The Rebecca Buckley Lectureship

Rebecca Hatcher Buckley, MD was born in 1933 in Hamlet, North Carolina. She graduated with an A.B. degree from Duke University in 1954, an MD degree from the University of North Carolina School of Medicine in 1958 and received house staff training in Pediatrics at Duke. Dr. Buckley was a fellow in Allergy under Dr. Susan C. Dees and a fellow in Immunology under Dr. Richard S. Metzgar, all at Duke. She then became a faculty member in the Department of Pediatrics, served as Chief of the Division of Allergy and Immunology from 1974 to 2003 and has been the James Buren Sidbury Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics and Professor of Immunology at Duke since 1979.

Dr. Buckley’s research interests have been in the fundamental causes of genetically-determined immunodeficiency diseases. For the past 29 years her research has been on the syndrome of severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) and the long-term clinical and immunologic outcomes of nonablative T cell-depleted parental bone marrow transplants. This treatment can be provided to all SCID infants, regardless of whether they have a matched sibling donor. For the past one and half decades she has advocated newborn screening for SCID, and the Secretary of HHS officially recommended that this be implemented in May of 2010. Dr. Buckley is the author or co-author of more than 315 scientific publications. Over 30 national committees and councils have been fortunate to have Dr. Buckley as a member. She was president of The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI) from 1979-80. She is a member of the Society for Pediatric Research, the American Pediatric Society (Council 1991-2001; President 1999-2000), American Association for the Advancement of Science, Fellow (2000); Chairman Section on Medical Sciences (2001-2003), American Association of Immunologists (Chairman, Clinical Immunology Committee 1984-87), and American Academy of Pediatrics (Section on Allergy & Immunology; Executive Committee 1981-84).

She served two full terms as a Director of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology. Dr. Buckley has also served on a number of editorial boards including the Journal of Immunology, The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology and the Journal of Clinical Immunology, where she was Associate Editor. She chaired the NIH Immunological Sciences Study Section and was a member of NIAID’s Board of Scientific Counselors. Dr. Buckley has received countless awards and honors for her contributions to medicine from organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, the Immune Deficiency Foundation, the American Society for Microbiology and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology where she was named an Honorary Fellow in 1999. She is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha. In October of 2003 she was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. On
October 13, 2006, she became the recipient of the 2006 William G. Anlyan, M.D. Lifetime Achievement Award from the Duke Medical Alumni Association. On September 30, 2007 she was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of HHS to a 4 year term as a member of the HRSA Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders of Newborns and Children. On May 3, 2011 she was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Buckley currently serves on the ITN Data and Safety Monitoring Board for NIAID and as Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Immune Deficiency Foundation. She remains actively involved in clinical and scientific research, teaching and patient care.

2020 marks the 9th year of the Rebecca Buckley Lectureship. It will be presented during Symposium session 3521: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI): Opportunities for Asthma Research in the Era of Big Data on Sunday, March 15th 2020 at 12:30 pm - Convention Center, 400 Level, Terrace Ballroom II

Elizabeth Oelsner, MD MPH

General internist, respiratory epidemiologist, and Herbert Irving Assistant Professor of Medicine at Columbia University Irving Medical Center.

I am a general internist, a respiratory epidemiologist, and Herbert Irving Assistant Professor of Medicine at Columbia University Irving Medical Center. My focus is on identifying risk factors for chronic lung diseases to promote primary prevention and novel therapeutic strategies. To support large-scale epidemiologic analyses of chronic lung diseases, I have developed the NHLBI Pooled Cohorts Study, in which I have harmonized and pooled respiratory endpoints data from nine US population-based epidemiologic cohorts. Phenotypic data harmonized by the NHLBI Pooled Cohorts Study is also supporting large-scale genomic analyses in the Trans-Omics for Precision Medicine (TOPMed) Project.