

DONALD SILBERBERG, M.D.

Dr. Donald Silberberg is Professor of Neurology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He received his MD from the University of Michigan School of Medicine, trained in Neurology at the National Institutes of Health, then as a Fulbright Scholar at the National Hospital, Queen Square, London, and as a Fellow in Neuro-ophthalmology at Barnes Hospital. Dr. Silberberg joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Medicine in 1963; he served as Chairman of the Department of Neurology from 1982-1994, and as Vice Dean for International Programs, 1994-2004.

Dr. Silberberg's research has focused metabolic causes of neonatal injury, and on multiple sclerosis and related disorders of the nervous system. A parallel focus has been on behalf of clinical neurosciences, with particular attention to child health and development, in the developing world. In this capacity, Dr. Silberberg served as a consultant to the 1992 WHO/World Bank Conference on *Cost Effective Approaches for Improving Mental Health*. In 1996, he convened a symposium *Prevention and Treatment of Brain Disorders in Developing Countries: Pilot Programs and Opportunities* for the World Bank's Human Development Department. He has been invited to make many additional presentations at the World Bank. WHO activities include co-authoring a Conference Report, *Research Perspectives in Acute Flaccid Paralysis* and consulting to the Division of Mental Health. He has worked in Iran, Japan, England and France, and has been a visiting professor in Egypt, Zimbabwe, and all regions of Asia and Europe.

Through the World Federation of Neurology (WFN) Dr. Silberberg has organized international symposia focusing on ways in which to improve the prevention and care of disorders of the nervous system in developing countries, and in Central and Eastern Europe. Topics have included *Neurological Care in Developing Countries*, *AIDS and Infections of the Nervous System*, *Prevention of Neurological Disorders*, and the *Global Burden of Brain Disorders*.

His efforts led to the development and publication of the 2001 Institute of Medicine report, *Neurological, Psychiatric and Developmental Disorders – Meeting the Challenge in the Developing World*, with support from the Global Forum for Health Research, NIH, and the CDC. One outgrowth is the development of a new inter-disciplinary organization, the Global Network for Research in Mental and Neurological Health, for which Dr. Silberberg serves as the founding Vice President.

Dr. Silberberg served as Principal Investigator for a USAID-funded partnership program in maternal and child health that linked CHOP and the University of Pennsylvania with two hospitals in Kiev, Ukraine. Other University of Pennsylvania international activities have included organizing and coordinating interdisciplinary faculty groups that focus on health and society in Africa, India, and the Middle East.

He serves as an advisor to the National Institutes of Health, the World Health Organization, The World Bank, the National Security Council and Department of State, the International Clinical Epidemiology Network, and the National Multiple Sclerosis Societies of the US (NMSS), and of the United Kingdom. Dr. Silberberg served as the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Multiple Sclerosis*, serves on numerous editorial boards, and has published 310 scientific reports, chapters and reviews.

Relevant Bibliography

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