

Jeffrey M. Isner, M.D.
(1947-2001)

Jeffrey M. Isner was born in 1947 in Urichesville, Ohio. He attended the University of Maryland, graduating magna cum laude in 1969. Jeff then attended Tufts University School of Medicine, graduating in 1973. He followed his residency in Internal Medicine at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center with a fellowship in Cardiology at Georgetown University Hospital. After spending several years at the NIH Heart, Lung and Blood Institute Jeff returned to Boston, rising rapidly through the ranks to become Professor of Medicine and Pathology at TUSM. In 1988 Dr. Isner moved to St. Elizabeth's Medical Center to become Chief of Cardiovascular Research and Director of the Human Gene Therapy Laboratory, where he played a pioneering role in developing gene therapies for treating obstructive atherosclerosis and peripheral vascular disease. This work, as well as ground-breaking studies revealing that endothelial progenitor cells can arise from adult bone marrow, continue to form the conceptual and scientific underpinnings for several fields of basic and clinical cardiovascular research.

At the forefront of gene therapy, Jeff Isner was a caring physician and completely committed to his patients, colleagues, friends and family. Perhaps some of the most memorable qualities of Jeff's life, in addition to the seminal role that he played in therapeutic angiogenesis, were his inimitable style, matched only by his deep love and devotion to family, where he always found time to balance work with the pleasures and joys that come with parenting. For his work, Jeff was recognized with many awards, including the AMA's William Beaumont Award in Medicine for outstanding research achievements by an investigator under the age of 50. Taken in the prime of an extraordinary career, Dr. Isner authored over 400 research publications before his untimely death in 2001, at age 53. The Jeffrey M. Isner, M.D. Endowed Memorial Lectureship at TUSM, to be held annually, has been made possible through the generosity of the Isner Family and The Jeffrey M. Isner Foundation for New Directions in Cardiovascular Research.

5th Annual

Jeffrey M. Isner, M.D.
Endowed Memorial Lecture

November 3, 2010

*“VEGF in the Adult: Implications for
Anti-VEGF Therapies”*



Presented by

Patricia A. D'Amore, Ph.D.
Ankeny Scholar of Retinal Molecular Biology
Schepens Eye Research Institute
Professor of Ophthalmology and Pathology
Harvard Medical School

Charitable Gifts to:

The Jeffrey M. Isner, M.D.
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Patricia A. D'Amore, Ph.D.

Patricia D'Amore received her Ph.D. in Biology from Boston University in 1977. She did a joint postdoctoral fellowship in Biological Chemistry and Ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins Medical School, and then joined the staff as Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology. In 1981, she moved to the Children's Hospital in Boston as Assistant Professor where she is still a Research Associate in Surgery and a member of the Program in Vascular Biology. Dr. D'Amore obtained an MBA from Northeastern University in 1987. In 1998, she became Professor of Ophthalmology (Pathology) at Harvard Medical School and a Senior Scientist at the Schepens Eye Research Institute.



In 1999, she was awarded the Jules and Doris Stein Research to Prevent Blindness Professorship. In 2000, she became the Co-chair of the Angiogenesis, Invasion & Metastasis Program at the Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center, and, in 2003, she became the Chair. In 2004, she was elected to The Academy at Harvard Medical School. Dr. D'Amore is the founder of the Boston Angiogenesis Meeting, which celebrated its 10th annual meeting in 2008. In 2005, she was the recipient of The Excellence Award at Schepens Eye Research Institute, and in 2006, she received the A. Clifford Barger Excellence in Mentoring Award from Harvard Medical School and the Senior Scholar Award from the Research to Prevent Blindness. She is currently the Co-Director of Research at Schepens, the Ankeny Scholar of Retinal Molecular Biology, and was recently appointed the Director of the Center of Excellence for Research in Macular Degeneration. In addition, she is the Vice Chair of Basic Research in the Department of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School. She is a permanent member (2009-13) of NIH BDPE Study Section.

Dr. D'Amore's research focuses on understanding the mechanism of vascular growth and development and is particularly interested in the role of polypeptide growth factors such as VEGF and TGF- β and in investigating the contribution of cell-cell interactions among the cells of the vasculature. More recently, she has directed her attention toward elucidating the pathogenesis of dry AMD/geographic atrophy, with an emphasis on the role of RPE as well as RPE-choriocapillaris interactions. She has published 125 peer-reviewed papers, which have appeared in such journals as *Nature Medicine*, *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, *Development*, and *Journal of Cell Biology*.

Jeffrey M. Isner, M.D.
Endowed Memorial Lectureship
Distinguished Guest Lecturers

2006 - Douglas Losordo, M.D.

Chief, Cardiovascular Research, Professor of
Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine

*"The microvasculature as a therapeutic target
in ischemic disease"*

2007 - Judah Folkman, M.D

Director, Vascular Biology Program, Children's
Hospital, Julia Dyckman Andrus Professor of
Pediatric Surgery, Harvard Medical School

*"Angiogenesis Regulators in the
Cardiovascular System"*

2008 - Eli Keshet, Ph.D.

Woll Brothers and Sisters Chair for
Cardiovascular Research, Professor of
Molecular Biology, Hebrew University,
Hadassah Medical Center, Jerusalem

*"VEGF, vascular manipulations and ischemic
heart disease: Challenges and opportunities"*

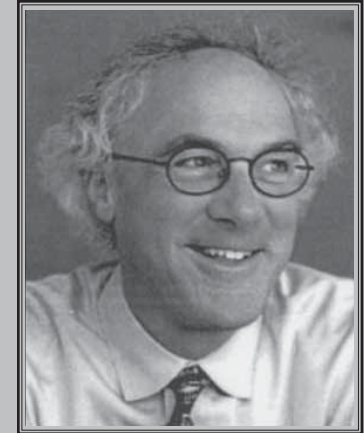
2009 - Jean Bennett, M.D., Ph.D.

F. M. Kirby Professor and Vice Chair of Research
Department of Ophthalmology
University of Pennsylvania

*"Gene Therapy—Mediated Reversal of Congenital
Blindness"*



**From left: Drs. Douglas Losordo &
Judah Folkman**



**The Jeffrey M. Isner, M.D.
Endowed Memorial
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