

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

Women & Science Spring Lecture and Luncheon

The Latest Word on Heart Disease and Stroke **RESEARCH, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT**

Date: Thursday, May 13, 2010

Time: 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Place: Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall

The Rockefeller University

York Avenue at East 66th Street

Cardiovascular disease—including heart attack and stroke—has long been the leading cause of death in the United States among both men and women. As recently as the mid-1990s, however, clinical research efforts paid insufficient attention to women’s cardiovascular health.

Fortunately, the situation has improved, and today’s biomedical scientists are striving to advance the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease in men *and* women. For example, scientists are now looking closely at the gender-specific effects of HDL, LDL, and other lipids in the bloodstream. In studies of inflammation as an underlying cause of heart disease, researchers are considering the specific health risks of both sexes.

The 2010 *Women & Science* Spring Program will present two distinguished Rockefeller University physician-scientists discussing discoveries in cardiovascular research and their impact on medicine. **Jan L. Breslow, M.D.**, a past president of the American Heart Association, is Rockefeller’s Frederick Henry Leonhardt Professor. A pioneer in using DNA technology to study cholesterol metabolism, Dr. Breslow identified the *apo E* gene, which is linked to both heart disease and Alzheimer’s. His current work includes evaluation of the effects of diet and cholesterol-lowering medications.

Barry S. Coller, M.D., is the University’s vice president for medical affairs and physician-in-chief of The Rockefeller University Hospital, as well as the David Rockefeller Professor. Dr. Coller’s groundbreaking investigations of platelet physiology and thrombosis led to the discovery of a drug now widely used to reduce complications of coronary artery stents. He has also created a test to monitor the effects of aspirin and *clopidogrel* (Plavix) in individual patients. Drs. Breslow and Coller are members of the National Academy of Sciences and its Institute of Medicine.

Joining the discussion as a special guest will be **Holly S. Andersen, M.D.**, director of education and outreach for the Ronald O. Perelman Heart Institute. A leading cardiologist, Dr. Andersen is an associate professor of clinical medicine at Weill-Cornell Medical College and an associate attending physician at New York-Presbyterian Hospital.

**For ticket information, please contact Laurel Birch at (212) 327-8963
or birchl@rockefeller.edu**