has an opinion about mail. It is a subject that is discussed every day at work and sometimes afterwards. In some ways the debate over mail is like trying to convince a bigot that he is wrong.

What to do about Government mail and how it should be handled at NIH was the topic discussed at a recent meeting by representatives of the NIH Mail Services Section, U.S. Postal Service, and newly designated B/1/D mail managers.

The meeting was called as the first step in the establishment of a mail managers system responsive to overall NIH mail requirements. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss better coordination of NIH's mail service and ways to bring down the cost of mailing. The meeting was conducted by Bill Arnwine, chief of the Travel and Administrative Services Branch, DAS.

Cost Has Doubled

During the day-long meeting, Mr. Arnwine told the B/1/D mail managers that "since the end of FY '77 the cost of mailing at NIH has doubled." He said that these costs in many cases have occurred because employees failed to understand how mail should be handled and addressed.

Overloaded boxes of misaddressed mail wait to be sorted.

EEO Advisory Council, Executive Board, Coordinators Elect New Chairmen

The NIH EEO Advisory Council elected Vivian A. Betton, EEO counselor of NINCDS, chairman for the next term. Ms. Betton is a histopathologist in the Clinical Neurosciences Branch.

Louella Thomas, NLM technical information specialist and an EEO counselor, was elected chairman of the executive board.

The NIH EEO coordinators elected Erskine Davis, NIMH, as chairman. Mr. Davis who came to NIH from the military service 15 years ago, is associated deputy EEO officer, NIMH/IRP.

Brenda Watts, newly elected recorder of the EEO coordinators, has been at DRS since February 1977.

Anyone wishing to attend a council meeting, or to present an agenda item, should contact a member of the executive board.

Council meetings are held on alternate Wednesdays, the day after payday.

FAES Chamber Music Series Opens With Orpheus Ensemble

The first concert in the 1979-80 Chamber Music Series will feature the Orpheus Ensemble on Sunday, Oct. 14, at 4 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium.

The concert is sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences. Admission is by ticket only.

Although Mr. Thompson's example was extreme, he got his message across to the mail managers who will now be briefing employees and answering their questions about how mail is handled at their different Bureaus, Institutes, and Divisions.

The NIH Mail Services Section does not provide stamps for envelopes. "You'd be surprised! We still get mail from people who think that we put stamps on," he told the group.

"It will be returned," said Gwen Gardner, U.S. Postal Service representative, who briefed the B/1/D mail managers and informed them that, as of July 15, the U.S. Post Office was returning Government mail sent in improperly sized mailing envelopes. She also told the group that an additional surcharge will be incurred. The USPS now requires that mail be sent out in 3½ by 5-inch envelopes.

Each of the B/1/D mail managers was given letter-size mail dimensional standard templates while at the meeting. Ms. Gardner said that these templates should be used before a letter is sent out and to answer any questions as to the proper letter size.

Ms. Gardner also suggested that for large mailings the B/1/D's present their mail by zip code before mailing. "By you doing some of the work first, you'll save money," she said, adding that if the B/1/D's at NIH sent their bulk mailings out third class the cost would be cut in half.

Other suggestions that came out of the meeting were that the B/1/D's review their use of preprinted address labels. Many of these labels are out of date, and people to whom they are addressed are no longer there. There was also discussion on how to improve mail scheduling between the Mail Services Section and the B/1/D's.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Arnwine again reminded the B/1/D mail managers to encourage their fellow workers to use NIH's zip code 20205, fill out their return address labels, and to make them aware of mailing changes and be able to help other employees when a mailing question comes up.

Feel Great—Join Rhythmic Exercise Classes

Start the work week feeling great through a conditioning program designed to burn calories, firm hips, thighs, and abdominal muscles while increasing efficiency of the heart and lungs.

Rhythmic exercise classes, which started yesterday (Oct. 1) and will continue through Dec. 3, are being taught by Judy Eberhart, a fitness specialist from California who has performed and served as a consultant in South America and the U.S.

To join the classes, held in the Clinical Center, Rm. 15-207, on Mondays, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at a cost of $22, register at the NIH R&W office, Bldg. 31, Rm. 1A-18.
STEP Owes Its Success to People Who Run It

The first thing you notice when discussing STEP with the people who run it is their enthusiasm for the program. They use words like “innovative,” “dynamic,” “critical,” and “successful” to describe Staff Training in Extramural Programs.

The program they are referring to provides continuing education for the extramural personnel at NIH.

STEP serves two purposes, according to Dr. William Raub, who, as NIH Associate Director for Extramural Research and Training, directs the program. It introduces new and prospective extramural personnel to the dynamics and characteristics of the extramural operations at NIH, and it enables those already in extramural programs to broaden their interests and familiarize themselves with problems or activities not present in their immediate jobs.

Conceived in the early 1960’s, STEP has evolved into a well-organized, tightly run program that served over 1,200 people last year.

The need for STEP arose partly because of the unique nature and complexity of NIH. “You must understand the organization of NIH and its way of doing business before you can make improvements in the extramural programs, and you can’t learn this anywhere outside of NIH,” explains Dr. Zora Griffo, Special Programs Officer in the Office of Extramural Research and Training coordinator for STEP. The educational activities offered through STEP are tailored to the needs of NIH’s extramural programs staff, she says.

The topics covered in the training program are selected by a committee of extramural personnel who volunteer their time to run STEP. Their efforts are essential to the program. “While STEP gets strong support from my office, it’s really the volunteers who make it happen,” says Dr. Raub.

Committee members are appointed by Dr. Raub for 3-year terms. This year, the committee of 20 regular and 4 ex officio members is chaired by Dr. Anthony René, acting chief, Blood Resources and Transplantation Branch, NHLBI. Dr. Dennis Cain, Division of Cancer Research Resources and Centers, NCI, is vice chairman.

The activities planned by the committee for 1979-80 include four 1- or 2-day short courses, called modules; a 1-day seminar, and the STEP Forum, a discussion series of 2-hour and ½-day sessions.

STEP is a dynamic program, says Dr. Griffo. “The committee is always experimenting with different topics and innovative ways of presenting subject matter.” All of the modules being offered this year are new, with the exception of the first one.

An effort is made to determine whether STEP is meeting the needs of NIH’s extramural staff, says Dr. Cain. “A committee member is assigned to each module to evaluate participants’ acceptance of the course,” he explains.

Continuing education credit is given for the modules and ½-day forums, and pre-registration is required for these events. STEP modules are designed primarily for health scientist administrators and business management staff concerned with grant and contract programs. Although enrollment preference is given to extramural personnel, other NIH employees, especially intramural scientists planning administrative careers, are invited to apply. The seminar and forums are open to everyone at NIH.

The first module offered during 1979-80—Introduction to the Extramural Programs of the NIH—is being offered twice, once on Dec. 10-11, and again on May 15-16. The deadline for applications is Oct. 19 for the first session and Jan. 18 for the second session.

Program Evaluation for Rational Choices, which will be held Feb. 12, will introduce participants to the process of evaluating scientific programs in order to set priorities and make the best use of resources. The deadline for applying for this module is Oct. 19.

Grants and Contracts: Institutional Perspectives will be held April 21-23. Staffed by representatives from grantee and contractor institutions and from the senior staff at NIH, this module will explore the impact of NIH policies and practices on institutions. The deadline for applications is Jan. 18.

How To Exploit NIH Information Systems will introduce participants to the information systems and data bases available at NIH and show them how to use these services. The course, which is not intended to be a sophisticated course in the computer sciences, will be held May 1-2. The deadline for registration is Jan. 18.

The seminar scheduled for this year, Behavioral Sciences in Health and Illness: 1980 Version, will focus on how behavioral and social science research can contribute to a broader understanding of health and illness. Reservations for the April 8 seminar are encouraged, though not required. They should be made by Feb. 29.

The STEP Forum is a flexible series covering topics ranging from those of immediate operational concern to those of broad
is the Pressure Getting to You? Learn To Relax in R&W Course

Stress is an unavoidable part of our daily lives. Described by Hans Selye as the body's nonspecific physiological response to any demand, it can be triggered by a number of things: presenting a paper before a large group, meeting a deadline, commuting in bumper-to-bumper traffic, or asking for a promotion, to name a few.

Learning to control the stress brought on by these and other situations is the subject of a 6-week, R&W-sponsored course called Stress Management—An Introduction being offered at NIH beginning Friday, Oct. 12. Anita H. King, a psychotherapist with 15 years' clinical experience, will teach the course.

A certain amount of stress helps us meet the demands placed upon us, explains Ms. King. But sometimes, she warns, we continue the stress response after it has accomplished its goal, and this leads to excessive stress, or distress. In the distressed state, our ability to function well physically and mentally is impaired. "We all have the ability to relax and allow our minds and bodies to function well," she says. "But in some instances we just can't pull it off." In the course, Ms. King will teach students to manage stress, keeping it as close as possible to optimal levels.

"There has been a lot of research in recent years in the area of behavioral medicine, some of which applies to helping healthy people such as athletes, scientists, executives, and upwardly mobile women feel even healthier," she says.

Using the results of this research, Ms. King will help students learn to reduce excessive tension during high-stress situations, to stay calm in panic situations, to increase control over their own attention in order to keep their minds from wandering, and to improve the quality of their sleep.

She will do this by introducing powerful, yet simple, techniques for relaxing under pressure. Ms. King describes the techniques:

- Regulated breathing, an exercise borrowed from yoga, is slow, diaphragmatic breathing with relatively short inhalations and protracted exhalations.
- Progressive relaxation relaxes the muscles throughout the body in a progressive fashion. The technique consists of alternatingly tensing and releasing a group of muscles until they become relaxed, then moving on to the next.
- Autogenic training uses self-suggestion to influence your own bodily state so as to quickly relax the muscles and allow the inner organs to function at optimum efficiency.

Meditation, the process of focusing your awareness on a single thought, sound, or mental image, quiets the mind and dispels anxiety.

Subtle physical exercises which can be practiced throughout the day reduce the build-up of needless muscle tension.

"Some of these techniques have been around for centuries, and some were developed early in this century, but their efficacy has only been documented in the last decade," says Ms. King.

Each technique will be explained and practiced in class. Ms. King anticipates that each student will select several techniques that are both comfortable and effective. The student can then design an individualized stress management plan for coping with brief crisis situations and for control of chronic stress.

About 40 minutes of practice scattered throughout the day is recommended to achieve significant results, says Ms. King. The practice can be done almost anywhere, without any special equipment, she adds.

Ms. King will provide a short bibliography for students interested in the theory and physiology underlying the techniques. She will also use biofeedback instruments to illustrate graphically how people can influence the tension of specific muscles and other physiological responses to stress.

The course is aimed at achievers and winners, says Ms. King. "We're not training to be beach bums, but to be more efficient and productive by eliminating overreaction to the pressures of our daily lives." The object is to manage stress, not avoid it, she says.

Stress Management will be held on Fridays, beginning Oct. 12, from 12:05 to 12:50 p.m. in Bldg. 31. The cost is $35. Preregistration is required, so sign up now at the R&W Activities Desk. Skeptics are welcome!

Molecular Approaches to Vaccine Development Topic of Oct. 10 Symposium

A symposium on Molecular Approaches to Vaccine Development, sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, will be held Wednesday, Oct. 10, in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1, beginning at 9 a.m.

Fogarty Scholar Charles Stuart-Harris, emeritus professor of medicine at the University of Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England, will moderate the meeting, which will explore the use of recombinant DNA technology in vaccine development.

Three disease areas will be discussed specifically—influenza, by Dr. Ching-Juh Lai of NIAID; hepatitis, by Dr. Alem Siddiqui of Stanford University; and bacterial diseases, by Dr. Stanley Falkow of the University of Washington, Seattle.

Dr. Daniel Hamer of NIAID will discuss eucaryotic vector systems.

The afternoon session will include a discussion led by panelists Dr. Bernard Fields, Harvard Medical School; Dr. Malcolm Martin, NIAID; Dr. Mylan, McCarty, Rockefeller University; Dr. Daniel Nathans, Johns Hopkins University; and Dr. John B. Robbins, FDA's Bureau of Biologics.

This program is being held in conjunction with a meeting of the board of scientific counselors, which advises the NIAID intramural research program.

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Health's Angels Anniversary Run Attracts Runners of All Ages

Timers were in hand, flags were posted, orange traffic cones marked the course clearly, and the park police were on hand to keep the 122 joggers from cars along the 10-mile Rock Creek Park course, for the fourth anniversary run of the NIH Health's Angels Jogging Club.

"Runners" and "sitters" and their families gathered at the Ken-Gar Recreation Center to enjoy a sunny morning and to find out how well they would do against other joggers.

Not all of the runners at the event were serious, some were there to collect memories rather than T-shirts. A festive atmosphere was generated by impromptu registration before each event and from the witty color commentary from club president Al Lewis. With a starting pistol in one hand and a bull horn in the other, Lewis commented on individual performances and times and bellowed out information on past records.

The day began with an enthusiastic 1-mile run for children under the age of 10. Natasha Colombant led a field of 30 runners for the third consecutive year with a time of 7:10. But it was little 3-year-old Lindsay Schulz running alongside of her father, Dr. Charles Schulz, who stole the glory for her effort. Other top finishers in the 1-mile run included: Matt Fried, Nico Colombant, Garth Troxell, and Carrie Fried.

A 2-mile fun run gave some mothers, fathers, and older children a chance to try out their new running shoes. John Lynn Reese led a field of some 40 runners with a time of 11:35. Other top finishers included: Cecil Harris, Rick Davey, Butch Proctor, and Al Lewis.

Washington Post columnist and resident jogger, Colman McCarthy, fresh from the 2-mile run and a 6.2-mile run with President Carter on the previous day, joined a field of runners in the traditional 10-mile run through the park. Paul Rapioni won the event with a time of 54:00. He was followed closely by Max White and Bob Stack.

Jerry Moore was the first NIH finisher, finishing fifth with a time of 56:12. Other top NIH finishers included: Dr. Charles Schulz, Dr. James Sylvester, and Dr. Marc Lippman, who finished 7th, 10th, and 11th.

Ann Ballard was the first NIH female finisher, crossing the line with a time of 82:14.

Gift certificates and commemorative ribbons were awarded to the top finishers in each event. A number of zany but traditional "unbody" awards were made to those runners with the fastest times and bodies with a 2.5 or greater ratio of height to weight. Bill Solier set a new "unbody" record with a finishing time of 63:10.

The anniversary run completes a remarkably successful year for the Health's Angels Jogging Club, a year that has included sparkling team performances in the Bethesda-Chase and the Cherry Blossom Classic; 2nd and 3rd place finishes in the Potomac Valley Seniors' 16-mile relay; an unprecedented 3rd place finish in the recent Runner's World East Coast 24-Hour Relay; and the coordination of the popular annual NIH Institute Relay.

Many club members are now turning their attention to the rigors of marathon training as they prepare for several marathons that are scheduled in the fall. Among them are the New York and the U.S. Marine Corps marathons.

During the next few weeks the Health's Angels 1979-80 membership drive will begin. Membership applications and entry forms for a variety of upcoming running events are available at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31, Rm. A1-18.

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EXERCISE--Good and Bad

“An exercise is important because it helps you to change the things (in your life) that are not good for you,” says Dr. Crystal, referring to the almost automatic change people make as a result of their exercising. People become more conscious of their diet, drink more fluids, stop smoking, and are able to sleep more soundly.

Disease risk factors for certain illnesses such as heart attacks and hypertension are reduced for people who exercise. “I’ve seen it in people who run,” says Dr. Crystal, noting that exercise is important in research for understanding how body gases are transferred from one part of the body to another.

Dr. Crystal is jogging, an exercise that gets top marks from him for “getting in shape” and an endeavor that he participates in daily. Dr. Crystal, who has run three times in the Boston Marathon, is an expert on cell function in healthy lungs and what changes occur when something goes wrong, particularly, in lung diseases such as sarcoidosis and emphysema.

He says that the best exercises are those that increase a person’s heart rate and correspondingly increase oxygen consumption. Running, swimming, and cross country skiing are excellent cardiovascular conditioning sports.

Sometimes when people start back exercising they “try to do too much too quickly,” he says. A person should slowly work their way back into exercising regularly. Dr. Crystal recommends that people take several months to work themselves up to a regular exercise program of 3 to 5 hours a week and that they should increase their exercise only 10 percent each week. Much of Dr. Crystal’s lecture will be on the “mechanical problems” of the body when it exercises and what happens to the muscles, bones, and tissues.

“Exercise is important because it helps you to change the things (in your life) that are not good for you,” says Dr. Crystal, referring to the almost automatic change people make as a result of their exercising. People become more conscious of their diet, drink more fluids, stop smoking, and are able to sleep more soundly.

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Learn Not To Burn!
Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 7-13

Oct. 7-13 is Fire Prevention Week. Learn not to burn! Be a partner in fire prevention.

Each person can help by keeping accumulations of burnables at a minimum. Get rid of old papers, boxes, and nearly empty containers of flammable liquids. If you use flammable liquids in your work area, reduce the amount stored to a 2-day supply.

Keep lamp and appliance cords in good condition. Never run electric cords across doorways—walking on them damages the insulation and leaves bare wires which could start a fire. Don’t plug too many cords in one outlet. Have additional outlets installed.

Develop an evacuation program. Basic steps should include two evacuation routes. Quickly leave the area by the safest route. Select a meeting place, well away from the emergency scene, where everyone is to gather to “count noses.”

Remember, “Partnership in Fire Prevention” means cooperating with your Fire Department.

Dr. John Macdonald joins NCI

Dr. John S. Macdonald, specialist in immunotherapy and gastrointestinal cancers, has been appointed associate director of the Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program in the NCI Division of Cancer Treatment.

For the last 5 years Dr. Macdonald, author of more than 50 scientific articles, has been an assistant professor of clinical oncology at Georgetown University.

He worked at NCI in the Medicine Branch and the Immunology Branch from 1971 to 1974.

A 1969 graduate of Harvard Medical School, Dr. Macdonald replaces Dr. Franco Muggia, who is now clinical director of the cancer center at New York University Medical Center.
Women Must Decide for Themselves Whether or Not To Take Estrogens

By Maureen Mylander

The question of whether or not to take estrogens, in view of the reported benefits and hazards of these drugs, is one that the country's 31 million postmenopausal women must ultimately decide for themselves.

This conclusion was reached by a panel of experts and audience participants at the NIH Consensus Development Conference on Estrogen Use and Postmenopausal Women held here Sept. 13-14.

As the conference ended, Dr. Kenneth J. Ryan, conference chairman and chief of staff at the Boston Hospital for Women, told members of the press that if drugs containing the female sex hormone estrogen are used for menopausal symptoms, they should be administered for the shortest possible time, in the smallest possible dose.

The conference, sponsored by the National Institute on Aging, was coordinated by Drs. Joan Cornoni-Huntley, Barbara Gastel, and Jacob A. Brody of NIA.

Public Views Heard

The consensus report that emerged from the conference was based on the views of 3 speakers who presented papers on the benefits and risks of estrogen, 10 panelists representing various professional organizations, and dozens of audience members who commented upon the estrogen dilemma.

The report confirmed that estrogens alleviate hot flushes and sweating, but noted that these symptoms naturally decline over time. About half of postmenopausal women experience varying degrees of these vasomotor symptoms, which are not generally considered harmful to physical health. Symptoms of vaginal atrophy, such as dryness, itching, and painful intercourse, also respond to estrogen therapy.

Estrogens, the report noted, can prevent or arrest bone loss which presumably leads to osteoporosis, a thinning of bone and an important disease among older women. Thus estrogens might help prevent fractures, but there is no conclusive proof that the drugs actually do. Nor, as once hoped, do estrogens appear to relieve psychological problems sometimes attributed to the menopause, or delay skin changes and other visible signs of aging.

The primary known risk of estrogen use is endometrial cancer, which is four to eight times more common among menopausal estrogen users. The risk seems to rise about 2 years after therapy begins, to increase the longer estrogens are used, and to decline to that of nonusers about 2 years after estrogens are discontinued.

Endometrial Cancer Curable

However, endometrial cancer is curable in most cases and deaths from this disease are declining. A woman who has already undergone hysterectomy cannot develop endometrial cancer because she has no uterus.

The consensus group expressed concern about breast cancer, especially since animal studies have long suggested a link, but found no convincing evidence that estrogens cause breast cancer in humans. Other findings:

- There is no convincing evidence that estrogens in customary doses influence the risk of developing ovarian cancer or cardiovascular disease, but these possibilities require further research.
- Vaginally administered estrogens may be safer than those administered by mouth because estrogens in these creams appear to be absorbed quickly into the bloodstream.

A clear area of agreement was that women and their physicians need full information about the pros and cons of estrogen use, and must be kept abreast of new findings as they arise.

Oral Contraceptives Increase Risk

Oral contraceptives—which also contain estrogens but are prescribed in higher doses and contain other female sex hormones whose hazards are even less well understood than postmenopausal use of estrogens—were found to increase the risk of cardiovascular disease. Animal studies suggested that estrogens may cause breast cancer, but in studies of humans this association has not been found. Since late 1975, several studies have supported the previously suspected link between postmenopausal estrogen use and endometrial cancer.

Meanwhile, other evidence suggested that estrogens have long-term benefits. The consensus conference on estrogens represents the latest attempt to resolve these risks and benefits.

(See Page 9)
Medicine for Layman Series

Latecomers had to be turned away at the Sept. 18 Medicine for the Layman lecture on Sleep and Dreams. Dr. J. Christian Gillin's talk was a sellout, with both the Masur Auditorium and the 14th floor assembly hall filled.

Exercise—Good and Bad by Dr. Ronald Crystal promises to be just as popular. Tonight (Oct. 2) he will discuss the benefits and potential hazards of exercise.

Dr. Butler speaks to members of the press at the conclusion of the conference on estrogen use.

(Continued from Page 8)

The National Institute on Aging is actively exploring the use of estrogens for menopausal symptoms and osteoporosis, the physical and psychological nature of menopause itself, and other topics of concern to older women.

Summaries of the consensus conference and its recommendations are available from the Information Office, National Institute on Aging, 496-1752 or 496-2947.

Kathy Kowalczyk Dies; At NIH Since 1972

Kathy Kowalczyk, 35, administrative officer of the field studies and statistics program in NCI's Division of Cancer Cause and Prevention since 1977, died of cancer on Sept. 22 in Bethesda.

Mrs. Kowalczyk came to NIH in 1972 as a public information specialist for the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. In 1975, she entered the NIH management internship program and subsequently served 2 years as administrative officer of the Division of Research Resources.

A resident of Gaithersburg, Md., Mrs. Kowalczyk was born in Milwaukee, Wis., and received a B.A. degree in journalism at the University of Wisconsin in 1969. She also did graduate work at Michigan State University.

Survivors include her husband, Daniel J. Duggan, of Gaithersburg; her mother, Elinor Kowalczyk, sister, Therese Hendrichs, and brother, Frank Kowalczyk, all still residing in Wisconsin.

Edith Phillips, Innovative AO, Retires

Edith Phillips, administrative officer of the NCI Division of Cancer Research Resources and Centers, has retired after 19 years with NCI and a total of 31 years of Government service.

Mrs. Phillips, who has been administrative officer since 1970, began work at NCI in 1960 as a special assistant to the associate director of Grants and Training.

Considered an innovator by her co-workers, she received the first NIH Merit Award in 1977 for her work during the computerization of the grants program. She has also received three awards for the general excellence of her work.

"My job has had great significance for me," Mrs. Phillips said. "I enjoyed working with the people and witnessing the progress we made. It has all been very fulfilling."

Mrs. Phillips has a long history of involvement with charitable and religious community organizations. Along with her late husband, Aaron, Mrs. Phillips established the Help for Retarded Children Organization. They also were responsible for founding the first sheltered workshop for handicapped children in the Washington, D.C. area.

Mrs. Phillips said that she intends to become even more active in community projects now that she has retired. Travel will also occupy some of her time in the near future; she is soon leaving to visit her son, Stuart, an orthopedic surgeon in Phoenix, Ariz.

After attending George Washington University and Price School of Journalism in

HEW Ethics Advisory Board Hears Public Testimony On FOI Act

Members of the HEW Ethics Advisory Board heard public testimony Sept. 14 and 15 concerning proposed exemptions to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. The meeting was held in the Hubert H. Humphrey Building in Washington, D.C.

At a previous meeting, NIH had proposed to protect from disclosure preliminary or unvalidated data from clinical trials and observational epidemiological studies. The Center for Disease Control had proposed that the Public Health Service Act be amended to be able to give assurances of confidentiality to hospitals making data available about infections in those hospitals.

Professors Make Analyses

Seven public witnesses presented views for and against the proposals. The Board also heard analyses from law and philosophy professors.

The Board will consider additional information, to be provided by the two agencies, NIH and CDC, at the next meeting scheduled Nov. 15-16. Written statements will be accepted from others at any time. Those interested may call the Board's communications liaison, Amanda MacKenzie, 496-7776.
Dr. Purcell will receive his prestigious award at an international symposium on liver disease in Basel.

Recently, Dr. Purcell and his colleagues presented evidence that at least two unidentified viruses may be responsible for the so-called non-A, non-B hepatitis.

Dr. Purcell received the 1977 Gorgas Medal from the Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S. and in 1978 was presented the DHEW Distinguished Service Medal.

The NIH chapter of the Federal Managers Association, under the leadership of the Supervisor and the New Concepts in Labor Management Relations, will host a luncheon seminar on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 11:30 a.m., in the FAES Bldg., located at Old Georgetown Road and Cedar Lane.

The theme of the meeting will be the Supervisor and the New Concepts in Labor Management Relations, to be followed by presentations on Slow Viruses, by Dr. Arthur Bonnet, and on the significance of influenza as a cause of death and disability, by John La Montagne.

For full details, contact Manuel S. Barbeito, conference chairman, 496-1862.

Amantadine Hydrochloride Topic of Consensus Meeting

The role of the antiviral drug amantadine hydrochloride used for the prevention and treatment of influenza will be the subject of an upcoming NIH consensus development conference, sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Oct. 15-16.

Every few years new variants of influenza viruses appear quickly, leaving little time for mass production and distribution of new vaccines before they cause widespread outbreaks. Influenza can be life-threatening, especially for high-risk individuals.

Chemotherapeutic agents, such as amantadine, are currently under investigation as another approach to controlling this all too familiar disease. Amantadine is currently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the prevention and symptomatic management of respiratory tract illness caused by influenza A virus strains.

Although amantadine has not been widely prescribed by physicians, several studies have demonstrated its effectiveness in preventing influenza. Amantadine has been shown to reduce not only the incidence, but also the duration and severity of illness caused by influenza A viruses.

At the NIAID meeting, experts in virology and infectious diseases will consider the significance of influenza as a cause of death and disability, as well as current approaches to prevention and treatment. They will also review and evaluate clinical data on amantadine, including side effects, in an effort to assess its potential benefits and risks.

On the second day of the meeting, the panel, chaired by Dr. Jay P. Sanford, dean, School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, will attempt to reach a consensus on who should take amantadine, when it should be administered, and what role, if any, it has in combination with influenza vaccines or alone. The consensus will take the form of specific guidelines to assist physicians in the use of amantadine.

The conference will be held on the second floor of the Masur Auditorium from 8:45 a.m. to 8:55 p.m., Oct. 15, and from 10:30 a.m. to noon on Oct. 16.

For more information, contact Dr. Joseph Maccio, 496-3291.
Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee Recommends Easing of NIH Guidelines

One of the recommendations approved by the Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee, which met at NIH Sept. 6-7, would reduce to the P1 level of physical containment recombinant DNA experiments using E. coli K-12 bacteria, with such experiments to be subject to oversight by local institutional biosafety committees.

The committee submitted this and other recommendations concerning DNA research guidelines to Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director, who is expected to announce his decision shortly. During the proceedings, Dr. Fredrickson met briefly with the committee.

Industrial Concerns Make Requests

The committee also considered voluntary requests by Eli Lilly and Company and Genentech, Inc., for NIH endorsement of their plans to conduct recombinant DNA experiments using quantities of material in excess of 10 liters.

These were the first formal requests from industrial concerns for NIH endorsement of large scale uses of the recombinant DNA techniques. Earlier, a Pharmaceutical Manu-

facturers Association spokesman told the committee that the half dozen member firms conducting recombinant DNA research had agreed to comply voluntarily with the NIH guidelines.

5 New Members Appointed

Prior to the meeting, five new members were appointed: Dr. Winston J. Brill, professor of bacteriology, department of bacteriology, University of Wisconsin; Dr. Jean L. Harris, secretary of human resources, Commonwealth of Virginia, Office of Governor; and Dr. Werner K. Maas, professor of microbiology, department of microbiology, New York University School of Medicine.

Also, Dr. James O. Mason, executive director, Utah State Department of Health; and Dr. Elena O. Nightingale, director, division of health promotion and disease, and senior professional associate, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences.

The next quarterly meeting of the Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee will be held at NIH Dec. 6-7.

ADP-ribosylation Reactions Will Be Focus Of Internat'l Meeting

An international conference on Novel ADP-ribosylations of Regulatory Enzymes and Proteins will be held Oct. 22-24 in Conf. Rm. 10, Bldg. 31. Organizers of the meeting are Dr. Mark Smulson, department of biochemistry and Lombardi Cancer Center, Georgetown University Medical School, and Dr. Takashi Sugimura, National Cancer Research Institute of Tokyo and current Fogarty Scholar-in-Residence.

ADP-ribosylation reactions, utilizing the substrate NAD, are becoming recognized as ubiquitous biochemical mechanisms of protein modification in both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. The ADP-ribosylation reactions to be discussed at this meeting range from chromatin modification to alteration of membrane proteins involved in cyclic AMP metabolism.

Precise Functions Unknown

The nuclear enzyme poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase catalyzes the successive transfer of ADP-ribose groups from NAD to form chains of the polymer, poly(ADP-ribose), which is covalently attached to various nuclear proteins. Although the precise biochemical functions are not known, it has been implicated in a number of significant nuclear reactions, including chromatin superstructure, regulation of DNA synthesis and repair, cell multiplication, and cell transformation and differentiation.

Accordingly, a variety of sessions are planned, including those on the physiochemical properties of the polymer, the chemical nature of the linkage between poly(ADP-ribose) and histone, enzymes which catalyze the formation and degradation of poly(ADP-

Kinyoun Lecturer Dr. Choppin To Speak on Host Proteases, Virus Virulence

Dr. Purnell W. Choppin, professor at Rockefeller University and senior physician at the Rockefeller University Hospital, will deliver the third Kinyoun Lecture Tuesday, Oct. 9, at 4 p.m. in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall.

Dr. Choppin, a noted virologist whose research is primarily concerned with the influenza and parainfluenza viruses, will discuss Host Proteases and Virus Virulence: The Unkindest Cut.

Dr. Krause Originates Series

The Kinyoun Lecture series was established by Dr. Richard Krause, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, to bring in outstanding scientists to speak on the interdependence of infection and immunity.

The series honors Dr. Joseph J. Kinyoun who established the infectious disease research laboratory that evolved into NIH.

Dr. Choppin's main research interest is influenza and parainfluenza viruses.

DR. VAUGHAN (Continued from Page 1)

They have described effects of hormones and cyclic AMP and cyclic GMP, and have studied regulation of specific phosphodies-

terases, enzymes responsible for the degradation of cyclic AMP and cyclic GMP, and have studied characteristics and properties of specific enzymes involved in the biosynthesis and metabolism of cyclic nucleotides.

Dr. Vaughan, who received her M.D. degree from Yale University School of Medicine in 1949, began her career at NIH in 1952 as a research fellow in the Laboratory of Cellular Physiology, National Heart Institute.

She worked as a member of the research staff in that laboratory until 1968, when she was chosen to head the Section on Metabolism in the Molecular Disease Branch of the National Heart and Lung Institute, and in 1974 she assumed her present post.

Reminder—Final Orientation Oct. 12

The final orientation on the new merit pay system will be held on Friday, Oct. 12, at 10 a.m. in the Masur Auditorium.
Secretary Harris Visits NIH

Introducing HEW Secretary Patricia Roberts Harris when she spoke in the Masur Auditorium on Sept. 12, NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson said she was "paying us a tremendous honor" because NIH was the first agency in the huge HEW galaxy she visited.

"What I have seen and heard here today strengthens my convictions about the overwhelming importance of the work of the National Institutes of Health," Secretary Harris told the NIH employees.

"You may rest assured that I am not only, along with the rest of the world, a beneficiary of your work, but also, as Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, I will be an active friend and advocate.

"I do not need to be convinced of the importance of maintaining high standards, and you will find that I understand the need to protect the integrity of research," she said.

Photos by Gary Best