

Women's News and Stories

New Vaccination Can Arrest Juvenile Diabetes Say Researchers at Hadassah Medical Organization

In a major breakthrough, a new vaccine developed at the Weizmann Institute and researched at the Hadassah Diabetes Center at Ein Kerem in Israel, has been shown to be effective in treating the devastating effects of juvenile diabetes. Data on the vaccine, which can arrest the effects of the disease and also avert the need for insulin injection, will be published in the next issue of the prestigious medical journal, *Lancet*.

Juvenile diabetes (Type 1 diabetes mellitus) is a disease in which an individual's white blood cells attack beta-cells in the pancreas and destroy them, resulting in a depletion of insulin in the blood. Regular self-injection of insulin prevents death, but does not entirely

prevent the appearance of severe complications resulting from the disease, which may include blindness and other serious eye problems, kidney failure (leading to dialysis), and difficulties of the nervous system.

A research team headed by Prof. Itamar Raz, Director of the Hadassah Diabetes Center in Ein Kerem, treated 31 patients with juvenile diabetes. Fifteen of them received the vaccination and 16 others were given a placebo. After ten months, it was found that in those patients who were vaccinated the disease was arrested, while the condition of the patients receiving a placebo showed no such effects.

"The Hadassah Diabetes Center research demonstrated that in

patients treated with the new vaccine the beta-cells were preserved, while in untreated patients complete destruction of beta-cells was diagnosed," comments Prof. Raz. "Moreover," he points out, "treatment with the new vaccine not only maintained the level of production of insulin but even improved the function of insulin-producing cells."

Prof. Raz adds that in addition to the actual clinical results for the vaccine, the research provides proof that we have the capability to safely take material from the laboratory level and successfully determine the correct dosage, time and administration interval for optimal results. ☆

MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER

Third Annual Seminar on Breast Health for the Woman at High Risk

Tuesday, February 19, 6:00-8:00
The Jewish Community Center
5007 Providence Road

Speakers:

Lisa Amiker-North, Genetic Testing
Peter Turk, M.D., Sentinel Node Biopsy
Light refreshments served. Reservations required.

Sponsors:

The American Cancer Society, Carolinas Healthcare System, Hadassah, Presbyterian Hospital

Please call 704-384-9690 for reservations.

If you need transportation to any program or event please call Debby Rosenberger at 704-543-3148.

The Legacy Mission: in the Footsteps of Hadassah's Foremothers

Unique Trip Celebrates Organization's 90th Anniversary

New York - This spring, Hadassah members nationwide will celebrate the 90th anniversary of the organization's founding with a series of local and national events. Perhaps most meaningful of all will be its special Legacy Mission to Israel from March 10 to March 17. Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, was founded on Purim in 1912, at New York's Temple Emanuel. It has since grown into a vibrant organization of 300,000 members in chapters throughout the country.

Led by Hadassah's National President Bonnie Lipton and former National Presidents, Deborah Kaplan and Marlene Post, the mission is heralded as a special opportunity "to follow in the footsteps of our foremothers," explains president Lipton. "We will see the

sights and the sites where our early leaders and past presidents - founder Henrietta Szold, and Irma Lindheim, Alice Seligsberg, and Faye Schenk - lived and worked as they established the foundations of Hadassah."

Deborah Kaplan, chair of the 90th Anniversary, describes the mission as "a unique five-day study and travel tour: a way to really share the vision of our founders and understand their destiny."

Highlights of the Legacy Mission include a meeting with Israel's President Moshe Katzav; participation in the Women of Distinction Awards ceremony at the Knesset; visits to Zichron Yaacov, Oranim, Mercaz Herzog and more; a visit to Mishmar HaEmek, kibbutz home of Irma Lindheim, and meetings with

prominent, activist Israeli women.

This trip into Hadassah's history and "herstory," past and present, is limited to just 40 participants. For more information, please call 212-303-8031, or email 90thanniversary@hadassah.org.

Founded in 1912, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America is the largest women's, largest Zionist, and largest Jewish membership organization in the United States. In Israel, it supports medical care and research, education, and youth institutions, and reforestation and parks projects. In the US, Hadassah promotes health education, social action and advocacy, volunteerism, Jewish education and research, Jewish youth programs and connections with Israel. ☆

Jewish Education Days

Thursday, February 21 and
Friday, February 22, 2002
Thursday, February 21, 2002
7:00 PM

Join us for hamantashen and a thought-provoking evening with guest speaker Rabbi Yosef Edelstein of Savannah, GA and the Charlotte Torah Center/Congregation B'nai Shalom. His topic is "The Purpose of Life (In One Hour or Less)," a fascinating overview based on classical Jewish sources: the purpose of humanity's creation, the task of

people in the world, and the world to come (the Jewish concept of an afterlife.) Come to hear this dynamic educator at the Morrison Branch of the Charlotte/Mecklenburg Public Library (near South Park). The program is free and open to all Hadassah members. RSVP to Amalia Warshenbrot, 704-365-3313 or by e-mail, amaliaw@mind-spring.com.

Friday, February 22, 2002
Lunch - 11:30 AM; Tour - 1:00 PM

Join us for lunch and/or a tour at the Levine Museum Of The New South. We will eat lunch at 11:30 AM at Red Rocks Café in Strawberry Hill Shopping Center. Then we will carpool to the Levine Museum for a tour at 1 PM given by a knowledgeable docent. Cost for the tour is \$4.00. RSVP to Selina Banner, 704-341-8513 (please indicate if you will be attending the lunch, the tour, or both).

If you need transportation to any program or event please call Debby Rosenberger at 704-543-3148. ☆



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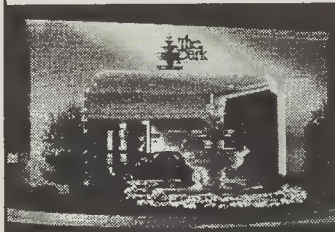


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MEDICAL ALERT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

APRIL 18 - 7:30 PM

Getting married? Pregnant?
Tested for Jewish genetic disorders?
It's critical that you do. Find out why on Thursday evening, April 18, at Temple Israel when Hadassah presents:

"It's in the Genes!"

Questions? Call Sheila Peltzer, Health Co-Chair, at 704-540-8555.

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