

news THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS

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

OCTOBER 28, 1975

CONTACT: Bob Fenley

******Dallas researchers garner
chemical society award.*

DALLAS--Research into genetic factors causing high blood fat has earned Drs. Michael S. Brown and Joseph L. Goldstein the American Chemical Society's Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry for 1976.

The two faculty members at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School here already have received one of Germany's top scientific citations--the Heinrich-Wieland Prize--last fall in Munich.

Drs. Goldstein and Brown were the first scientists to show that the hereditary absence of a specific membrane molecule causes a condition of high blood fat known as familial hypercholesterolemia. In extreme forms of the disease, victims have cholesterol levels four to eight times normal and almost all die of heart attacks before age 30.

Purpose of the Pfizer Award, established in 1945 by Paul-Lewis Laboratories, Inc., now a part of Pfizer Inc., is "to stimulate fundamental research in enzyme chemistry in the United States by young men and women." Age limit is 40. The 1973 winner of the Pfizer Award, Dr. Howard Temin of the University of Wisconsin, was recently chosen to receive the 1975 Nobel Prize in medicine.

-- more --

first add pfizer award

The Pfizer award consists of \$2,000, a certificate and a gold medal.

Presentation will be made next August during the annual meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Francisco.

Dr. Goldstein is a graduate of Southwestern Medical School where he took the school's highest award, the "Ho Din." Dr. Brown graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine where he won the Packard Prize in Internal Medicine. Both received their training in internal medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Both scientists were with the National Institutes of Health at one time with Dr. Goldstein later doing significant survey work with heart attack victims in Seattle. He came to Southwestern in 1972 to head the Division of Medical Genetics in the Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Brown joined the school a year earlier as a research fellow. Both are now associate professors at the medical school.

##