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JUDEO MEDICAL JOURNAL

Bimonthly

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HEALTHCARE FRONTLINES

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US MEDICAL RESEARCH AND PRACTICE UPDATES

**ALLERGIC RHINITIS, QUALITY
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ISRAEL - HEALTHCARE

**NEONATOLOGISTS IN A GODLIKE
ACT: WHO SHALL LIVE ...**

MEDICAL ETHICS

**LORD RABBI JAKOBOVITS:
A JEWISH MEDICAL ETHICS**



JEWISH ROOTS

EPHRAIM BUENO

*Congratulations to
the American Physicians Fellowship
for Medicine in Israel
and its launch of
the Judeo Medical Journal*

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Editorial

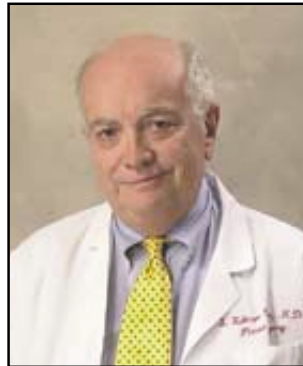
Let me fill you with my excitement for our new Journal and plans for APF as I start my Presidency this month. Neither of these undertakings will really blossom without your help. I can't tell you how much we need the support and contributions that only you can bring. **HELP!!** The new Journal needs to be infused with new, young, and exciting editors who are from all over the country and authors covering all specialties. One look at the list of editorial board will show you the deficits we have in this group. Taking on a position on the editorial board means hard work in soliciting articles and then reviewing articles on a regular basis. In addition, we need summary review medical articles which will be of interest to all readers regardless of their specialties. They must be based on solid science and be well written. Because this is not a peer review journal listed in Index Medicus, authors can have the fun and challenge of presenting the readers information which will be helpful to them regardless of their specialty. We do not expect your Nobel Prize paper here. For example, as a Plastic Surgeon, I am preparing articles on practical aspects of wound healing and things all healthcare workers should know about the patients who want cosmetic surgery. In addition, we welcome articles on Jewish medical history and medical ethics. Therefore, I have a friend working on articles about Jewish physicians and nurses in the Civil War. Did you know the significant part Jews played in fighting and working for the Confederacy? You need not be Jewish to hold a position on the Journal or write for it. In fact, many of my non-Jewish friends have voiced an interest in the Journal and issues in Israel and will be writing pieces for us. If you have other ideas which fit for such a journal, let us know. **IF YOU WANT A NEW JOURNAL THAT WORKS FOR YOU, YOU MUST BE A PART OF IT.**

APF is the organization behind **JMJ**[®]. It has been around for fifty years running with a small group of administrators and supported by a devoted board and philanthropic friends. Within the last decade, it has begun to be a real twenty-first century organization under the excellent leadership of Dr. Louis Sherwood and Sherry Gorbach. I hope that the years of my Presidency will see even more progress. The rate of progress

will be greater thanks to the foundation established by my recent predecessors. Thanks to the solid abilities of our new Executive Director, Barbara Samulevich, and a lot of enthusiasm from staff and a select group of board members, a number of changes will be made.

- (1) The board will be infused with new young talented members from healthcare fields and from industry.
- (2) Rather than just the Northeast, we will achieve nationwide representation on the board.
- (3) Board members will be expected to work on assigned committee tasks designed to improve the execution of our goals and objectives.

The major goals of APF will continue to be our healthcare educational scholarship programs and our program to provide healthcare workers to Israel for care of civilians in time of national emergency. Our immediate objective is to get these programs working at a maximal level of efficiency and expanding them as we grow. This is particularly true of the scholarship program, which can do much more when the funds are available. Clearly then, fund raising will be a major goal over the next three years. This will require learning how to raise funds better than we have in the past.



Many people have come up with new ideas for all sorts of programs. Each person has his or her individual passion for causes. My sense is that

all this is irrelevant unless people are willing to take the lead and provide the money for these causes. For example, I would love to see a program providing American and Israeli physicians to give on-site help to Jews and non-Jews alike in Third World countries where medical care is very poor indeed. APF cannot make fulfill these dreams without the manpower and money to make these dreams a reality. We must recruit a talented board to help us in this task.

Finally, we are blessed by the head and heart of Elie Wiesel looking over APF and our new Journal. I fervently believe that both vehicles can provide a sense of care and understanding for all mankind and help in some way to make this a world of peace and understanding. The art and science of healing can do much to ameliorate the haltered in the world and both the Journal and APF can push these processes along.

Please help us with your mind, your initiatives, and with your money. Both the Journal and APF are a solid investment in the future.

I. KELMAN COHEN, M.D. PhD (Hon)
President
APF



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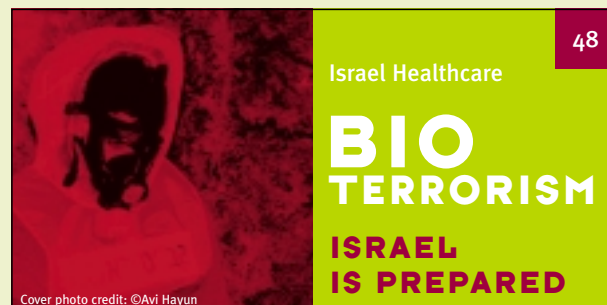
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David Camden De Leon, M.D. (1803-1872)

First Surgeon General of the Confederacy

Dr. De Leon was a member of the Sephardic Jewish Community in Charleston South Carolina. He entered the US Military as a surgeon and fought in the Mexican War of 1846 -47. He participated in the two major offensives of the war.

During the final battle in Mexico City, in storming Chapultepec Castle, all the officers in De Leon's unit were killed or wounded. Picking up the fallen commander's sword, De Leon led the remainder of his unit over the parapets. He earned the sobriquet "The Fighting Doctor" and won the equivalent of the Congressional Medal of Honor. He next was sent to New Mexico where he and Kit Carson estab-

lished "Law & Order." When the Confederacy was formed in the Spring of 1861, he was chosen by Jefferson Davis to organize the medical services of the South.

He ultimately joined General Kirby Smith's Western Confederate Army in Texas. He died in New Mexico in 1872. This daguerreotype was taken in Mexico City in 1847 after his famous victory.

Stanley B. Burns, M.D.,F.A.C.S., a New York City ophthalmologist, is the creator, curator and proprietor of the Burns Archive. This collection of over 700,000 vintage photographs has been the subject of numerous documentaries and exhibitions. Dr. Burns has authored nine critically acclaimed photo-history books and hundreds of articles. He serves as consultant to museums, corporations, the legal profession, individuals, and the media. Presently, he is working on a catalogue of the collection and a photo-history of lynching and vigilantism.

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ABOUT THE APF...

The American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel

A Proud Fifty-year History

The APF is a 501c-3 nonprofit organization supported by its members. Its members are dedicated to the advancement of medical education, research and healthcare in Israel. American physicians, healthcare professionals, donors, foundations, and corporate sponsors provide funding for fellowship grants, research, equipment, visiting lecturers, and the sponsorship of numerous other projects. These efforts have all contributed to the development of nearly all major medical institutions in Israel.



Eleanor Roosevelt and APF's Dr. Solomon Ginsberg

A Clear Focus on Medicine

The APF is an independent organization and is not affiliated with any political or religious group. Its activities are focused only on clearly designated goals related to the practice of medicine in Israel and the United States.



A Commitment to Continuing Medical Education

The Fellowship's CME conferences are accredited by Tufts University. In keeping with its longstanding commitment to medical ethics, APF has taken the lead in providing a wide array of programs that focus on this topic.

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American Physicians Fellowship Grants 11th Annual Edward H. Kass Award

Since 1991, the APF has awarded a major annual grant to support the medical research of promising young physicians in Israel. These grants were established in memory of the late **Edward H. Kass, M.D.**, a distinguished Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and also a past president of APF (1986-1990).

APF is proud to announce two recipients of this year's award, **Dr. Shai Cohen** and **Dr. Alon Friedman**.

Dr. Cohen, a graduate of Ben Gurion University School of Medicine, is an outstanding lecturer and researcher at the Faculty of Medicine, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, and a senior physician in charge of immunology and allergic disorders at the Department of Internal Medicine, Carmel Medical Center, Haifa.

Dr. Cohen's research is entitled, "Accelerated Ubiquitin-mediated Degradation of the Cell Cycle Regulator p27 as a Pathogenetic Cause in Prostate Carcinoma: Clinical and Pathological Correlates, Biological Mechanisms, and 'Cure' by Small Phospho-Derivatives that Inhibit Specifically the p27 Ubiquitin Ligase." The main objective of this project is to identify the biochemical mechanisms that underlie the accelerated degradation of p27 in prostate malignancies and try to inhibit them by using target-oriented modalities.



Dr Shai Cohen

It is said of Dr. Cohen, that "his zealous approach to research indicates that he possesses a great potential to become a leading clinician-scientist," and APF is proud to be able to sponsor him with the Kass Award for 2001-2002.

In an unusual action, this year, both the Israeli and the North American Review Committees considered the proposal of Dr. Friedman worthy of a second Kass Award.

Dr. Friedman, a summa cum laude graduate of the M.D.-Ph.D. program of Ben Gurion University, is a coordinator and teacher at the Recanati School for Community Health Professions and a fourth-year resident in the Department of Neurosurgery, Faculty of Health Sciences, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.



Dr Alon Friedman

Dr. Friedman's research is entitled, "Short and Long-term Neurophysiological Consequences of Blood-Brain-Barrier Disruption in the Rat Barrel Cortex." The main objective of this proposal is to characterize in detail the neurophysiological consequences of the blood-brain-barrier, and advance the understanding of the role of BBB in health and disease.

Rivka Carmi, M.D., Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences of Ben Gurion University has written that "Dr. Friedman can only be classified as one of those rare human beings who excels as a physician and a scientist." It is with great pleasure that APF, through the Edward H. Kass Fund, is able to grant Dr. Friedman a Kass Award for 2001-2002.

APF is grateful to Mrs. Amalie Kass, whose generous support has made the endowment for the Kass Award possible. Our gratitude also goes to the APF's Israel Advisory Committee composed of leading physicians representing the four medical faculties: Professors Shmuel Eidelman from Haifa, Shimon Glick from Beer Sheva, Ahuva Golik from Tel Aviv, and Alan Rubinow and Tova Chajek from Jerusalem). We also thank as well the North American Review Committee: Leonard S. Gottlieb, M.D., M.P.H. (chair), Franklin H. Epstein, M.D., Sherwood L. Gorbach, M.D., Louis M. Sherwood, M.D., and J. Alex Haller, M.D.

Solomon Hirsh Nurse Fund Supports Israeli Nurses

Since 1988, the American Physicians Fellowship has brought some three dozen Israeli nurses to the United States and Canada for short-term specialized training in leading medical centers, through the **Solomon Hirsh Memorial Nurse Education Fund**, established and maintained

by Executive Committee member, **Dr. Richard N. Hirsh** of Akron, Ohio. In 2001, the grant recipients were **Carolyn Moalem**, **Hila Fighel**, and **Yehudit Trau**.

Carolyn Moalem, R.N., is a pediatric clinical supervisor for quality management and nursing informatics at HaEmek Medical Center in Afula. This past summer, through the Hirsh Fund, she had a month-long informally structured learning experience in



Carolyn Moalem

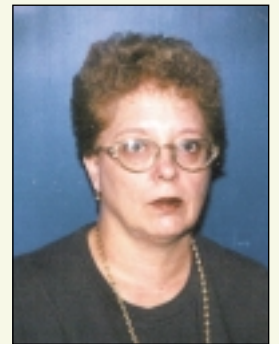
quality assessment and management at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in Baltimore. She also spent time with the medical informatics staff there. She hopes to apply what she learned there in these areas at the hospital in Afula. "How can I ever thank you for all your help in making possible this wonderful experience," she wrote to Dr. Hirsh and the APF, upon completion of her program.



Hila Fighel

Hila Fighel, R.N., is a nurse in the Pediatric ICU at Dana Children's Hospital of the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center (Ichilov). She is also an instructor in advanced pediatric and neonatal intensive care at the nursing school. Mrs. Fighel spent a month in late summer in the Pediatric ICU at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City. She was exposed to all the major areas—surgical, trauma, internal medicine, oncology, etc. In addition, she learned much about nurse instruction, continuing education, staff organization and education. She was at the hospital on September 11 and observed first-hand the preparations made that day for dealing with mass casualties.

Yehudit Trau, R.N., a nurse at Bnai Zion Hospital in Haifa in the field of Nephrology spent a month at Mt. Sinai in New York City, where she learned about the management and methods of a modern dialysis department.



Yehudit Trau



Israel Needs Emergency Medical Volunteers

"I have just returned from Israel where I was privileged to serve as a Plastic Surgeon at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. This has been one of the most meaningful experiences of my professional career, and I am indeed proud to have been of service to my people. ..."

"... It was indeed an honor, as well as a privilege to have been able to serve during Israel's Yom Kippur War."

These are quotes from letters received from **American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel** members Dr. Arthur G. Ship and Dr. Stanley H. Bushkoff upon their return to the United States, after volunteering their service during the Yom Kippur War. Twenty-seven medical and paramedical volunteers answered the call for medical assistance in Israel.

Thankfully, the APF has not had to send physicians to Israel since. We hope Israel will achieve true peace, but reality requires that we be prepared for any threat. During times of crisis, the need for emergency specialties increases because the number of patients wounded rises dramatically and the specialized manpower in Israeli hospitals is depleted as staff physicians are called to military duty. Medical volunteers are needed to serve the civilian population at the healthcare facilities around the country, particularly in surgical and critical care.

We currently have over 300 Emergency Medical Volunteers on our database. One volunteer, **Laurinda Elgin**, recently wrote "I pray for peace but we never know! It is a blessing to know we can help when we're needed."

The APF is the sole organization in North America designated by the State of Israel to maintain a Registry of Medical Volunteers willing to come to Israel in case of a national emergency.



The Versailles hall disaster, Jerusalem, May 5, 2001



Terrorist attack in Jerusalem, August 9, 2001



The Versailles hall disaster, Jerusalem, May 5, 2001

For more information on how you can register as an **Emergency Medical Volunteer for Israel**, please contact Helen Walter at 617-232-5382 or Helen@apfmed.org. You can also visit our web site at www.apfmed.org to download an emergency medical volunteer application.

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JUDEO MEDICAL JOURNAL



The Mission of the JMJ

The mission of this Journal is to provide updates on the science and practice of Medicine along with articles on Jewish culture, history, art, philosophy, and ethics in a medical setting.

For both our members and non-members to have a tangible connection to the fellowship through which they will be able to closely monitor and participate in its discussions and activities.

To establish a consistent channel of communication that will serve as a way to strengthen ties between our members and maintain a link to help us pursue our common interests.



The editorial focus of the Judeo Medical Journal is to present the Jewish perspective on medicine.

Examples of future topics:

- **The Humane Genome Project** and how it relates to Jewish medical ethics.
- **New Insights into diseases** that affect Jewish populations, for example:
 - Breast/Ovarian Cancer- the story of the BRCA genes.
 - Prenatal counseling for the Jewish couple.
 - A history of Tay-Sachs disease.
- **Medicine and Jewish Law** as it relates to:
 - Reproductive Medicine
 - Cloning
 - Physician-Assisted Euthanasia
- **Jewish Medical History**
 - History of Jewish Medical Institutions such as The Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Mt. Sinai Hospital, Weitzman Institute.
 - Profiles on Great Jews in Medicine such as Maimonides, Freud and each of the luminaries who comprise the 39 Jewish Nobel Prize winners in science and medicine from the past century.
- **Comprehensive updates** concerning Medicine in Israel

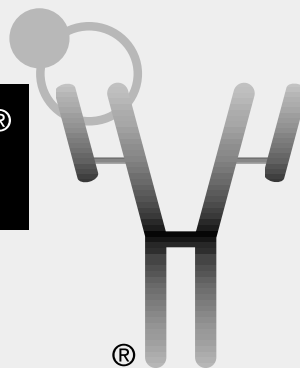
Our Ambitions for the JMJ

The circulation of the APF Journal currently stands at 15,000 Jewish American physicians of all specialties.

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ALLERGISTS FOR ISRAEL

When Bill Silvers returned from a year in Israel at the Hadasah Ein Kerem Jerusalem Hospital, helping to develop a new allergy clinic, he promised himself that he would do something to help what was then a small specialty in Israel.

He began holding a Kiddush in his hotel room on Friday nights of the American Academy and College of Allergy meetings. In 1983 he was clinical attending in the allergy clinic at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and met Yoseph Mekori, who was then an allergy fellow. By 1984, before Yoseph Mekori returned to Israel to become head of the allergy clinic, and then Department of Medicine Chief of Meir Hospital at Kfar Saba, they held a parlor meeting in Denver with several local allergists, and thereafter Allergists for Israel (AFI) was started as an endowment fund of the Allied Jewish Federation of Denver. It was nicknamed AmA-CHAI—American Allergists Concerned about Helping Allergy in Israel.

The Friday night Kiddush became a tradition at the annual allergy meetings, with Bill bringing the wine, a local allergist being asked to bring the challahs. One year the Kiddush was in Lyndon and Randee Mansfield's hotel room, for no one else came! When Don Aaronson became president of the American College of Allergy and Immunology, the location moved from hotel rooms to meeting rooms, notice was placed in the official meeting program, and he provided the first kosher meal for the attendees. Eli Meltzer could always be counted on to lead some great singing at the social Kiddush, and any number of the Orthodox would lead the traditional services. Donations were given (\$180 for Shomer, \$118 for Haver, and

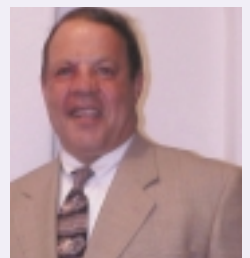
less for Ozer), and gifts were made to most teaching allergy clinics yearly. These ranged from memberships to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology so clinics could have the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, to books, teaching slides, and a pollen sampler. When a sizable donation was given to the newly built Children's Medical Center of Israel on the Beilinson campus, a matching unrestricted donation was given to Israel Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

In 1993 the AFI participated in Interasma in Jerusalem. Eighteen members took a pre-trip via Poland, Prague, and Budapest, meeting with allergists along the way. These included Hal Kaiser, Martin Kaplan, Mike Kessel, Mike Mellon, Robert Nathan, Mel Newman, Richard Rosenthal, Howard Schwartz, Bill Silvers, Arthur Sussman, and Jerold Yecies. We had an AFI/Israel Society dinner at a Roman era restaurant in the Old City arranged by Israel Glazier, the dean of Israel allergy who always participated in the AFI meetings with Eliakima bringing over home-made honey cake to the States!

Along the way, by-laws and a mission statement were drafted.

In 1997, Dr. Gary Gross made the introduction to the American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel, which was undergoing a renewal with Dr Louis Sherwood and the executive director, Don Perlstine. Bill Silvers was wishing to have the administration done outside of his own office, and an affiliate relationship was developed. In 1998, the AFI coordinated with the APF and had their first allergy meeting with the Israel Society in Tel Aviv, co-chaired by Dr. Sheldon Spector and Dr. Silvers. This was partially sponsored by Schering Plough, who for the next several years sponsored the Shabbat dinners at the AAAAI meetings, coordinated by Dr. Alan Harris. Aventis, Purdue Frederick, and AstraZeneca have given other pharmaceutical support along the way.

In 2001, Lyndon Mansfield, M.D. assumed the chairmanship of AFI, and with the support of an executive advisory board of Drs Jonathan Bernstein, Don Aaronson, Howard Schwartz, Hal Kiser, and Gary Green. The mission to bond and help as Allergists for Israel will continue. Shalom.



Lyndon Mansfield



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