

CollegeNews

ACMG and NCC Featured in News Program on the Genetically Driven Field of Personalized Medicine

In an iHealthBeat Special Audio Report, three experts from ACMG and the National Coordinating Center for the Genetics and Newborn Screening Collaborative Groups (www.NCCRG.org) discussed personalized medicine, newborn screening and the interface of genetic healthcare and information technology.

One part of the segment informs listeners of the ACMG's ACT sheets and the newborn screening translational network, the program putting research into new treatments and testing technologies to reduce the number of false positives.

Reaching listeners around the country, the eight-minute audio report included interviews with several ACMG representatives: Mike Watson, executive director of the ACMG; Dr. Susan Berry, of the Regional Collaboratives and division director for Genetics and Metabolism in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota; and ACMG Director, Dr. Piero Rinaldo, co-director of the biochemical genetics lab at the Mayo Clinic.

iHealthBeat is a highly-regarded daily news service that provides health care professionals with information about the impact of technology on healthcare. It is published by the California HealthCare Foundation.

Go to www.acmg.net to listen to this informative segment.

Dr. Alan E. Guttmacher Takes NHGRI Helm as Acting Director

Alan E. Guttmacher, MD, FACMG, a nationally recognized medical geneticist and pediatrician, became Acting Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) in August. He replaces Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD, FACMG, who stepped down after 15 years at NHGRI to pursue other opportunities.

"We at the American College of Medical Genetics congratulate Dr. Guttmacher on this appointment and offer him and NHGRI our support and best wishes as we all work to advance the promise of genomic science for better health care for all," says Joe Leigh Simpson, MD, president of the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG).

In a statement, Dr. Collins said, "Alan is an exceptional medical geneticist and served most ably as NHGRI's Deputy Director for the last six years. So I leave the Institute in good hands until a permanent director is selected." NIH plans to conduct a broad search for a permanent director of NHGRI, but at press time details of that search process had not been finalized.

Since its inception in 1989, the NHGRI has become a world leader in the ongoing mission to explore and understand the human genome. In April 2003, NHGRI-led researchers successfully completed the Human Genome Project—a remarkable two years ahead of schedule. Currently, NHGRI supports many genetics research projects that are building upon the foundation laid by the Human Genome Project.

Dr. Guttmacher said, “I think my experience as a physician – and, importantly, as a patient – does shape who I am and how I think about NHGRI and its work. I am intensely aware that we are part of the National Institutes of Health. Our mission is not simply to advance knowledge, as desirable as that may be, but to improve health.”

Before coming to NHGRI, Dr. Guttmacher directed the Vermont Regional Genetics Center at the University of Vermont College of Medicine. He also led the Vermont Newborn Screening Program and was the founding director of the only pediatric intensive care unit in the state. He is a graduate of Harvard Medical School.

ACMG Corporate Partners Program

Join the American College of Medical Genetics Foundation’s Corporate Partners Program and maximize your exposure to the leaders in medical genetics today. Our members are an elite community, board certified in all areas of medical genetics; they created the science and brought it to where it is today. We recognize that therapeutic, diagnostic and other related businesses are our natural allies in translating genes into health. Partnering with ACMGF provides a forum in which industry and individual members of the profession can, together, find common cause in our shared imperative: effective diagnosis and treatment of genetic disease.

Corporate Benefits Include:

- ACMGF corporate sponsor signs at the ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting
- Recognition in the ACMGF donor brochure
- Recognition in the ACMG annual meeting program guide
- Recognition in *Genetics in Medicine*, our official journal
- Inclusion in the donor listing on the ACMGF website
- Booth sign during the ACMG annual meeting
- Invitations to the ACMGF Gala Donor Recognition Reception at the annual meeting
- One complimentary full registration for the ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting
- Recognition in periodic ACMG member email communications
- Corporate profile on the ACMGF website
- A hyperlink to your corporate website from the ACMGF website
- The opportunity to partner with the Foundation on special meetings and events
- Priority Points towards a booth assignment at the ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting

To make a donation to the ACMG Foundation, go to www.acmg.net. For further information about the Corporate Partners program, please contact the ACMGF at acmg@acmg.net. Please include “CPP” in the subject line.