For Immediate Release: Contact: Fred Yaeger (914) 525-9198

Symposium to explore ADULT VACCINATIONS:
Opportunities for healthy aging and barriers to engagement

Featuring leaders across pharmaceutical, aging, and communications sectors

New York--On Thursday, **November 7, 2019 from 2:30-5:00pm at Lotte New York Palace**, the American Federation for Aging Research and the Global Coalition on Aging will present a symposium, ***Adult Vaccinations: Opportunities for Healthy Aging, Barriers to Engagement,*** highlighting multi-sector insights on the urgency of vaccinations for adults to promote healthy aging.

Biomedical researchers will share their latest findings, pharmaceutical leaders will share advances in treatment and outreach, and public health experts and practitioners will offer opportunities and barriers to encouraging older adults to seek vaccinations.

Presenters will include Todd Black, Ph.D. (Merck Research Laboratories); Sean X. Leng, M.D., Ph.D. (Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership (MMAAP) Foundation and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine); Laura Lindenfeld, Ph.D. (Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science) and Pol Vandenbroucke, M.D. (Pfizer). Michael W. Hodin, Ph.D., CEO of the Global Coalition on Aging, will moderate.

“The American Federation for Aging Research is committed to helping improve health across the lifecourse,” notes Stephanie Lederman, Ed.M., AFAR Executive Director. “From childhood to adulthood and well into our senior years, vaccinations are a tool to help us all live healthier for longer.”

The symposium will take place in an intimate roundtable setting, which will drive discussion on the individual and societal value of vaccines for influenza, pneumococcal pneumonia, and shingles for older adults and the importance of vaccinations across the lifecourse, including later in life. Myths and facts about vaccine resistance will be addressed, and how vaccines can help limit the spread of antibiotic resistance will be explored. Proceedings from the afternoon discussion will be published in 2020.

Respondents in the roundtable discussion to include: Nir Barzilai, M.D. (AFAR Deputy Scientific Director, Albert Einstein College of Medicine); Richard Besdine. M.D. (AFAR Medical Officer, Brown University); Harvey Jay Cohen, M.D. (AFAR Board, Duke University); Pinchas Cohen, Ph.D. (USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology); Ned David, Ph.D. (AFAR Board, Unity Biotech); Donald Edmonson, Ph.D. (Columbia University Science of Behavior Change Center); Nathan LeBrasseur, Ph.D. (Mayo Clinic); and Fox Wetle, Ph.D. (AFAR Board, Brown University).

“To fully realize the potential impact of vaccinations on adult health today will take a collaborative effort across the medical, scientific, pharmaceutical, and public health sectors,” notes Michael W. Hodin, CEO of the Global Coalition on Aging. “Discussions like this symposium have the power to help foster research, influence funding, and ultimately raise awareness around the tremendous impact that vaccines can have on the vitality of the world’s growing population of older adults.”

Seating is limited for Media.

Please contact fredyaeger@yaegerpr.com or (914) 525-9198 to reserve.

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ABOUT VACCINES AND ADULTS

The Impact of Vaccines: Across the Lifecourse

Vaccines, and childhood immunization in particular, are one of the great success stories of public health in the 20th century. The progress of childhood vaccination has decreased mortality rates for vaccine-preventable diseases around the world, and immunization is recognized as one of the most effective prevention methods to sustain health and wellness. Despite these achievements, adult immunization rates remain low, and programs to increase uptake in adult vaccinations lags far behind those focused on children.

Vaccinations are especially vital across the lifespan to prevent a range of illnesses and viruses, such as influenza, pneumonia, shingles, measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, pneumococcal disease, influenza, and varicella as well as hepatitis A and B. Additionally, advances in aging research show how targeting the biology of aging to extend health can also improve immunological responses to vaccinations.

The global increase in disease caused by drug-resistant bacteria, due to overuse and misuse of antibiotics, is a major public health concern. It is more difficult and costly to treat antibiotic-resistant infections and people do not always recover. Vaccinating humans and animals has shown to be an effective way to prevent infections—and thereby the need for antibiotics. Making better use of existing vaccines and developing new vaccines are important ways to tackle antibiotic resistance and reduce preventable illness and deaths.

Impact of Vaccines: Facts and Figures

- Vaccines save 6 million lives worldwide every year.
- Vaccines can help to prevent other diseases common among adults.
- Vaccinations in aging individuals improve quality of life.
- Vaccines are integral to ongoing health and wellness.
- Vaccines help to mitigate the effects and severity of other diseases.
- Vaccinations both benefit individuals and help to prevent the spread of epidemics.
- Vaccines are cost-effective, calculated to save tens of billions of dollars annually.[i]
- For every $1 USD governments around the world spend on immunization, they receive a $44 USD return on investment.[ii]
- The cost saved for four vaccine-preventable diseases (influenza, pneumococcal diseases, shingles, and whooping cough) in adults 50+ is estimated to be $26.5 billion.[iii]

i. World Health Organization "Vaccination greatly reduces disease, disability, death and inequity worldwide" https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/86/2/07-040089/en/
ii. https://www.jhsph.edu/departments/international-health/news/vaccine-return-on-investment-health-affairs.html
iii. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26032932

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ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

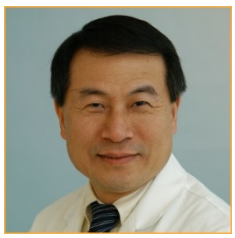
Moderator: Michael W. Hodin, Ph.D.
CEO, Global Coalition on Aging and Managing Partner, High Lantern Group.
AFAR Board Member

Michael W. Hodin, Ph.D. is CEO of the Global Coalition on Aging, Managing Partner at High Lantern Group, and a Fellow at Oxford University's Harris Manchester College. He is also a blogger on Medium. From 1976-80, Mike was Legislative Assistant to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. During this period he was also a Visiting Scholar at Brookings Institution, on U.S. Foreign Economic Policy. He was a senior executive at Pfizer, Inc. for 30 years, where he created and then led its International Public Affairs and Public Policy operations and served on Management Boards for a number of its businesses. Mike is a Member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and from 2010-2013, was Adjunct Senior Fellow with a focus on population aging. In 2013, Mike was invited by then-Committee Chairman Bill Nelson (D-FL) to lead a Members' Roundtable with the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging. Mike was also the recipient of the 2012 Fred D. Thompson Award from the American Federation for Aging Research. He sits on the Boards of the Foreign Policy Association, Business Council for International Understanding, American Skin Association, American Federation for Aging Research and Emigrant Savings Bank, where he is Chairman of its compensation committee. Mike was a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Ageing. And he sits on the Advisory Board for the Milken Institute Center for the Future of Aging. Mike holds a BA, cum laude, Cornell University, M.Sc.in International Relations from The London School of Economics and Political Science, and M.Phil and Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University.

Presenters:

Todd A. Black, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Infectious Diseases/ Vaccines - Basic Research, Merck Research Laboratories

Todd Black has served as the Executive Director for Merck's antibacterial, antifungal, and HCV Basic Research group since the merger with Schering-Plough in 2009, and has over 20 years of experience in the discovery and development of novel antimicrobial agents. Todd received his doctorate degree from the Department of Biochemistry/Department of Energy Plant Research Laboratories at Michigan State University studying prokaryotic cellular differentiation and development in the cyanobacterium Anabaena. He joined the Ciba–Geigy Agricultural Biotechnology Research Unit initially as a postdoctoral associate and then full-time employee where he pioneered genomics-based target discovery in model fungal pathogens and studied toxin production in phytopathic fungi, quorum-sensing control of antifungal metabolite synthesis by Pseudomonas fluorescens and the expression and modification of secondary-metabolite pathways in Myxobacteria and Actinomycetes. He joined the Antimicrobial Therapeutics team at the Schering–Plough Research Institute in 1997, initially leading the genomics-based antibacterial and antifungal drug discovery team. Todd was responsible for supporting the discovery and development of a variety therapies for treatment of infectious diseases, including: evernimicin (Ziracin) a novel antibiotic; posaconazole (Noxafil) antifungal; garenoxacin (FQ-antibiotic); AN2690, a boron-based topical antifungal agent for onychomycosis; vicriviroc, an HIV CCR5 antagonist in addition to leading multiple initiatives on novel target discovery programs. His team continues to support the development of novel therapies for HCV, C. difficile anti-toxin therapy, Imipenem + relebactam for M.D.R Gram-negative bacteria, and ongoing support for the Merck portfolio of anti-infective agents.



Sean X. Leng, M.D., Ph.D.
President, Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership (MMAAP) Foundation; Professor of Medicine and board-certified geriatrician in the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology, Department of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; AFAR 2006 Beeson Scholar

At John Hopkins University School of Medicine, the Sean Leng Lab studies the biology of healthy aging with a focus on chronic inflammation in late-life decline, immunosenescence and its relationship to the basic biological and physiological changes related to aging and frailty in the human immune system, and T-cell repertoire analysis. Dr. Leng is also a physician scientist and Paul Beeson scholar in aging research (www.beeson.org). Current research funding includes NIH R01, R21, Specialized Center of Research Excellence, Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund, etc. He has published over 100 scientific papers. Dr. Leng serves on NIH Aging Systems and Geriatrics (ASG) study section, editorial boards of Journal of the American Geriatrics Society (JAGS) and Journals of Gerontology: Medical Sciences and National Scientific Advisory Council of the American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR). He has served as Director of the Irma and Paul Milstein Program for Senior Health since 2011 and as President since 2014.

Laura Lindenfield, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science

Dr. Laura Lindenfeld is the Interim Dean of the School of Journalism, Stony Brook University and Executive Director of the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science. She holds a Ph.D. in cultural studies from the University of California, Davis. As the Alda Center Director, she oversees a dynamic organization that has trained over 12,000 scientists worldwide and introduced over 40,000 to the Alda Method®. The Center provides international leadership in conducting and connecting research and practice to advance clear and vivid science and medical communication. As a communication researcher, her work draws inspiration from the idea that we can make better, more informed decisions about how we shape our collective future. She is passionate about supporting scientists to communicate their work in more direct and engaging ways. Her work focuses on how we can advance meaningful, productive interactions with communities, stakeholders and decision-makers by strengthening linkages between knowledge and action. Much of Laura's research focuses on environmental and sustainability communication. Her work seeks to understand how we can support effective stakeholder engagement and build strong interdisciplinary teams and communicate our science more effectively and persuasively. Laura's work has appeared in a range of journals such as Science Communication, Ecology & Society, Environmental Communication, Sustainability Science, Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies, and Food & Foodways. Feasting Our Eyes. Food Films, and Cultural Identity in the United States (2016), her co-authored book with Fabio Parasecoli, was published by Columbia University Press.

Pol Vandenbroucke, M.D., M.Sc., M.B.A., F.F.P.M.
Chief Medical Officer, Pfizer Hospital Business Unit;
AFAR Board Member

Dr. Vandenbroucke' s career has been dedicated to Clinical Development and Medical Affairs and has included stints in the U.S., Europe, Asia, and Latin America. Before his current position, he was Chief Development Officer for Pfizer Essential Health, Head of Medical Strategy for Pfizer Inc. and VP Medical Affairs of Pfizer's Essential Health portfolio in North America. He previously also led the Clinical Development of all Pfizer compounds in Asia, Central/Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Africa-Middle East and of Pfizer's Established Products globally. He was also responsible for developing compounds specifically for diseases of the developing world, such as malaria and river blindness. Prior appointments include Vice President, Medical and Regulatory Affairs, Canada/Latin America/Africa-Middle East, Senior Vice President, Medical Division Pfizer Japan, based in Tokyo, Director of Medical Operations, Asia and Australia/NZ for Pfizer, based in Hong Kong, and Medical Director, Lipitor based in New York, responsible for the international clinical development program of Lipitor. Dr. Vandenbroucke serves on the boards of AFAR and BIO Ventures for Global Health. He is a member of the advisory boards of the Steve Biko Centre for Bioethics, University of the Witwatersrand-Johannesburg, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and the Keck Graduate Institute, Claremont, CA. He also is a Fellow of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine of the Royal Colleges of Medicine of the United Kingdom. A frequent speaker on health, aging, diversity, and policy issues, he is also a Visiting Senior Lecturer at King's College and the Module Coordinator for Medical Affairs in the Medicines Development Certificate Program at IFAPP Academy and King's College London.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

The **American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR)** is a national non-profit organization that supports and advances pioneering biomedical research that is revolutionizing how we live healthier and longer. For nearly four decades, AFAR has served as the field's talent incubator, providing more than $181 million to nearly 4,200 investigators at premier research institutions nationwide. A trusted leader and strategist, AFAR also works with public and private funders to steer high quality grant programs and interdisciplinary research networks. AFAR-funded researchers are finding that modifying basic cellular processes can delay—or even prevent—many chronic diseases, often at the same time. They are discovering that it is never too late—or too early—to improve health. This groundbreaking science is paving the way for innovative new therapies that promise to improve and extend our quality of life—at any age. Learn more at www.afar.org.

The **Global Coalition on Aging (GCOA)** aims to reshape how global leaders approach and prepare for the 21st century's profound shift in population aging. GCOA uniquely brings together global corporations across industry sectors with common strategic interests in aging populations, a comprehensive and systemic understanding of aging, and an optimistic view of its impact. Through research, public policy analysis, advocacy, and strategic communications, GCOA is advancing innovative solutions and working to ensure global aging is a path to health, productivity and economic growth. For more information, visit www.globalcoalitiononaging.com.

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