

ROBERT C. GALLO, M.D.

"These unusual new viruses pose enormous challenges - not only scientific and medical challenges, but social, political and moral ones."

— Robert Gallo

Dr. Robert Charles Gallo, a leading virologist, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) researcher and author, was born in Waterbury on March 23, 1937. He is credited as a co-discoverer of the AIDS virus, developed the life saving blood test for HIV and discovered the first human cancer virus.

Dr. Gallo is the Director of the Institute for Human Virology, Professor of Medicine, Microbiology and Immunology at the School of Medicine, University of Maryland and Head of the Tumor Biology Program of the Cancer Center, University of Maryland.

Dr. Gallo received a B.A. in Biology (Summa cum laude) in 1959 from Providence College and an M.D. in 1963 from Jefferson Medical College. In 1965 Dr. Gallo joined the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, where he held several positions in the National Cancer Institute until his retirement in 1995.

Dr. Gallo is universally recognized for his achievements in pioneering the field of human retrovirology. His continuing work with the human immune deficiency virus (HIV) has opened up new areas of human virology. His major scientific interests are the mechanisms of how HIV causes AIDS, producing better, safer therapy for HIV-infected people and helping to develop an effective preventive vaccine.

He has received numerous honors and awards, including the Albert Lasker Prize twice, the Meritorious and Distinguished Service and Superior Service Awards from the U.S. Public Health Service, the General Motors Prize for Cancer Research, the American Cancer Society's Medal of Honor, the Ciba Geigy Drew Award twice, and the first Dale E. McFarlin Memorial Award of the National Retrovirology Association. Internationally, he has received the Japan Prize for Science and Technology, France's Griffuel Prize from the Association for Research on Cancer, India's Birla International Award, Canada's Gairdner Foundation Award, Israel's First Otto Herz Prize in cancer Research and the Rabbi Shai Schacknai Memorial Prize, and the Gustav-Embden Award from Germany.

Dr. Gallo has lectured extensively worldwide and was the most referenced scientist in the world between 1980 and 1990. He is on the editorial board of many scientific journals and is the author of more than 1,000 publications, including *Virus Hunting - AIDS, Cancer & the Human Retrovirus: A Story of Scientific Discovery*.

