

**Public Lecture by Dr. Arnost Fronek**  
**New Factors Affecting Blood Vessel Disease**  
**Department of Surgery & Bioengineering, UCSD**  
**Wednesday, November 19, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. Garren Auditorium, Basic Science Building**  
**Sponsored by the Sam & Rose Stein Institute for Research on Aging, UCSD**

The presentation will give an overview summarizing recent results obtained in a new area of vascular research. It was recently discovered that a thin layer of cells representing the inner lining of arteries and veins – the endothelial system – plays a very important and, until now, unknown role in the well being of the vascular system.

It was demonstrated that a number of pathologic conditions influence negatively the performance of the inner lining which in turn aggravates and accelerates the initial disease.

Hypertensive and coronary artery disease, hypercholesterolemia, diabetes are conditions which impair the function of the endothelial system as well as smoking and high fat diet. On the contrary, exercise and vitamin C have a beneficial effect.

Emphasizing noninvasive procedures, a number of diagnostic methods will be also discussed which help identifying the status of the inner vascular lining.

Finally, some prospective therapeutic plans will be discussed.