

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Gökhan S. Hotamisligil, MD, PhD, Receives American Diabetes Association's Distinguished Achievement Award

— Hotamisligil Presented with Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award —

Chicago, IL (June 25, 2006) – The American Diabetes Association (ADA), the nation's largest and leading voluntary health organization in the fight against diabetes, announced that Gökhan Hotamisligil, MD, PhD, today received the Association's prestigious Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award at the organization's 67th Scientific Sessions, which runs through June 26.

The Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award recognizes research in diabetes that demonstrates particular independence of thought and originality.

"On behalf of the American Diabetes Association, we are delighted to present this prestigious award to Dr. Gökhan Hotamisligil," said Larry C. Deeb, MD, President, Medicine & Science, American Diabetes Association. "His achievements in establishing such an innovative area of research are extremely impressive and have changed the way the scientific community views chronic metabolic diseases. He has led us to ground-breaking discoveries about the link between obesity, insulin resistance, and inflammation that we hope will soon lead to new treatments that can benefit patients with diabetes."

Dr. Hotamisligil is currently the James Stevens Simmons Professor of Genetics and Metabolism at Harvard School of Public Health in Boston. His work has been revolutionary in developing the concept that obesity promotes inflammation and is associated with a variety of other factors that contribute to insulin resistance, type 2 diabetes, and other chronic illnesses.

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National Office

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Diabetes Information

call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383)
online www.diabetes.org
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The Mission of the American

Diabetes Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.

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In addition, Hotamisligil discovered many central mechanisms leading to inflammation and metabolic disease, including the roles of lipid binding proteins, the JNK gene and endoplasmic reticulum stress, and also described how these mechanisms interfere with the body's ability to respond to insulin properly and regulate metabolism. As a result, many groups, including Dr. Hotamisligil's lab, are currently pursuing therapeutic options for the treatment of diabetes, based upon his ongoing research in these areas.

More than 13,000 top scientists, physicians and other health care professionals from around the world shared cutting-edge research, treatment recommendations and advances toward a cure for diabetes at the Association's 67th Scientific Sessions in Chicago, IL.

Diabetes is a serious disease that affects the body's ability to produce or respond properly to insulin, a hormone that allows blood sugar to enter the cells of the body and be used for energy. Nearly 21 million children and adults in the U.S. have diabetes. And, at least another 54 million have pre-diabetes. Diabetes is the fifth leading cause of death by disease in the United States and it has no cure.

The American Diabetes Association is the nation's premier voluntary health organization supporting diabetes research, information and advocacy. The Association's mission is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. Founded in 1940, the Association provides services to hundreds of communities across the country. For more information please call the American Diabetes Association at 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383) or visit www.diabetes.org. Information from both these sources is available in English and Spanish.

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