

Larson Receives 2005 de Hevesy Award

Steven M. Larson, MD, chief of the nuclear medicine service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Institute (New York, NY) was awarded the 2005 SNM Georg Charles de Hevesy Nuclear Pioneer Award for his distinguished contributions to nuclear medicine. The award was presented on June 19 in Toronto, Canada, during the 52nd annual meeting of the Society. Larson, a noted authority on targeted radiotherapy and molecular imaging, is a coleader of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Institute Imaging and Radiation Sciences Bridge Program and Animal Imaging Core Facility. Larson, who is director of radiology research in the department of radiology and director of the PET Center at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), is also a professor of radiology at Cornell University's Weill Medical College.

Each year, SNM presents the de Hevesy Award to an individual or individuals for outstanding contributions to the field of nuclear medicine. de Hevesy, widely recognized as one of the originators of the field of nuclear medicine, was the author of seminal books and papers on radiochemistry and the recipient of the 1943 Nobel Prize in chemistry for his investigation of the absorption, distribution, metabolism, and elimination of radioactive compounds in the human body. This research laid the foundation for nuclear medicine in diagnosis and therapy.

"Dr. Larson's research, which spans 3 decades, has resulted in many novel findings, especially in understanding cancer," said 2004-2005 SNM President Mathew L. Thakur, PhD. "As an expert on translational aspects of nuclear medicine, this distinguished scientist has made significant contributions to the advancement

of PET. While conducting cutting-edge research in targeted therapy and related molecular imaging, Dr. Larson continues to be heavily involved in teaching, administration and clinical care. It is fitting that the 2005 Georg Charles de Hevesy Nuclear Pioneer Award be added to Dr. Larson's impressive list of accomplishments and honors."

Larson's clinical interests focus on the use of PET for diagnostic and molecular imaging and on radiotargeted therapy, particularly for thyroid cancer. His research in the detection of colorectal cancer has been successfully applied in the treatment of patients with advanced tumors, and he has tackled the problems of antibody production, radiolabeling, humanization of the antibody, minimizing host immune response, and developing methodologies to quantify response. Using ^{14}C -labeled media and a sensitive radiodetector system, he was able to rapidly identify bacterial and cell growth, a technology that is used widely today for detecting mycobacterium tuberculosis, including assessing drug sensitivities.

He was recruited to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 1983, in part to establish a state-of-the-art PET center for NIH researchers. His success in this endeavor led in 1987 to an NIH Directors Medal, which he shared with project colleagues. Larson, who received his medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine and served his residency at Virginia Mason Hospital (Seattle), is the recipient of a number of research grants from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the U.S. Army, and the National Cancer Institute. He was awarded the Wylie medal of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for his contributions to the development of radiopharmaceutical regulations. Other awards include the Louise and Lionel Berman Foundation award for accomplishments in the field of nuclear medicine involving the peaceful use of atomic energy, the Ralph G. Robinson Lecture Award of the American College of Nuclear Physicians, the Berson-Yalow Award from the SNM, the G.V. de Hevesy Lecture/Medal of the European Society of Nuclear Medicine, the Pendergrass Award of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), the Henry Wagner Award from the SNM, the Sabarhai Memorial Lecture/Medal of the Indian Society of Nuclear Medicine, honorary fellowship in the Brazilian Society of Radiology, and the Elis Berven Lecture/Medal of the Swedish Society of Medical Oncology. Larson was also named Radiology Researcher of the Year by the RSNA in 2004.

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Steven Larson (left), William Strauss, MD, and Mathew Thakur at the presentation of the Georg de Hevesy Award.

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Larson has authored or coauthored 430 manuscripts in major peer-reviewed journals, including *Science*, *Nature Medicine*, *Nature Biotechnology*, *Radiology*, the *New England Journal of Medicine*, and *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*. He has also served on several governmental advisory committees and study sections at the NIH, the DOE, and FDA. He currently serves on the Biologic, Environmental Research Advisory Committee (BERAC) of the DOE and the Advisory Committee of the Department of Life Sciences for Brookhaven National Laboratory.

"I am deeply honored by this awesome recognition and to be identified with the giants in nuclear medicine who have received this award before me," said Larson, who expressed his appreciation to friends, colleagues, collaborators, and family members. "The current nuclear medicine trainees at MSKCC, both residents and fellows, provide enthusiasm and energy that continuously regenerate a creative clinical and research environment. I have no doubt that one day, some of these fine scientists will make their indelible marks on our field." ❀

Aebersold Award Presented to Goldenberg

David M. Goldenberg, ScD, MD, founder and president of the Garden State Cancer Center and the Center for Molecular Medicine and Immunology (Belleville, NJ), received the 2005 Paul C. Aebersold Award for outstanding achievement in basic science applied to nuclear medicine on June 19 at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the SNM, held in Toronto, Canada.

The Aebersold Award is named for Paul C. Aebersold, a pioneer in the biologic and medical application of radioactive materials and the first director of the Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Isotope Development at Oak Ridge, Tenn. The first Aebersold Award was given by SNM in 1973. "I am humbled to be among these giants of nuclear medicine," said Goldenberg. "I am especially grateful to the society for recognizing me, a nonnuclear physician, for my contributions to basic science applied to nuclear medicine. Science often takes us down unpredictable paths, and I certainly did not plan to conduct nuclear medicine research when I embarked on cancer biology, pathology, immunology, and genetics."

Goldenberg pioneered the development of radiolabeled antibodies for various applications in the detection, diagnosis, and therapy of cancer. Under his leadership, scientists and clinicians at the Garden State Cancer Center have developed antibodies for the diagnosis, detection, and treatment of solid tumors such as colorectal, pancreatic, lung, breast, and ovarian cancers, as well as hematologic cancers such as lymphoma and multiple myeloma. He has overseen the in-house clinic as well as clinical outreach at affiliated institutions in the United States and Europe for treatment of cancer patients with radiolabeled antibodies. He also helped develop 2 diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals marketed by Immunomedics Inc., which he established in 1982. He is also the president and chief executive officer of CMMI, a not-for-profit, independent, specialized research center that focuses on the development of biological strategies to detect and treat cancer and immunological diseases.

Over the past 30 years, Goldenberg has been a major contributor to knowledge of the basic principles of the preparation and utilization of radioimmunoconjugates in medical diagnosis, including functional imaging and guided radionuclide therapy. He has published more than 500 articles in peer-reviewed journals and is currently exploring the use of PET tracers in immunodiagnosis and therapy, especially by pretargeting methods he and his colleagues are developing, and the use of new humanized antibodies for the treatment of lymphomas and autoimmune diseases. He has edited 2 books on radiolabeled antibodies and 10 journal supplements to *Cancer*, *Cancer Research*, and *Clinical Cancer Research*.

He has received numerous professional awards and recognition by scientific bodies, including McGill University, the Indian Society of Nuclear Medicine (Sarabhai Memorial Oration), the Swedish Oncology and Radiology Societies (Elis Bervin Lecture/Medal), the International



Stanley Goldsmith, MD, (left) introduced David Goldenberg, who was presented the Aebersold Award by SNM President Mathew L. Thakur, PhD.

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