## Spotlight - NIH Trial for Testosterone in older men



The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has launched a clinical research trial to determine if testosterone treatment of men aged 65 and older will help their walking, vitality, sexual function, memory, blood count, and cardiovascular risk. This trial, called The Testosterone Trial, or TTrial, is being conducted in 800 men in 12 cities across the United States. Led by University of Pennsylvania endocrinologist **Peter Snyder, MD**, Professor of Medicine, the \$45 million clinical trial, is by far the largest ever to compare the effects of the quintessential male hormone with a placebo. For more information visit www.ttrial.org.

## Announcements and Awards

# IDOM successful in obtaining ARRA Stimulus funds

The IDOM put forth 17 proposals representing total costs of \$7,665,801, for research funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). We are proud to report that we were successful in receiving notification that 9 of the 17 proposals or 53%, of them will be funded effective FY 2010 representing total costs of \$2,405,127. Individual projects that were funded include research programs led by Dr. Rex Ahima, Dr. Morrie Birnbaum, Dr. Nancy Cooke and Dr. Mitch Lazar. >> Find out more about Penn Medicine and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.



Rexford Ahima, MD, PhD was elected to the Association of American Physicians.
Dr. Ahima was also presented with the "Albert Stunkard Founder's Award", by the Penn Weight and Eating Disorders Center.



Carrie Burns, MD receives the "Best Endocrine Lecturer" award from the University of Penn School of Medicine.



- >> Several Penn Medicine physicians and staff members are mentionted throughout a multi-story supplement on diabetes that appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer a Daily News.
- >> **"Facing Down Diabetes"** Scott Soleimanpour, MD, a research fellow working in the Institute for Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism, was profiled. Read the article.
- >> "Diabetes on 54 Cents a Day"- Mark Schutta, MD, medical director of the Penn Rodebaugh Diabetes Center, notes that "there's no doubt that some of the new drugs can be a great help to many patients." Read the article.
- >> "Tracking hunger hormones" Why do we eat? Rexford Ahima, MD, PhD is trying to answer that question by studying the hormones that regulate hunger and appetite. Read the article.
- >> "In mice, beta cells grow back" Beta cells are like little brains, says pediatric endocrinologist Jake Kushner, of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Read the article.

#### Welcome Gina Burgese

We would like to introduce Gina Burgese, the new DERC Coordinator, to the IDOM/DERC community. She will be the point person for activities of the DERC, including the seminar series and the pilot & feasibility program, as well as updates to the DERC website. Gina's email address is gburgese@mail.med.upenn.edu.

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Rex Ahima, MD, PhD is elected to the Association of American Physicians. Read more.

**Susan Mandel, MD, MPH** is elected as President of APDEM - The Association of Program Directors in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism. **Read more**.

Marion Vetter, MD, RD study shows that "Low-Fat Diets Beat Low-Carb Regimen Long Term." The study results were published in the Annals of Internal Medicine. The news is featured in Business Week article and on Web-MD Health News.

**Stan Schwartz, MD** was one of only 12 Endocrinologists in the country who participated in the AACE/ACE Consensus panel. The panel produced a new, first-of-its-kind diabetes algorithm to help achieve glycemic control in type 2 patients. The glycemic algorithm is now available online.

## **Recent Publications**

PTP1B and SHP2 in POMC neurons reciprocally regulate energy balance in mice. Banno R, Zimmer D, De Jonghe BC, Atienza M, Rak K, Yang W, Bence KK. J Clin Invest. 2010 Mar 1;120(3):720-34. Epub 2010 Feb 15. PMID: 20160350.

Can the Genetics of Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes Shed some light on the Genetics of Latent Autoimmune Diabetes in Adults. Struan F.A.Grant, Hakon Hakonarson, and Stanley Schwartz. Endocrine Reviews. First published ahead of print December 10, 2009 as doi:10.1210/er.2009-0029.

Examination of all type 2 diabetes GWAS loci reveals HHEX-IDE as a locus influencing pediatric BMI. Zhao J, Bradfield JP, Zhang H, Annaiah K, Wang K, Kim CE, Glessner JT, Frackelton EC, Otieno FG, Doran J, Thomas KA, Garris M, Hou C, Chiavacci RM, Li M, Berkowitz RI, Hakonarson H, Grant SF. Diabetes. 2010 Mar;59(3):751-5. Epub 2009 Nov 23.

Perioperative Safety and Bariatric Surgery. Vetter, ML, Vinnard CL, Wadden, TA. This letter the the editor of NEJM is a collaborative effort between the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, The Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the Center for Weight and Eating Disorders. N Engl J Med 361;19, Nov. 5, 2009.

#### Save The Date

### May 25, 2010

Gastrointestinal Surgery as a Treatment of Obesity and Disease: Efficacy and Underlying Mechanisms.

#### Retreat with Poster Session

"The Metabolic Physiology of Bariatric Surgery"



**Keynote Speaker: LEE KAPLAN, M.D., PH.D.** 

Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard University, Director, MGH Weight Center

Associate Chief for Research, Gastroenterology Massachusetts General Hospital

Register online - www.med.upenn.edu/idom/gastro\_retreat/register.html

