

Dr. Fredrickson to Head Institute of Medicine; Succeeds Dr. Hogness



Dr. Fredrickson and colleagues introduced a new system, now widely used, to identify blood-lipid abnormalities.

Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, director of intramural research, National Heart and Lung Institute, will succeed Dr. John Hogness as President of the Institute of Medicine in the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Fredrickson is expected to assume the post this summer.

He will be concerned with health policy that might influence directions of biomedical research, medical education, clinical medicine, and the delivery of health services throughout the country.

Dr. Fredrickson received his B.S. and M.D. degrees from the University of Michigan. After postgraduate work at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Harvard Medical School, he joined the NHLI staff as a clinical associate in 1953.

Research Described

Over the next 13 years, Dr. Fredrickson took part in and directed research on the mechanisms by which fats and fat-like substances (lipids) are absorbed, transported, synthesized, and broken down by the body. From 1961 to 1966, he also served as the Institute's clinical director.

In 1965 Dr. Fredrickson and his colleagues introduced a new sys-

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tem for identifying and classifying blood-lipid abnormalities on the basis of plasma lipoprotein patterns.

Using this system, they demonstrated that elevated blood lipids might be indicative of any of five distinct lipid-transport disorders, termed hyperlipoproteinemias Types I-V.

They further established that each type differs from the others in the threat it poses of premature development of atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease, in its clinical manifestations, and in its responsiveness to treatment by therapeutic diets and/or lipid-lowering drugs.

This system is now widely used in this country and in a number of foreign countries.

Dr. Fredrickson was appointed Director of NHLI in 1966. He served in this post until 1968, when he elected to return to research as chief of the NHLI Molecular Diseases Branch. He was appointed Director of the Institute's intramural research in 1969.

Honors received by Dr. Fredrickson include: the Convocation Gold Medal of the American College of Cardiology; the James F. Mitchell Foundation Award for Heart and Vascular Research; the McCollum Award from the American Society of Clinical Nutrition; the DHEW Distinguished Service Award, and the *Modern Medicine* Award for Distinguished Achievement.
