2015 Winner with Past Honorees


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We offer this booklet in commemoration of the 2015 Gold Medal event and look forward to seeing you at the 2016 Gold Medal Award Ceremony.

Peter J. Hotez, M.D., Ph.D.
President, Sabin Vaccine Institute
Dr. Roger Glass, the Director of the Fogarty International Center at the National Institutes of Health, is internationally known for his lifelong contributions to understand and control rotavirus diarrhea through the use of vaccines. For more than three decades, he has pioneered research that has documented the epidemiology and enormous burden of rotavirus diarrhea throughout the world and worked to prevent this disease through the development and use of vaccines. These vaccines, including several that he has helped to develop, are now in use in the national immunization programs in more than 70 countries. They have already made a major impact to reduce both deaths and diarrheal hospitalizations, and improve the health of millions of children worldwide.

As a young epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Glass became engaged in research on enteric diseases and spent four years as a Scientist at the International Center for Diarrheal Disease Research in Bangladesh. This experience made him appreciate that diarrhea was one of the most important causes of death among children under 5 years and that rotavirus was the most common cause of both hospitalizations and deaths. After completing his Ph.D. on cholera with Prof. Jan Holmgren at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, he joined the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases at NIH with Dr. Albert Kapikian to work on molecular and laboratory studies related to the first rotavirus vaccine. In 1986, he returned to CDC as Chief of the Viral Gastroenteritis Section where he spent two decades leading research on enteric infections. His group helped establish sentinel hospital surveillance of rotavirus, now ongoing in more than 60 countries around the world, which has resulted in data detailing the enormous burden of this disease. This evidence established rotavirus as a global priority, and a prime target for vaccine development. His team also trained a cohort of epidemiologists and laboratory scientists who have become part of a global network monitoring the prevalence of disease, distribution of strains, and the impact of vaccines to improve child health. In 1995, he spent a year in the Global Program for Immunizations at WHO, where he developed a global strategy for surveillance of rotavirus hospitalizations that remains active to this day.

Because of his concern that rotavirus vaccines produced by major manufacturers might be unaffordable for use in low-income countries, Dr. Glass worked in India for more than 20 years in partnership with Drs. M.K. Bhan, Harry Greenberg, Krishna Ella and others to develop a novel vaccine.
that could be marketed to the public sector for $1.00 per dose, a fraction of the cost of the existing vaccines. This vaccine was just licensed in India and launched to the public by the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi. A similar effort has led to the development of a vaccine now licensed in Vietnam. Dr. Glass continues to work to improve the efficacy of live oral vaccines through research on a next generation of inactivated vaccines that would be administered by intramuscular or intradermal routes.

Dr. Glass graduated from Harvard University, magna cum laude, in the History of Science and was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to study at the University of Buenos Aires. He then received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School and his M.P.H. from the Harvard School of Public Health. After clinical training in internal medicine at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City, and a year working at Oxford University and the Svisin Institute in Moscow, he joined the Epidemic Intelligence Service at CDC.

Dr. Glass has received numerous awards, including the Charles C. Shepard Lifetime Scientific Achievement Award from CDC, the Dr. Charles Merieux Award from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, the Louis Pasteur Award from the Children’s Vaccine Initiative, and the Child Health Award from the Programme for Global Paediatric Research. He has served on the editorial board of Science and many other journals and on numerous advisory committees of the WHO, IOM and PAHO. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and delivered the 2014 John F. Enders Lecture at the Infectious Diseases Society of America’s annual meeting. He has co-authored more than 600 research papers and chapters and has lectured in five languages. He is married to Barbara J. Stoll, M.D., the George Brumley, Jr. Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Emory University School of Medicine and Director of the Pediatric Center of Emory and Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. He and his wife have three children.
We are pleased to welcome Dr. Roger I. Glass to our growing cohort of distinguished honorees. For more than 20 years, the Sabin Vaccine Institute has recognized individuals who have offered exemplary contributions to disease prevention through the development and use of vaccines.
About the 2016 Award Ceremony

Building on more than 20 years of global health leadership, Sabin’s tradition of recognizing important contributions to vaccinology will continue with the 2016 Gold Medal Award Ceremony in Baltimore, MD. Please plan to join us to celebrate on Tuesday, April 19, 2016.

The 2016 Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal Award Ceremony will be part of the 19th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research, sponsored by the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID).

For more information please visit www.sabin.org or email goldmedal@sabin.org.