Sheldon L. Spector, MD, FAAAAI Memorial Lectureship

Sheldon L. Spector, MD, FAAAAI earned his medical degree at Wayne State University in Detroit. His postgraduate education included residency in Internal Medicine at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City, research fellowship in the Laboratory of Virology and Rickettsiology at the National Institutes of Health and a fellowship in Allergy and Clinical Immunology at the National Jewish Hospital in Denver. He went on to work in private practice through the California Allergy and Asthma Medical Group, Inc. while also serving as a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the UCLA School of Medicine.

Spector published over 350 journal articles, books and book chapters in addition to lecturing all over the world. He received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1994. In 2014 Spector received the AAAAI Distinguished Service Award and was heavily involved with the Joint Task Force on Practice Parameters. He was a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) and the American Board of Allergy and Immunology (ABAI).

Spector held numerous leadership positions including Allergy and Immunology Program Director at the National Jewish Hospital, President of the Los Angeles Society of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology and President of the California Society of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. Spector deeply touched the lives of his patients, staff and colleagues and his lectureship is being established to honor his memory and the significant advancements he championed in the field of Asthma, Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

2019 marks the 2nd year of the AAAAI Foundation and Sheldon L. Spector, MD, FAAAAI Memorial Lectureship award. It will be presented in Presidential Plenary 2101: Outcomes, Education and Healthcare Delivery in Allergic Diseases on Saturday, February 23, 2019: 8:15 AM - 9:45 AM, Moscone Center South, Hall A

Sheldon L. Spector, MD FAAAAI Memorial Lectureship Lecturer - Maureen George, PhD, RN, AE-C, FAAN

Maureen George, PhD, RN, AE-C, FAAN is an Associate Professor of Nursing at Columbia University School of Nursing. Dr. George has worked as an advanced practice nurse in lung disease since 1986 and as certified asthma educator since 2002. She is a Past-Chair of the Allied Health Assembly of the AAAAI and a Past-President of the Association of Asthma Educators.

Dr. George is currently the PI of a NIH study (1 R21 NR016507-01) that trains primary care providers in federally qualified health centers to deliver a brief shared decision-making intervention using motivational interviewing focused on improving inhaled steroid adherence in adults with uncontrolled asthma. This current study is a part of Dr. George's broader program of research that focuses on reducing health inequities in vulnerable populations with chronic respiratory disease. Particular areas of interest include community-based participatory research (CBPR) with poor and minority patients and their health care providers to understand how self-management preferences and patient-provider communication influences treatment choices and adherence. To the end, she uses community-informed strategies to address obstacles to disease control, such as health beliefs, health literacy, and the built environment. In 2018 she was appointed to the United Nations Environmental Program's Medical Technical Options Committee which prepares assessments for the Parties of the Montreal Protocol. This committee reviews the current state of knowledge of technical, scientific, environmental, and economic issues as to relate to reducing ozone depletion caused by metered dose inhalers and other medical aerosols. She lectures extensively on issues related to asthma and allergies and has authored over 40 original research and peer-reviewed manuscripts and three book chapters in these areas.