

HDL in St. Louis spotlight

One highlight of the AOCS 69th Annual Meeting was the three-day program on serum lipoproteins and their direct or inverse relationships to heart disease.

The main subject of the High Density Lipoprotein Symposium was the substantial scientific evidence to indicate an inverse relationship to coronary heart disease. The keynote speaker, Dr. Robert Levy, director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, commented that "HDL has come of age," citing the recent intense interest of biochemists, clinicians, and epidemiologists on the potential protective role of HDL in coronary heart disease."

The evidence presented seemed to further confirm that there is "good" cholesterol—containing high density lipoproteins—as well as the bad cholesterol—containing low density lipoproteins.

Opening the clinical part of the symposium, Dr. Norman Miller, initiator of the antiatherogenic concept for HDL, further strengthened his case with several recent epidemiological studies.

Other significant topics covered the effects of hormones, exercise, and moderate alcohol on raising serum HDL levels. The session closed with a day of short papers directed at all aspects of lipoprotein methodology, function, and metabolism.

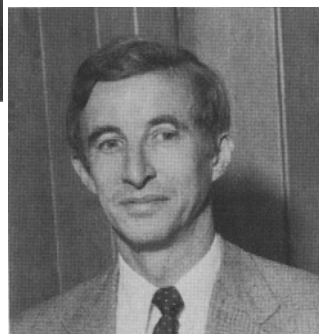
Organizer Frank Lindgren deliberately included many methods-related papers, in keeping with Claude Bernard's statement, "Every advance in science is first preceded by an advance in technique."

The symposium and the accompanying short papers were certified for up to 15 hours credit toward AMA continuing medical education programs. As many as 300 persons attended each paper.

The sessions concluded with intense discussions, particularly on the function of HDL, raising important problems that may become the subject of future meetings. ●



Frank Lindgren



Dr. Antonio Gotto Jr.
was speaker for luncheon.



HDL Speaker's Luncheon head table included, from left, Frank Lindgren, Antonio Gotto Jr., Basil Rifkind, Helen Lindgren, Angelo Scanu, Lena Lewis, Alex Nichols, and Gary Nelson.



At one HDL luncheon table were, from left, Fred Kummerow, Peter Oster, Harold Nicholas, Raymond Reiser, Penny Wells, and Pete Wood.



Among participants were Norman Miller, originator of the antiatherogenic concept for HDL, far left, and Kenneth Carroll, second from left.



HDL speakers during Tuesday luncheon.