

The Elliot F. Ellis Memorial Lectureship



Dr. Elliot Ellis received his M.D. degree from Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 1954. After internship at Lenox Hill Hospital and residency at Babies Hospital/Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, both in New York, he served Fellowships at Children's Asthma Research Institute and Hospital in Denver and the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville.

He was named Chief of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology at National Jewish Hospital and Research Center in Denver from 1966-74. In 1974, he became Director of the Division of Allergy and Immunology at Children's Hospital of Buffalo. He was Professor of Pediatrics, Director of the Division of Allergy and Immunology, and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at State University of Buffalo. He was made Professor Emeritus at SUNY-Buffalo in 1988. He subsequently became Chief of the Division of Allergy and Immunology at Nemours Children's Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida and later, the Medical Director at Muro Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Dr. Ellis supervised the training of more than 75 allergists.

Dr. Ellis was President of the AAAAI in 1986-1987. He has been a visiting professor to numerous institutions throughout the world. He was honored with the Bret Ratner Award in Allergy by the American Academy of Pediatrics (1990) for outstanding contributions to the field of allergy and immunology.

He is a Fellow and a member of many professional societies, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Clinical Pharmacology and the American Association of Immunologists. In 1995 he was awarded the Gold Headed Cane by the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. He has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Medicine*, *The Journal of Respiratory Diseases*, and the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*.

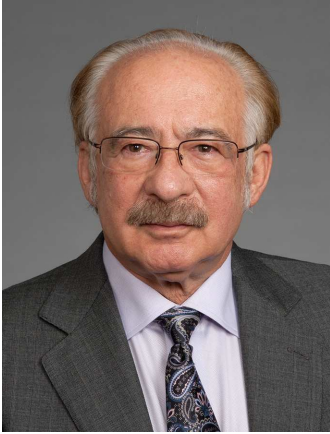
Dr. Ellis has published a variety of papers, book chapters and co-authored *Allergy: Principles and Practice*. The last edition was published in 1998. He has also edited two *Pediatric Clinics of North America*, as well as co-editing a book on theophylline.

He was a member of the National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute's Expert Panel as part of the National Asthma Education Program.

With Dr. Ellis' passing on February 22, 2014, the lectureship was renamed the Elliot F. Ellis Memorial Lectureship. This lectureship will help preserve the memory and profound contributions of Dr. Ellis in the field of allergy and asthma care. Dr. Ellis' greatest pleasure was seeing his trainees contribute by educating others.

2017 marks the 19th year of the Elliot F. Ellis Memorial Lectureship. It will be presented in Symposium Session 2302: World Allergy Forum: Stratified Medicine and Severe Asthma on Saturday, March 4, 2017: 10:45 am to 12:00 pm, GWCC, Rooms B312-B313.

The Elliot F. Ellis Memorial Lectureship – Eugene Bleecker, MD FAAAAI



Eugene R. Bleecker, MD is Director and Professor of the Center for Human Genomics and Personalized Medicine, and Professor of Medicine (Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy and Immunologic Diseases).

He has major scientific interest and expertise in translational approaches in allergy, asthma and COPD including defining clinical disease heterogeneity and biomarker endotypes, genetics of disease susceptibility and severity, pharmacogenetics of response to therapy and clinical trials.

He has been Principal Investigator for the Wake Forest site for NHLBI Severe Asthma Research Program (SARP1,2 and current SARP3) grants, co-investigator on NHLBI AsthmaNet and has led the Wake Forest portion of the NIH Pharmacogenomics Network grant as well as being principal or co-investigator on multiple grants throughout his career. He has published over 325 manuscripts, 120 book chapters, editorials, and reviews as well as over 560 abstracts.

Dr Bleecker was one of the first to publish on the genetic basis of asthma identifying susceptibility and severity genes. He published the largest study showing that common gene variants do not modulate responsiveness to long acting beta-agonist (LABA) (Bleecker et al, Lancet 2007) and has shown that rare variation in the ADRB2 gene is associated with severe exacerbations in asthmatics on LABA therapy (Ortega et al, Lancet Respir Med 2014).

Throughout his career, he have had an active role in designing and performing clinical trials that provide an evidence basis for therapeutic interventions in asthma including the NHLBI ACRN and AsthmaNet networks as well as industry studies. He is senior author on the TALC ACRN study that showed the therapeutic value of anticholinergics in asthma and triggered industry studies leading to the recent approval by the FDA of tiotropium for asthma (a therapy previously reserved for COPD) (Peters et al, NEJM 2010). He led the recent studies on the efficacy of an anti-IL5r (benralizumab) biologic therapy in severe asthma (Bleecker et al, Lancet 2016).