



**Public Lecture by Dr. Joseph Ramsdell
“Can My Lung Damage Be Repaired?”**

**Wednesday, July 16, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. in the Garren Auditorium, Basic Science Building
Sponsored by the Sam & Rose Stein Institute for Research on Aging, UCSD**

Emphysema is a condition in the lungs frequently caused by smoking or Chronic exposure to smog. Side effects of emphysema are shortness of breath, susceptibility to frequent colds, or chronic productive cough. Current treatment focuses on control of the colds and cough. The Feasibility of Retinoids in the Treatment of Emphysema (FORTE) is a multi-center, NIH sponsored trial to test if high doses of a specific Vitamin A compound could regenerate lung tissue in people with known Emphysema. Research volunteers were seen a minimum of monthly for 9 months. Measures of lung were a Helical Chest Computed Tomography (CT) scans, and measures pulmonary mechanics. All subjects were diagnosed with at least 10% emphysema as measured by the CT scan.

Note: The results of this clinical trial is expected to be out by the end of July 2003.