

## The Robert A. Cooke Memorial Lectureship



Robert Anderson Cooke, M.D., was born in Holmdel, New Jersey in 1880, a descendant of three generations of physicians. He received his M.D. from Columbia University in 1904 and subsequently interned at Presbyterian Hospital.

It was his own allergy to stable dusts, pollens and later horses that led him into this particular field. As an intern, he nearly died from an anaphylactic shock induced by an injection of diphtheria antitoxin.

In 1919, he founded the first allergy clinic which was then located at New York Hospital and was later moved to Roosevelt Hospital in June 1932. He was a founder of one of the two parent societies of the American Academy of Allergy in 1925 (also its first President) and the New York Allergy Society in 1937. In addition, he was the founding editor of the *Journal of Allergy* (now the JACI) in 1929.

Throughout his medical life, he was primarily interested in the study and treatment of allergic diseases and is generally considered the father of allergy as a medical specialty. He was the author of approximately 200 scientific papers, most of which dealt with immunologic and allergic diseases. By the time he died in 1960, his influence on the teaching and practice of allergy was being furthered by the more than fifty residents and fellows he trained.

His work included not only the practical treatment of patients, but numerous fundamental contributions to the immunology of allergy. Among his outstanding contributions were studies of heredity in asthma and hay fever (1914), recognition of house dust as an allergen (1921), the immunologic relationship of naturally acquired and artificially induced sensitization (1929), demonstration of blocking antibody developed as a result of injection treatment (1935) and observations regarding skin sensitizing antibody.

The Alumni of the R. A. Cooke Institute of Allergy at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center are privileged to sponsor this lectureship which the AAAAI has established in perpetuity in the memory of an inspiring physician who has played a critical role in the development of the medical specialty of allergy and immunology.

**This is the 55<sup>th</sup> Cooke lecture presented at an AAAAI Annual Meeting. It will be presented in Symposium 3303: Molecular IgE-Diagnostics in Clinical Practice on Sunday, March 5, 2017: 10:45 am to 12:00 pm, GWCC, Rooms B405-B406.**

## **The Robert A. Cooke Memorial Lecturer – Joerg Kleine-Tebbe, MD FAAAAI**



Jörg Kleine-Tebbe, MD, born in Tübingen, Germany in 1957, is working as an allergist and dermatologist at the Allergy and Asthma Center Westend, a private practice and research center in Berlin, Germany.

He lectures extensively nationally and internationally, provides consultancy for pharmaceutical and biomedical industries, institutions and authorities, and is author of more than 100 peer-reviewed publications, reviews and book chapters.

After earning his MD in medicine at the Freie Universität Berlin, Germany in 1986, he continued as a Clinical and Research Fellow at the Asthma OPD and Department of Clinical Immunology (Chair: Prof. Gert Kunkel, MD), University Hospital Rudolf Virchow, Germany. There he was trained in allergic respiratory diseases and performed basophil

histamine release studies in IgE-mediated responses.

From 1991 - 1995 he continued as a Visiting Instructor in Medicine with allergy and immunology research (histamine releasing factor and IgE heterogeneity, molecular biology of IL-13 and its role in allergic conditions) in the Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (Chairs: Prof. Lawrence M. Lichtenstein, Prof. David G. Marsh) at the Johns Hopkins Asthma & Allergy Center, Baltimore MD, USA.

After his return to Germany he became Senior Resident and Instructor at the University Dermatology Hospital in Leipzig, Germany in 1996. In 2001 he transferred his habilitation and lectureship to the Charité, Berlin (University Hospital of Dermatology and Allergology, Humboldt University) and established the Allergy and Asthma Center Westend (AAZW), a Multi-Group Private Practice for Allergy, Internal Medicine and Dermatology with an integrated Clinical Research Center (UZDAA) for Allergy, Respiratory Diseases and Dermatology together with Prof. Gert Kunkel and his team.

Jörg Kleine-Tebbe, interested in allergy diagnosis and treatment, particularly allergen-specific immunotherapy, has first- and co-authored >100 original publications, reviews, book chapters, national and international guidelines. Recently, he co-edited and published various books on allergy diagnosis, focusing on Molecular Allergy Diagnostics, and allergy treatment. Since >25 years he is an active member and serves on various boards of the AAAAI, the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI), and the German Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (DGAKI).