A Vision in Healthcare: The History of Ochsner

Hector O. Ventura, MD
Section Head Heart Failure and Heart Transplantation
Objectives

Not to Bore You!!!!!!
“The goal of history is not to predict the future but to tell us where we have been and the direction in which we are going”

John Duffy, 1984
Alton Ochsner, became the chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1927 (full time basis)

He was 31 years old, but he already demonstrated enormous drive, energy and ability

After his formal education he trained in Europe for two years at the University of Zurich and Frankfurt
“I believe in luck, the harder I work the luckier I get”

“There may be a reason for failure, but there never an excuse”

“Our primary motive is the care of the sick”

“Medicine is an stressful profession”

“I always maintained that if you take a good history and do a good physical examination and then reason, from this you can make a diagnosis”
Alton Ochsner

I’ve known people who loved to operate. That hasn’t been my fascination. My love for it is getting people well, and this is a good way to do it. My love is because I am accomplishing something. It is a mean to an end.
September 24, 1981

Dr. Alton Ochsner died at age 85.
“Nothing great in the world has ever been accomplished without passion”

Hegel
Past
“The secret of success in an institution...is to blend the old with the new...and it is not difficult if we follow Emerson’s counsel: ‘We can not overstate, he says, ‘our debt to the past, but the moment has the supreme claim; the sole terms on which the past can become ours are its subordination to the present””
The Five Founders

Francis E LeJeune, MD
Edgar Burns, MD
Curtis Tyrone, MD
Guy Caldwell, MD
Alton Ochsner, MD
To help pay for your clinic
From the Physicians, Surgeons, and Dentists of New Orleans

March 27, 1941
The Ochsner Clinic’s First Building

71 years ago…
January 2, 1942 at 3503 Prytania Street
The Foundation

Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation Formed Here

Form Medical Foundation

The establishment of a medical foundation in the city devoted exclusively to the advancement of medical science, and to educational, charitable and library purposes which will supply fellowships to young physicians for training in the specialties of their choice was announced today by J. Banc Moore, attorney for the foundation.

In addition to the fellowships offered, the Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation has three other purposes: to conduct research in the cause, prevention and treatment of disease; to provide post-graduate instruction for practicing physicians and surgeons; and to provide diagnostic facilities and hospital care for selected out-of-state patients who cannot afford medical treatment, Mr. Moore said.

Newspaper notices and editorial announcing the establishment of the Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation in January, 1944.

Dean Echols, MD

“to promote medical, surgical and scientific learning, skill, education and research in the broadest sense...to provide fellowships for approved young physicians... in order to enable them to continue their studies...”
Corner of History

My First Recognition of the Relationship of Smoking and Lung Cancer

ALTON OCHSNER

Ochsner Clinic and Ochsner Foundation Hospital, New Orleans, La. 70120

One of the early leaders in lung cancer surgery reflects on his early contacts with this disease particularly as it relates to the role of tobacco consumption and the progress in surgical techniques.

SYMPOSIUM ON CANCER

PRIMARY PULMONARY MALIGNANCY

Treatment by Total Pneumonectomy

Analysis of 79 Collected Cases and Presentation of 7 Personal Cases

ALTON OCHSNER, M.D., F.A.C.S., and MICHAEL DeBAKEY, M.D., New Orleans, Louisiana
5. Research Building
Dean Echols, MD

- 1904. Born, April 28 Appleton, Wisconsin
- 1937. Tulane University. Dr Echols was an innovator, with revolutionary ideas in the field of neurosurgery
- 1938. Founding member and first president of The Academy of Neurosurgery
- 1942. Joined the Ochsner Clinic as a consultant
- 1944. Medical director of the Foundation and first person in charge of Graduate Medical Education
- 1974. Retired from the Ochsner Clinic
Preparation and Properties of Renin¹

BY OTTO SCHALES

Tigerstedt and Bergman² found that the intravenous injection of saline extracts made from fresh kidneys, causes a prolonged rise in blood pressure. They named the substance responsible for this effect Renin and concluded that it is a protein, soluble in water and dilute salt solutions, insoluble in alcohol and inactivated by heat. Bingel and Strauss³ confirmed these results and purified crude kidney press juice to a certain extent by isolating the fraction soluble in 1/5 saturated and precipitated by 7/12 saturated ammonium sulfate solution. Hessel⁴ gave a general outline of a further purification of renin, but has not published the detailed procedure.

(1) Presented before the Division of Biological Chemistry at the Atlantic City meeting of the American Chemical Society, September 11, 1941.

Hypertension Specialist, Dr. Edward Frohlich, To Head Education and Research Programs

Dr. Edward D. Frohlich, nationally noted hypertension specialist, has accepted appointment as vice president for education and research of the Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation. When he joins the Ochsner Medical Institutions July 1, Dr. Frohlich will relinquish a lifetime endowed chair as the George Lynn Cross Research Professor at the University of Oklahoma.

Dr. Frohlich will direct all postgraduate medical education programs, scientific research and allied health training activities at the institutions. He will serve as a staff physician at Ochsner Clinic, and will continue his laboratory and clinical research on high blood pressure.

There are now 140 doctors enrolled in the 22 specialty and subspecialty medical education programs offered at Ochsner. Training and residency programs also are conducted in six allied health professions.

Current scientific research projects at the Ochsner Medical Institutions include clinical and investigative studies of breast and prostate cancer; vascular surgery and coronary bypass techniques; artificial tendon prosthesis; immunology in arthritis and hepatitis; electron microscopy on various skin diseases; and chemotherapy treatment of leukemia, lymphoma and other forms of cancer.

Dr. Frohlich has studied the human circulatory system and hypertension since 1958. His work has expanded over the years to include study of the clinical, biochemical, pharmacological and physiological aspects of high blood pressure. Hypertension afflicts an estimated 23 million Americans, and is regarded as one of the chief causes of heart attack, stroke and kidney failure.

Accompanying Dr. Frohlich to Ochsner this summer will be five full-time researchers, five research trainees and several technicians. His laboratory will occupy almost an entire floor of the Richard W. Freeman Research Institute on the Ochsner campus.

At Ochsner, Dr. Frohlich replaces Dr. C. Thorpe Ray as head of education and research. Dr. Ray became chairman of the department of medicine at Tulane University Medical Center in 1975. Dr. Donald T. Erwin has been acting head since Dr. Ray's departure.

A native of New York City, Dr. Frohlich is an honor graduate of Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, Pa. He earned his medical degree in 1956 at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, and received a masters degree in physiology from Northwestern University, Chicago, in 1963. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Frohlich served as chief of the circulation section in the U.S. Army Medical Research Laboratory's environmental medicine division, Fort Knox, Ky., from 1960 to 1962. He has held appointments as associate professor of medicine at Northwestern University Medical School; as chief clinical investigator of the Hypertension Clinic at the VA Research Hospital, Chicago; and as a member of the research staff at the Cleveland Clinic.

At the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Dr. Frohlich was professor of medicine, physiology and biophysics; associate professor of pharmacology; and director of the hypertension section of the department of medicine.

Dr. Frohlich is a member of 21 U.S. and international medical organizations, including the American Board of Internal Medicine, American College of Cardiology, American College of Physicians, American Society for Clinical Investigation, New York Academy of Sciences and the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation. He has authored more than 200 scientific papers and abstracts. In 1971, he received the Southern Medical Association Annual Award.

Today Dr. Frohlich serves on eight committees and councils of the American Heart Association. He is an active member and former president of the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics. He serves on the scientific advisory council of the International Society of Hypertension and is a consultant to the National Heart and Lung Institute. Among his several editorial posts is that of editor-in-chief of the Journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine.

Dr. Frohlich represents the United States on a committee of the International Federation of Cardiologists.

Dr. Frohlich was the top candidate for the Ochsner position after a nationwide search conducted by the institutions.
Immediate hemodynamic effects of a dopamine-receptor agonist (fenoldopam) in patients with essential hypertension

Hector O. Ventura, M.D., Franz H. Messerli, M.D., Edward D. Frohlich, M.D., Isaac Kobrin, M.D., Willie Oigman, M.D., Francis G. Dunn, M.D., and Robert M. Carey, M.D.

ABSTRACT  Systemic, splanchnic, and renal hemodynamics, intravascular volume, and reflexive and endocrine changes were measured before and after a single dose of fenoldopam, a novel antihypertensive agent that acts through stimulation of specific dopamine receptors. A 13% reduction in mean arterial pressure was mediated by a fall in total peripheral resistance associated with an increase in cardiac index, heart rate, stroke volume, left ventricular ejection rate, and circumferential fiber shortening. Renal blood flow increased, thereby reducing the renal vascular resistance by more than 40%. In contrast, splanchnic hemodynamics failed to change. Likewise, there were no changes in intravascular volume, plasma renin activity, or norepinephrine, serum aldosterone, or prolactin levels. Circulation 69, No. 6, 1142-1145, 1984.
Camp Plauche
The first hospital
Building The Future
Present
Patient Survival Guide

Best Hospitals

How medical care will change after health reform
Are you taking too many drugs?
Winning the obesity battle
Danger: Health insurance scams
“I will not balance the Foundation’s budget at the expense of education and research”
Camp Plauche
The first hospital
The Ochsner Medical Center
The New Critical Care Tower
OCHSNER EXPANDS ITS REACH
The Ochsner Journal

Volume 1, Number 1
January 1999

Organ Allocation and Transplantation

A Congressional Perspective on Organ Allocation
United States Representative Bob Livingston

The Organ Allocation Controversy: How Did We Arrive Here?
Clifford H. Van Meter

Advances in Lung Transplantation
Vincent G. Valantine
P. Michael McConnell
John L. Ochtrup

Evolution of a Statewide Organ Recovery Program: A Louisiana Perspective
Louise Racine
Virginia McEride

Current Advances in Liver Transplantation
James D. Ensor
Diana L. Rowell

Multicenter Studies of Lamivudine for the Treatment and Prevention of Hepatitis B After Liver Transplantation
Robert Perrillo
Unification of Ochsner Clinic and Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation
The founders of the Ochsner Clinic had a vision for the future that included a commitment not only to the delivery of superb medical care but also to excellence in medical education and research. This commitment has remained a defining element of the Ochsner Mission, and has resulted in the success of Ochsner as a nationally and internationally recognized medical institution. Providing World class education will enable us to continue to deliver the best care to every patient, every day.
Merrill O. Hines

Thomas E. Weiss
It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future
“The future is not a result of choices among alternative paths offered by the present, but a place that is created--created first in the mind and will, created next in activity. The future is not some place we are going to, but one we are creating.”
To Be Continued…