

# SATCHER NAMED DIRECTOR OF CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala has announced the appointment of David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., president of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn., to be director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Satcher, 52, who has headed Meharry since 1982, is one of the nation's preeminent experts on minority and community health issues. He will assume his new duties later this year. In his new position, he will administer the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, which is also a component of the U.S. Public Health Service within HHS.

"David Satcher brings world-class professional stature, management skills, integrity and preventive health-care experience to his new role," Secretary Shalala said.

"President Clinton has directed this administration to place special emphasis on disease prevention, and we can

think of no better person to lead our prevention efforts than David Satcher," Shalala said.

HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Philip R. Lee, M.D., head of the Public Health Service, also expressed his pleasure at Dr. Satcher's appointment to the public health team. "Dr. Satcher is a world leader in medicine and public health. His vision of public health for the 21st century will enhance the 'health' in health reform."

Satcher greatly strengthened Meharry's academic and financial status during his tenure. He led fund raising efforts for the historically black medical college and formed links between Vanderbilt Medical School in Nashville.

He recently carried forward the merger of Meharry's Hubbard Hospital and the Nashville General Hospital. Under his leadership Meharry established an Institute on Health Care for the Poor and Underserved in 1989.

Dr. Satcher was born in Anniston, Ala. He received his bachelor of science degree from Morehouse College in Atlanta in 1963 and his M.D. and Ph.D. in cytogenetics from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1970. He did his residency training in the joint medicine-pediatric program at Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester in New York. At Morehouse he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and at Case Western Reserve to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

Throughout his professional career, Dr. Satcher has worked in institutions concerned primarily with the health of American minorities, gaining broad experience in preventive medicine. He has conducted basic, clinical and health services research. His interests include medical genetics (with a focus on sickle cell disease), hypertension, geriatrics and cancer.

From 1979 through 1982, Dr.

Satcher was professor and chairman of the department of community medicine and family practice, School of Medicine, Morehouse College. Before that he was an interim dean at the Charles R. Drew Postgraduate Medical School in Los Angeles and was professor and chairman of the department of family medicine.

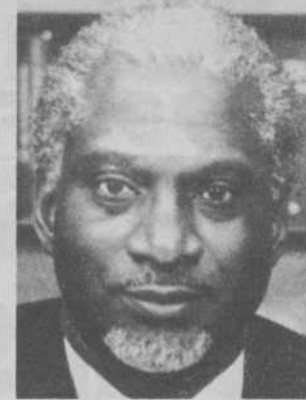
From 1974 to 1979 he was director of the King-Drew Sickle Cell Center in Los Angeles. From 1975 to 1979 he was also medical director of the Second Baptist Free Clinic in Los Angeles.

Dr. Satcher has been on several HHS advisory councils and has been serving as chairman of the Council of Graduate Medical Education. He has been principal investigator on several

major grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Health Resources and Services Administration and the National Science Foundation.

In 1986, Dr. Satcher was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He has been a member of the boards of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, the Student National Medical Association Foundation and the Boy Scouts of America and a member of the President's Advisory Board for Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

CDC — with a fiscal year 1993 budget of \$2.0 billion — provides leadership in controlling and preventing disease and injury in the United States. It's



DAVID SATCHER, M.D., Ph.D.

centers work with state and local health departments and other partners to monitor health, conduct research to enhance prevention, implement prevention strategies, promote one of eight Public Health Service agencies within HHS.

## HEALTH

### MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICANTS AT ALL-TIME HIGH

Washington, D.C., August 24, 1993 — A record-breaking 42,625 people have applied to U.S. medical schools this year, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). The 1993 applicant pool for the class entering this fall surpassed the 1974 record of 42,621 on August 20.

This year's applicants are competing for approximately 16,000 first-year positions available in the 126 U.S. medical schools. On average, each applicant applied to 11 medical schools.

"We have every hope that among this year's entering class will be record numbers of women

and underrepresented minorities," said AAMC President Robert G. Petersdorf, M.D. "Should the president and Congress succeed in providing access to care for all Americans, the nation will need a strong cadre of physicians, especially in the generalist disciplines of general internal medicine, general pediatrics and family medicine."

Applications now being processed for the 1994 entering class by the Association's American Medical College Application Service are running 23 percent over last year at this time. So far, these applicants are applying to an average of 13 medical schools.

### STUDY EXAMINES AFRICAN AMERICAN'S SUSCEPTIBILITY TO HEART DISEASE

Heart Disease — America's No. 1 killer — causes about half a million deaths each year. African American men have a 39% higher risk than White men, and African American women have 68% higher risk than White women.

A study being conducted at the University of Georgia is the first to investigate the possibility that the blood vessels of African Americans are different than those of Whites. Dr. Randall Tackett is examining living blood vessel tissue to measure its response to the chemicals the body produces when under stress and heart drugs. Muscle

contractions and cell reactions will also be measured. The study will run until about July of 1995, but some data is currently available.

For more info contact: Dr. Randall Tackett, Head Dept. of Pharmacology & Toxicology, Univ. of Ga., 706-542-7410 or Phi Williams at 706-542-8501.

### ATTENTION LUNG PATIENTS!

The Better Breathers Club will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 15, 1993 at 1:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall, Christ Church Episcopal, 2000 S. Maryland Parkway. Amy Gold, Registered Dietitian will be speaking about good nutrition practices and effective ways to lose weight for COPD patients. Sponsored by the American Lung Association of Nevada, the Better Breathers Club is an educational and emotional support group for lung patients and their families. There are no dues or membership fees.

For more information, contact Wendy Wehrer at the American Lung Association of Nevada at 454-2500.

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