Dr. Joseph K. Perloff receives the first American College of Cardiology’s Lifetime Achievement Award

Joseph K. Perloff, M.D., F.A.C.C., is the recipient of the first-ever American College of Cardiology Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is given to an individual with a long and outstanding career in cardiovascular disease, an individual who has been a model through service, teaching, and basic or clinical research. This year, the award goes to a truly outstanding person—Dr. Joseph Kayle Perloff—for a remarkable career spanning over 50 years, and influencing generations of cardiologists.

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, Dr. Perloff attended Tulane University from which he graduated with a BA in English Literature, and with an ROTC commission as Ensign in the United States Navy. He served in the Pacific theatre aboard the USS Seminole and in the Shantung Provence in northern China.

After the war, where he served as Ensign In the United States Navy, Dr. Perloff obtained premedical credentials at the University of Chicago and later from Louisiana State University School of Medicine graduating in 1951. Following graduation, he spent three years at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York as an intern and resident in Pathology and Medicine. He was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to the Institute of Cardiology, National Heart Hospital, London where he worked with Dr. Paul Hamilton Wood. Dr. Perloff’s interest in congenital heart disease was a direct outgrowth of Dr. Wood's influence.

After returning from England, Dr. Perloff completed a medical residency at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington DC, followed by an NIH sponsored fellowship in Cardiology. He remained on the Georgetown faculty, rising to full professor in 1970. Two years later, he accepted the position as Chief of the Cardiovascular Section at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in Philadelphia. In 1977, he relocated to the University of California, Los Angeles, and in 1983, was named to the newly endowed Streisand/American Heart Association Chair as Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics.

Dr. Perloff delivered an American Heart Association lecture in 1972 entitled, “The Pediatric Congenital Cardiac Becomes a Post-operative Adult: The Changing Population of Congenital Heart Disease.” The lecture was prescient, shortly appearing in Circulation as the first publication on what was destined to become a new cardiovascular subspecialty—congenital heart disease in adults. Few cardiologists were equipped to deal with this evolving and complex patient population, so Dr. Perloff, soon joined by Dr. John S. Child, established the UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center dedicated to expert patient care, education, and research. The facility remains the first and largest in the

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THE ACHDC WELCOMES OUR NEW PATIENT AFFAIRS COORDINATOR

In December of 2007, the ACHDC welcomed our newest staff member Amy Nunez. Amy has a strong background in patient affairs and is great with care coordination. Her previous positions at UCLA include working with the Departments of OB/GYN and Hematology/Oncology. We are delighted to have you on board Amy!

Amy replaced our long-time Clinical Coordinator which many of you know, Veronica Olmedo. Veronica was with the Center for six years. We are happy to report that she is now enjoying her new role as a stay-at-home mom caring for her two beautiful daughters. We will miss you Veronica!

PATIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PAC planning to launch online survey to identify needs of CHD patients.

The UCLA Patient Advisory Committee (PAC) is dedicated to assisting patients with congenital heart disease in a broad range of areas ranging from education to psychosocial support to social activities. Most recently, this has been manifested in the creation of the Patient Support Program (PSP) as well as educational and social events for Congenital Heart Disease Awareness day. However, in an effort to better serve our patients, the PAC is in the process of conducting an online survey to obtain more detail information about our patients as well as to obtain feedback regarding types of educational programs, social events/mixers patients may want as well as other ways the Center can provide support for both patients and their families. Scheduled for completion in June 2008, this survey, which will be available on the ACHDC website, will hopefully result in the involvement of a greater number of patients in exciting events that have been tailored to their specific needs and requests.

PSP CARDS: Details of the peer support program are now available on business cards in ACHD clinic and in the examination rooms. If you, a spouse or family member, or someone you know would be interested in talking to another patient, please use the information on the card to contact us.

JOSEPH K. PERLOFF, M.D. ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP ESTABLISHED

It is with great pleasure that we announce the establishment of the Joseph K. Perloff, M.D. Endowed Fellowship. The creation of this fellowship will ensure the ongoing training for fellows who have already completed their clinical cardiology fellowship and who desire advanced training in the subspecialty of adult congenital heart disease (ACHD). Dr. Perloff, set the standard by which other ACHD programs are being developed today. His vision, however, was not limited to caring for adult survivors, but from the beginning of the UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Program, he was committed to training the next generation of clinicians to care for this growing population of patients. Today, the recipients of this vision are found throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Japan. In 1981, the UCLA ACHD program was the first formalized program in the country and in 2007 we are pleased to note that this is the first named fellowship for ACHD. It is fitting that this distinction goes to Dr. Perloff often referred to as the “Father of adult congenital heart disease.”

To make an online donation towards the JKP Fellowship please click visit:

http://giving.ucla.edu/heartcenter
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Recognition of Clinical Heart Disease, 5th edition; Congenital Heart Disease in Adults, 3rd edition; Physical Examination of the Heart and Circulation 4th edition in preparation. In addition, Dr Perloff has edited two books—the Cardiomyopathies, and Congenital Heart Disease After Surgery.

Dr. Perloff has played major roles in the American College of Cardiology, including service as Treasurer, on the Board of Trustees, and as Director of the 22nd Bethesda Conference on Adult Congenital Heart Disease. He twice received the Master Teacher Award of the College.

It is a rare person who is so gifted and who has used his gifts so effectively as clinician, scientist and educator for the benefit of society. Dr. Joseph Kayle Perloff is such an individual. I am honored to present him as the recipient of the first Lifetime Achievement Award of the American College of Cardiology.

John Gordon Harold, M.D., F.A.C.C.
ACC Governor for Southern California

A CHDC PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Peer Support Program (PSP) is available to all UCLA adult congenital heart disease patients and their families to provide:

- Emotional support and encouragement from patients with similar conditions and experiences
- Help in setting expectations and preparing for cardiac procedures and surgeries
- Direction to appropriate Congenital Heart Disease resources
- Help navigating through confusing work and insurance issues

For more information or to be matched with a peer advisor, contact Linda Houser, NP or Pam Miner, NP at (310) 794-9629 or by email at achdc@mednet.ucla.edu
TRANSITIONAL CARE PROGRAM FOR ADOLESCENT/YOUNG ADULTS WITH CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

We are pleased to announce the creation of the Adolescent/Young Adult Transitional Care Program, for Congenital Heart Disease. The program is the combined efforts of the Division of Pediatric Cardiology and the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center. Dr. Anthony Chang and Mary M. Canobbio RN, MN are the program coordinators.

The purpose of the program is to prepare teens, young adults and their parents to move from pediatric to adult-based health care. An Adolescent/Young Adult clinic is held once per month on Friday mornings. The program provides comprehensive treatment of adolescents with congenital heart disease, ages 15 to 20. Services provided include clinical assessment of the adolescent’s self-management skills, the development of an individualized transitional plan of care. We also provide patient and parent education sessions and counseling. Additionally a number of non-cardiac services have been added such as adolescent gynecologic services which will include contraceptive counseling.

For information and referrals contact Mary Canobbio at (310) 825-3091 or by email at mcanobb@sonnet.ucla.edu

INFORMATION & INTERNET RESOURCES

UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center
www.achdc.med.ucla.edu or call (310) 794-9629

Canadian Adult Congenital Heart Network
www.cachnet.org/ or call (416) 417-6523

Adult Congenital Heart Association (ACHA)
www.achaheart.org or call (919) 861-4547

Congenital Heart Information Network (CHIN)
www.tchin.org or call (215) 493-3068

Mayo Clinic Congenital Heart Disease Clinic
www.mayoclinic.org/congenitalheart-rst/

Camp del Corazon
www.campdelcorazon.org or call (888) 621-4800

Kansas City Congenital Heart Disease Diagrams
www.kumc.edu/kumpeds/cardiology/pedcardiograms.html

WE’D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU...

If you would like to submit an article to our newsletter or there is a topic you would like to have discussed, please email achdc@mednet.ucla.edu. Please include written permission to use your work. We ask that you please limit your submission to no more than one page. Feel free to include pictures in TIFF or JPEG format.