

New Chair in Orthomolecular Medicine at University of Kansas

It has just been announced that a new chair in orthomolecular medicine and research has been endowed at the University of Kansas, in memory of Hugh D. Riordan, M.D. Dr. Riordan’s pioneering work in the use of vitamin C to combat cancer is thus fittingly commemorated and honored. It is especially gratifying that the first Riordan Professor of Orthomolecular Medicine and Research will be Jeanne Drisko, M.D., who has herself done outstanding work in the field of vitamin C research. This appointment will allow Prof. Drisko to train fellows and carry forward the valuable and promising research that was begun by Dr. Riordan and others. Readers who would like to do something practical to further this work can do so by making a bequest or donation to the Riordan Professorship Endowment at the University of Kansas. Such donations and bequests are tax deductible.

High Dose Vitamin C is Safe

A new study debunks fears that vitamin C may cause harm, allowing cancer research to move forward.

Scientists from the RECNAC II project have published findings that verify the safety of high dose intravenous vitamin C. In this study, published in the *Puerto Rico Health Sciences Journal*, Vol. 24 (4): 269-276, a phase one clinical trial with 24 terminal cancer patients receiving between ten and sixty grams of sodium ascorbate daily for eight weeks, adverse effects were reportedly minor. “The results presented in this manuscript should allay fears about the safety of ‘mega-dose’ vitamin C,” said Dr. Joseph Casciari, co-author of the manuscript.

This research comes on the heels of independent studies demonstrating efficacy of high dose vitamin C against tumor cells in experimental tumor models. Moreover, recently published case

studies suggest that high dose intravenous vitamin C can be an effective clinical modality against cancer (RECNAC II, March 2000, and National Institutes of Health (NIH), September 2005).

Intravenous vitamin C therapy has been a cornerstone of research at The Center for the Improvement of Human Functioning International (CIHFI), www.brightspot.org. Dr. Michael J. Gonzalez, RECNAC II Director, stated, “This is our second publication involving human subjects showing the safety and utility of intravenous vitamin C. We are very happy with the results. We envision the use of vitamin C as part of the conventional treatment of cancer in the near future. This historic study brings Dr. Hugh Riordan’s ideas and research to a full circle; it validates his work for the past thirty years.”

The study was funded by the Lincoln Family Foundation and conducted collaboratively by the University of Nebraska, The University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, and The Center for the Improvement of Human Functioning International (CIHFI) in Wichita, Kansas. CIHFI, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was founded by Hugh Riordan, M.D., in 1975 and has four divisions: clinical, research, education, and laboratory.

Every year at least 1.4 million cases of cancer will be diagnosed. Many current cancer therapies, including chemotherapy and radiation, can cause undesirable side effects and complications. “The Hippocratic Oath that expresses the idea to ‘first, do no harm’ is not only a part of our treatment plan for patients, but also drives our research projects,” states Ron Hunninghake, M.D., Chief Medical Officer.