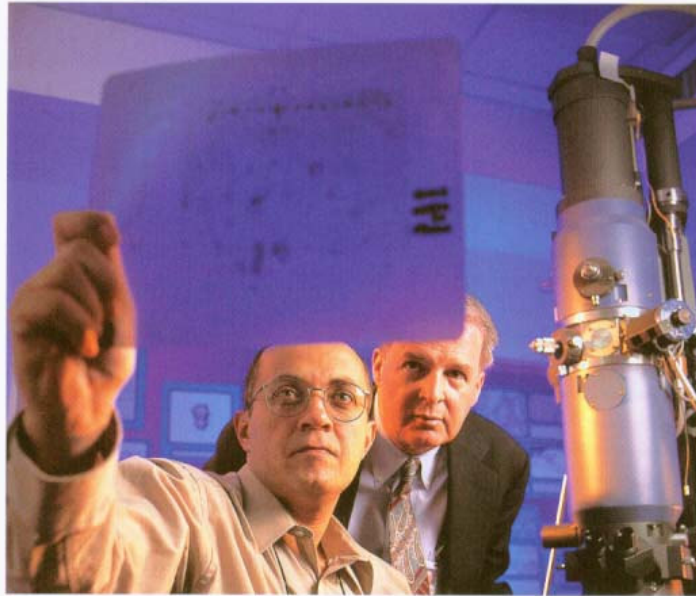


The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the CDC Foundation

(left to right) James M. Hughes, M.D., Director of National Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC, and Sherif R. Zaki, M.D., D., Chief of Molecular Biology Activity for National Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC, look at an autoradiograph (X-ray film) to identify the presence of infectious agent in a viral sample. An electron microscope is the background.



as "the nation's prevention agency" have evolved to address prevention of contemporary threats to health—injuries, environmental threats, occupational hazards, behavioral risks, and chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, and diabetes.

A Storied Past

CDC's roots trace back to 1942, when the agency's mission was simple and singular—that is, keep malaria out of armed forces bases and war-industrial establishments in the southern United States. The agency's name, the Office of Malaria Control in War Areas, reflected this narrow mission. Because the South is the area with conditions most hospitable to

malaria, the agency was based in Atlanta instead of Washington, D.C.

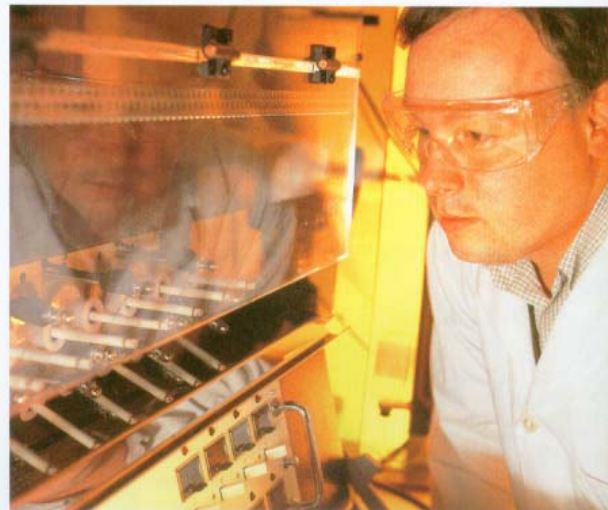
At the end of World War II, the Office of Malaria Control took on the broader role of guarding the public's health and was renamed the Communicable Disease Center. As this role expanded over the years, the name evolved into the Center for

For more than a half century, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has been on the front lines protecting America's health and safety. But while safeguarding people is the role for which CDC is best known, the agency performs two other functions vital to the health and well-being of people—namely, providing information that guides health decisions and promoting good health through strong partnerships in communities across the United States.

Most people know CDC from the media. Movies such as *Outbreak* and books such as *The Hot Zone* depict the brilliance and bravery of CDC's scientists, and news reports cover the agency's scientific findings every day.

It's true that CDC has played a major role in battling infectious diseases. The agency was a key player in eradicating smallpox from the world in 1977, and CDC's famed "disease detectives" travel the globe at a moment's notice to investigate disease outbreaks. In fact, CDC teams were on the scene for many recent outbreaks, including hantavirus and *E. coli* in the United States, Ebola in Africa, and Avian flu in Hong Kong.

But fighting infectious disease is just one aspect of what CDC does. CDC's responsibilities



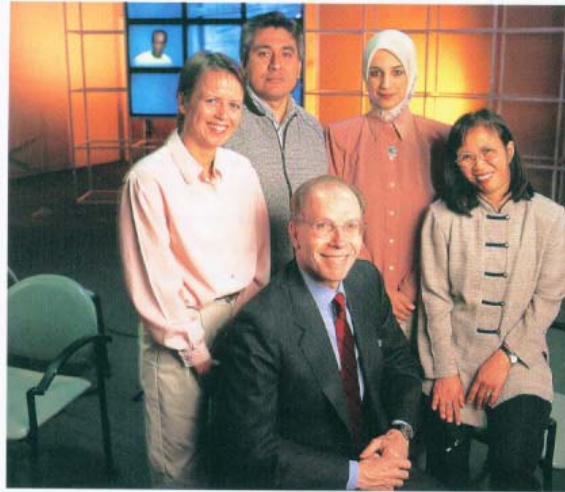
Smoking Machine at National Center for Environmental Health. It collects smoke using standardized puffing technique and enables scientists to measure cancer-causing agents, nicotine, tar, and other toxic substances in tobacco.

Disease Control. In recognition of the importance of prevention, the name was changed in 1992 to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Today, CDC employs more than 7,000 professionals who are stationed in all 50 states and in over 20 countries worldwide.

A Partner and Friend in Communities

Many people aren't aware that CDC is a unique federal agency because of its strong connections to communities throughout the U.S. More than 75 percent of CDC's budget supports prevention and public health programs provided by state and community partners. The philosophy is that for public health to be effective, it must be close to the public. As a result, CDC works closely with state and local health departments, volunteer organizations, educational institutions, businesses, and a wide array of community-based organizations.

In connecting CDC with the people, the agency has a strong ally and friend in the CDC Foundation. The CDC Foundation is



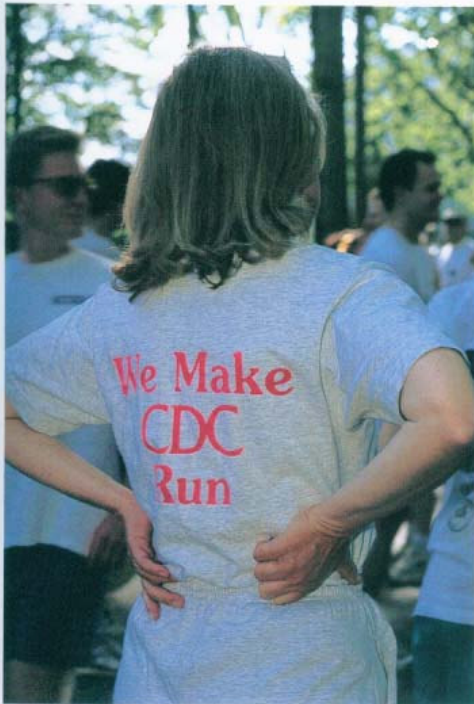
◀ CDC's Visiting Scientists Program allows health professionals from around the world to come to CDC to learn new public health skills which they then utilize to improve public health in their home countries. Pictured (left to right) are Visiting Scientists Janna Vuopio-Varik, Finland; Moises Hernandez of Peru; Rashed of Egypt; and Rachanee Cheinsong of Thailand. CDC Director Jeffrey P. Koplan, M.D., M.P.H. is seated.

the fund-raising and grant-making enterprise that responds to health threats by connecting the public to the scientists of CDC, building partnerships to champion CDC initiatives, and leveraging resources and talent to do more, faster.

The CDC Foundation is a relatively young enterprise—it opened its doors in February 1995—but in that short time it has launched more than 70 innovative programs. Each effort addresses a serious health concern, and each involves the CDC. The issues addressed range from training health officials from other nations to prevent the spread of disease to gaining new insights into teen smoking, from studying and preventing violence on a global scale to fighting antibiotic resistance.

Many individuals, foundations, companies, and organizations have recognized the potential of making an impact on a health concern by working with the CDC Foundation. While most of the Foundation's programs are born from the initiative of CDC scientists, many represent the ingenuity—as well as generosity—of people outside CDC. In its 1998-99 year, the CDC Foundation raised more than \$8.5 million for its programs.

Together, CDC and the CDC Foundation are a powerful team, working to realize a vision of "healthy people in a healthy world, through prevention." ♦



◀ The Annual Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Prediction Run at Lullwater Park is a 1-mile "fun walk/run" where the winner most closely predicts the time it will take him or her to complete the run. The walkers/runners predict their time at the beginning of the race, are not allowed to wear watches, and give their time when they cross the finish line. Photo by Marilyn Sun