Duncan Clark Awardee

ASSOCIATION FOR PREVENTION TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Charles Hennekens, MD, DrPH 1996

Charles H. Hennekens is currently the first Sir Richard Doll Professor and Senior Academic Advisor to the Dean of the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University. He is also Clinical Professor of Preventive Medicine at Nova Southeastern University, Voluntary Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Adjunct Professor of Family and Community Medicine at Meharry Medical College, and Visiting Fellow, Green College, University of Oxford.

Professor Hennekens was born in Brooklyn, NY and moved to Bayside, Queens at age 10. He attended the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce at the University of Pennsylvania and then received his B.S. from Queens College, Phi Beta Kappa, his M.D. from Cornell University Medical College where he completed an internship and residency in internal medicine. He then served two years as Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Public Health Service as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Medical Epidemiologist with the Centers for Disease Control assigned to the Dade County Department of Public Health. He then received an MPH, MS and DrPH in epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health.

He joined the faculty of the Harvard Medical School as a researcher, teacher and clinician where he became the first John Snow Professor as well as the first Eugene Braunwald Professor of Medicine and the first Chief of Preventive Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He was Professor of Epidemiology at the Boston University as well as Harvard School of Public Health.

Professor Hennekens was the founding Principal Investigator of the landmark Physician's Health Study. He was the first to demonstrate that aspirin prevents a first myocardial infarction. In collaboration with his colleagues in Oxford, he was also the first to demonstrate that aspirin, when given during acute myocardial infarction decreases subsequent myocardial infarction, stroke and cardiovascular death. He was also the first to demonstrate that aspirin when given to a wide variety of patients who have survived an occlusive vascular event, decreases myocardial infarction, stroke and cardiovascular death.

He pioneered the collection of baseline blood samples from large cohort studies and randomized trials for testing epidemiologic and genetic hypotheses, including inflammatory markers such as C-reactive protein for which he is listed as co-inventor on patents held by Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Since 2002 Professor Hennekens has been a Special Government Employee (SGE) serving as consultant to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). He is currently a member of the Presidential Advisory Board for Queens College and Board of Directors of the Florida Public Health Institute. He also serves as Chair or member of numerous Data and Safety Monitoring Boards of large-scale randomized trials conducted throughout the world.