

**American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) holds Press Conference on Urgent Need for Increased Funding for Research in Alzheimer's Disease from the Government and the Private Sector**

**EVENT:** As many as 5.3 million people in the United States are currently living with Alzheimer's disease and it is one of the leading causes of death for people aged 65 or older.

During this year, as many as 454,000 people are expected to be diagnosed with the disease. Some 10 million baby boomers are projected to develop Alzheimer's in their lifetime.

"The importance of funding research in aging cannot be overstated," says Stephanie Lederman, American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) Executive Director. "It is in times like these that we need more dollars, not only from the federal government, but from the philanthropic community as well or we will lose the valuable momentum that we have gained over the past few years."

"We need to make Alzheimer's disease a national priority;" adds Lederman "Alzheimer's disease is likely to become the foremost threat to the health of Americans and to our economy."

Currently, the nation spends \$172 billion a year caring for people with Alzheimer's disease. It is projected that by the year 2020 the cumulative cost for care will reach \$2 trillion, and by 2050, the cumulative care cost will reach \$20 trillion.

**WHEN:** **Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup> 2010** **12 NOON – 1:00 PM**

**WHERE:** American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR)  
55 West 39th Street, 16th Floor– Conference Room  
New York, NY 10018

**WHO:** Samuel E. Gandy, MD, PhD, Professor of Alzheimer's Disease Research, Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry, Associate Director of the Mount Sinai Alzheimer's Disease Research Center  
James E. Galvin, MD, MPH, Clinical Director COE PBC Memory Evaluation, New York University Langone Medical Center  
Ted Comet, Husband of Alzheimer's disease patient  
Stephanie Lederman, AFAR Executive Director

**About AFAR**

Founded in 1981, AFAR has championed the cause and supported the funding of science in healthier aging. Due to the shortage of physicians and researchers dedicated to the bioscience of aging, AFAR partners with foundations, corporations and individuals to fund important research into the fundamental mechanism of aging, age-related health, and diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, cancer, heart disease, and other illnesses. For more information visit AFAR's Web site at [www.afar.org](http://www.afar.org).