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RELEASE FOR WEDNESDAY P.M. 'S, APRIL 10

Note to Editors: This release is timed to coincide with a release from the  
Ford Foundation

DALLAS - Dr. Samuel M. McCann, head of the department of  
physiology at Southwestern Medical School of the University of Texas at Dallas,  
has been awarded a three-year grant by the Ford Foundation for studies in  
reproductive physiology.

The grant will support a three-year study seeking to learn more about how  
the pituitary gland is controlled by the brain, Dr. McCann said.

"The concept that the brain controls the pituitary gland is an important  
one in medicine," he said.

"Although there still is much to learn about the factors and processes in-  
volved, it is thought that this study might ultimately lead to greater knowledge  
of the physiology of fertility," he said.

The study will deal with how the nervous system controls gonadotrophins,  
a substance having a stimulating effect on the gonads, or reproductive glands.

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