



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jennifer Ryan  
CINJ Office of Communications  
732/235-9891  
[ryanje@umdnj.edu](mailto:ryanje@umdnj.edu)

### **The National Cancer Institute Awards CINJ Multi-Year Grant to Support Translational Research Training Program**

**NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J., AUGUST 6, 2003** – The National Cancer Institute (NCI) recently awarded Dr. Edmund C. Lattime, Associate Director for Education and Training at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) and Professor of Surgery and Molecular Genetics, Microbiology and Immunology, UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, a grant to fund a unique postdoctoral training program in translational cancer research. The \$1 million, five-year grant, the first of its kind awarded to CINJ and UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, will train ten postdoctoral candidates in the development and testing of clinically important diagnostic and therapeutic cancer research.

Translational research is the process of moving scientific discoveries into medical practice. For the duration of the program, fellows will follow a challenging curriculum developed by CINJ physician/scientists. Fellows will be involved in laboratory studies and subsequently, the translation of research findings into the clinical setting. In addition, elective courses and a seminar discussion series have been designed to focus on the unique requirements for clinical translation of the basic science breakthroughs and discoveries.

“The National Cancer Institute has recognized CINJ as an outstanding site for the training of the next generation of cancer researchers,” said William N. Hait, M.D. Ph.D., Director of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. “I am confident that CINJ will be in the forefront of bridging the gap between the laboratory and the clinic.”

The goal of the new training program will be to produce physician/scientists who will be leaders in the field of translational research. In order to do so, faculty will emphasize the importance of designing studies with the intent of moving the findings into clinical practice, rather than adding a clinical component as an afterthought.

Postdoctoral candidates for the program will be either Ph.D. holders who wish to develop careers in clinically relevant research or M.D./Ph.D. finishing their training who wish to enhance their laboratory expertise and prepare for careers in academic medicine. The postdoctoral training program for translational cancer research at CINJ is slated to begin immediately.

Leading the war against cancer is The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, the state's first and only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. CINJ is dedicated to improving the prevention, detection, treatment and care of patients with cancer, through the transformation of laboratory discoveries into clinical practice. CINJ's Providers' Network is comprised of twenty Partner and Affiliate institutions throughout the state and provides a mechanism to rapidly disseminate important, valid discoveries into the community.

###