

# **news** *THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS*

southwestern medical school ■ graduate school of biomedical sciences ■ school of allied health sciences

Contact: Bob Fenley

DALLAS--The American Cancer Society announced today the establishment of a professorship of clinical oncology (study of tumors) at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

The position, first such in Texas and only one of six in the nation, is that of a scholastic specialist on cancer. It will be occupied by Dr. Eugene P. Frenkel, an internationally-known internist and hematologist, according to a joint announcement by the ACS and Dr. Charles C. Sprague, president of the UT Health Science Center.

Dr. Frenkel, a professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, will be charged with disseminating the latest knowledge about cancer throughout the various research and teaching programs carried out by Southwestern, as well as in continuing education of physicians.

"The establishment of the professorship lends particular emphasis to our effort in planning a well-rounded cancer research center in Dallas," noted Dr. Sprague.

"It is just recognition to Dr. Frenkel who has done a superb job here and it will significantly strengthen our efforts in the area of oncology," he added.

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first add oncology

The ACS program of professorships was established to bring about more effective management of cancer patients by improving cancer teaching in medical schools and other appropriate institutions at undergraduate, graduate and continuing education levels and to extend the benefits of such teaching to both students and practitioners of medical, dental, nursing and allied health professionals. It also is designed to foster cooperation of all relevant medical and scientific disciplines in the management of cancer.

A number of disciplines are involved at Southwestern in the attack against cancer. The question of interaction of viruses and chemicals which cause cancer is being investigated, as are questions of immunology in tumor growth. Cryosurgery (use of extreme cold) already is in clinical use.

Several researchers at Southwestern are looking at the interplay of hormones and cancer formation and others are examining cancer formation at a basic molecular level.

Specifically, the designation of an "American Cancer Society Professor of Clinical Oncology" involves awards of \$25,000 per year for three years with review. Extension up to five years is provided. Dr. Frenkel will remain professor of Internal Medicine.

The new professorship will be substantially supported by a grant made to the ACS by the Gifford Foundation and the Zale Foundation. Recommendation of Southwestern and Dr. Frenkel was made by the Board of Directors of the Texas Division of ACS.

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Dr. Frenkel, a past president of the Dallas County Unit of ACS, specializes in malignant disorders of the blood and blood-forming organs. He and other workers in the field have been able to achieve an improvement in remission rate of advanced malignant lymphomas of from 17 per cent to almost 70 per cent through use of various combinations of anti-cancer drugs.

The specialist has been in charge of the tumor registry in Dallas. This unit stores statistical information about thousands of growths on computer.

Dr. Frenkel, also a professor of Radiology, has been chief of the Nuclear Medicine Service at Veterans Administration Hospital.

He is director-at-large of the Texas Division of the ACS and a member of the Southwest Cancer Chemotherapy Group. Dr. Frenkel is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and a member of the American Society of Hematology, American Society for Clinical Investigation, American Association for Cancer Research, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Society of Nuclear Medicine and a number of other professional groups.

Dr. Frenkel received his Bachelor of Science degree from Wayne University and his M.D. degree from the University of Michigan. He subsequently held a number of teaching positions at the University of Michigan and came to Southwestern in 1962.

He has authored a large number of scientific papers dealing with blood and tumors.

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