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Boston University School of Medicine News



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Brookline resident Michael N. Goodman, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of medicine and an assistant professor of physiology at Boston University School of Medicine, was recently awarded a \$280,000 four-year renewal grant by the U.S. Public Health Service to conduct a study entitled "Protein Sparing in Starvation: Effect of Age and Obesity."

Goodman and his co-workers are studying the metabolic and hormonal mechanisms that allow an animal to conserve vital body protein when deprived of food for an extended period. A similar response occurs in obese patients who are undergoing total starvation for therapeutic weight reduction. Body protein depletion can occur in patients with such illnesses as metastatic cancer and certain gastrointestinal and kidney disorders. The inability to conserve body protein in such patients often reflects a failure of the normal adaptive mechanisms present in otherwise healthy persons.

By using an animal model to study this problem, Goodman and his co-workers hope to learn more about metabolic and hormonal signals regulating protein metabolism as well as to provide a better biochemical rationale for treatment of patients with disorders of protein wastage.

Before joining the Boston University School of Medicine faculty in 1976, Goodman was a research fellow in medicine at Harvard Medical School and at the Elliot P. Joslin Research Laboratory, Boston. He was a postdoctoral fellow in biochemistry from 1972 to 1974 at Brandeis University and a senior investigator from 1974 to 1976 at the Joslin Research Laboratory.

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Goodman received the Texas Research Award, a Research Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Health and a Research and Development Award from the American Diabetes Association.

A graduate of the University of Texas, Austin, Goodman received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Houston. He is a member of the American Diabetes Association and the American Physiological Society and is the author or coauthor of many articles published in scientific journals.

Goodman lives on Hamilton road.

Boston University School of Medicine is the site of several major interdisciplinary research centers, including the Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Research Center and the Cardiovascular Institute of Boston University. The School is an innovator in medical education, offering several alternative curricula leading to the M.D. degree.

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