

Inaugural "Not For Women Only" Program

AFFAIRS OF THE HEART

Recent Insights into Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

Date:	Tuesday, January 25, 2005	Place:	Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall
			The Rockefeller University
Time:	6:00 – 8:30 p.m.		York Avenue at East 66th Street

The adult human heart, a hard-working muscle, pumps an average of 1.3 gallons of blood per minute, or nearly 700,000 gallons a year. This prodigious blood flow delivers oxygen and essential nutrients to every cell in the body. The diseases that disrupt it can, and often do, have dire consequences. According to the World Health Organization, cardiovascular diseases—which include heart attack, stroke, hypertension, and a range of related conditions—now contribute to one-third of all deaths worldwide.

On January 25, two distinguished physician-scientists will report on advances in molecular biology, human genetics, and other areas of biomedical research that are laying the foundation for new treatments and preventive measures in cardiovascular medicine. These include drugs, diets, vaccines, gene therapies, and techniques for tissue regeneration.

Jan L. Breslow, M.D., past president of the American Heart Association, is Rockefeller's Frederick Henry Leonhardt Professor. A pioneer in the use of DNA technology to study heart disease, Dr. Breslow has identified more than a dozen human genes that govern the body's processing of cholesterol and other fats—including the *apo E* gene, which is linked to both heart disease and Alzheimer's. Dr. Breslow is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and its Institute of Medicine.





Barry S. Coller, M.D., joined Rockefeller in 2001 as vice president for medical affairs, physician-in-chief of the Hospital, and head of a laboratory investigating platelet physiology, thrombosis, and sickle cell anemia. Dr. Coller is a former chair of the medical service at Mount Sinai Medical Center, where he helped to develop a drug now routinely used to reduce complications of coronary artery angioplasty. The University's first David Rockefeller Professor, Dr. Coller is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and its Institute of Medicine.