2008 Sabin Gold Medal Ceremony

2008 ALBERT B. SABIN GOLD MEDAL

Awarded to
Ruth S. Nussenzweig, MD, PhD
For her many contributions in the field of vaccines and commitment to life-saving medical discoveries

2008 SABIN YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Awarded to
Katherine L. O’Brien, MD, MPH
For her commitment as a young scientist to the fight against diseases of poverty

Grand Ballroom Salon V
Baltimore Marriott Waterfront
Baltimore, Maryland

6:00 p.m.,
Tuesday, May 6, 2008
Ruth S. Nussenzweig has been a world leader on the investigation and prevention of Tropical and Parasitic diseases for over 40 years. In 1967, Dr. Nussenzweig discovered that mice and monkeys could be protected against malaria infection by immunizing them with irradiated, i.e., attenuated sporozoites. On the basis of these findings, humans were vaccinated by the bites of large numbers of \( P. falciparum \) infected and irradiated mosquitoes. This and subsequent discoveries such as Dr. Nussenzweig’s identification of malaria sporozoite surface protein CSP and of the corresponding gene have paved the way for the development of malaria pre-erythrocytic vaccines, some of which are currently in clinical trials. Dr. Nussenzweig, born in Vienna, Austria and raised in Brazil, has been on the faculty of New York University’s School of Medicine since 1965 and has been a professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine since 1972. She has held vital positions in the school such as head of the Division of Parasitology as well as professor and chairperson of the Department of Medical and Molecular Parasitology. Currently she is the C.V. Starr Professor of Medical Parasitology and Pathology. Dr. Nussenzweig is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She has served on the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committees of the World Health Organization and the Pew Foundation, among other groups. Dr. Nussenzweig is the author of more than 200 peer-reviewed publications and has served as Section Editor and a member of Editorial Boards of several journals, including Parasitology Research and Zeitschrift fur Parasitenkunde.

Katherine L. O’Brien is a pediatric infectious disease physician and epidemiologist who earned her M.D. at McGill University and her M.P.H. at Johns Hopkins University. Following residency and fellowship at Johns Hopkins, she joined the Bacterial Respiratory Diseases Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as an Epidemic Intelligence Officer. Dr. O’Brien returned to Johns Hopkins in 1998 to join the Center for American Indian Health, where she leads the Center’s Infectious Disease group, conducting clinical trials of vaccines for diseases of importance to American Indian tribes. Dr. O’Brien is also the Deputy Director of Research for GAVI’s PneumoADIP, which aims to accelerate the development and introduction of pneumococcal vaccines for children globally. Her work domestically and internationally has focused on epidemiologic and vaccine studies of pneumococcal disease; rotavirus; Haemophilus influenzae; respiratory syncytial virus; influenza; and Helicobacter pylori. Dr. O’Brien is married and has two children, Emma and Jack, who are 10 and 9 years old.
Sabin Gold Medal Ceremony Program

May 6, 2008
6:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Peter J. Hotez, MD, PhD
President, Sabin Vaccine Institute
Professor and Chair
Department of Microbiology, Immunology, & Tropical Medicine
The George Washington University

Presentation of the Sabin Young Investigator Award

Mathuram Santosham, MD, MPH
Director, Health Systems Program
Johns Hopkins University

Acceptance

Katherine L. O’Brien, MD, MPH
2008 Sabin Young Investigator Award Recipient

Awarding of the Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal

Philip K. Russell, MD
Chairman
Sabin Vaccine Institute

Acceptance

Ruth S. Nussenzweig, MD, PhD
2008 Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal Recipient
THE ALBERT B. SABIN GOLD MEDAL

The Albert B. Sabin Vaccine Institute annually recognizes and honors those who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of vaccinology by awarding the Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal.

PAST HONOREES

1994~Donald A. Henderson, MD, MPH • 1995~Robert M. Chanock, MD
1996~Joseph L. Melnick, PhD (d. 2001) • 1997~Maurice R. Hilleman, PhD, DSc (d. 2005)

1998~Myron M. Levine, MD, DTPH • 1998~Allen C. Steere, MD
1999~Maj. Gen. Philip K. Russell, MD (USA Ret.) • 2000~Ciro A. de Quadros, MD, MPH
2001~John B. Robbins, MD

2002~Stanley A. Plotkin, MD • 2003~Samuel L. Katz, MD
2004~William S. Jordan, Jr., MD (d. 2008) • 2005~Albert Z. Kapikian, MD
2006~William H. Foege, MD, MPH • 2007~Hilary Koprowski, MD

SABIN VACCINE INSTITUTE

The mission of the Sabin Vaccine Institute is to actively reduce human suffering from infectious and neglected tropical diseases by providing greater access to vaccines and essential medicines and through programs of vaccine research, development and advocacy.

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