



Eva L. Feldman, M.D., Ph.D.

*Russell N. DeJong Professor of Neurology
Director, Program for Neurology Research and Discovery
Director, ALS Clinic
Director, JDRF Center for the Study of Complications in Diabetes*

Stopping or Slowing the Effects of ALS

Throughout her career, Dr. Eva Feldman, M.D., Ph.D., has made it her mission to use scientific discoveries to understand and cure human diseases. As the Russell N. DeJong, Professor of Neurology at the University of Michigan, she has made important contributions to medical research and clinical care in many critical areas, including Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) and complications in Diabetes. She developed a clinical screening instrument for the rapid diagnosis of diabetic neuropathy, which is currently being used worldwide.

In January 2008, Dr. Feldman was named the first Director of the A. Alfred Taubman Medical Research Institute, which was created to support fundamental research into a wide range of human diseases. Under her leadership, the Taubman Institute funds senior-level scientists in a diverse spectrum of diseases – adult and childhood cancer, ALS, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and hearing loss.

In the fall of 2008, Dr. Feldman and the Taubman Institute played a leadership role in educating Michigan citizens on the importance of stem cell research in the study and treatment of disease. In the November election, voters approved a constitutional amendment lifting restrictions on stem cell research in the state. The Taubman Institute is working to make the University of Michigan one of the nation's leaders in this emerging technology, opening one of the few facilities for the derivation of embryonic stem cell lines in the nation. In her own work, Dr. Feldman is on of the forefront of applying stem cell research to human disease. In September, she received approval from the F.D.A. for the first human clinical trial of a stem cell cure for ALS.

In addition to running an active clinical practice at the University of Michigan, Dr. Feldman is the Director of the Program for Neurology Research & Discovery, a team of 30 scientists who collaborate to understand and find new treatments for a wide variety of neurological diseases, including ALS, diabetic neuropathy, Alzheimer's Disease, childhood myopathies and spinal cord injuries. She is also the Research Director of the U-M ALS Clinic.

Having grown up in Indiana, Dr. Feldman completed her undergraduate degree at Earlham College and was introduced to medical research early in her college career. She received her

Ph.D. in Neuroscience at the University of Michigan in the laboratory of Dr. Bernard Agranoff and also attended the U-M Medical School. She performed her residency in Neurology at The Johns Hopkins Hospital where she served as Chief Resident and the first neurologist to receive The Johns Hopkins Award for Medical Teaching and Excellence. She returned to the University of Michigan to complete a fellowship in neuromuscular disorders and has remained on faculty ever since.

Dr. Feldman is the author of more than 200 articles, 40 book chapters and 2 books. She is the Principal Investigator of 5 major National Institutes of Health research grants, 8 private foundation grants and 5 clinical trials focused on understanding and treating neurological disorders, with an emphasis on diabetic neuropathy and ALS. She was recently Chair of the Complications Council of the American Diabetes Association and served on the Scientific Advisory Board for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

She serves on numerous editorial boards and she is the Neurology Consultant to the Epidemiology of Diabetes Intervention and Complications Trial (EDIC) for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She is President of the Peripheral Nerve Society and Vice-President of the American Neurological Association. She has received many honors including the Early Distinguished Career Award from the University of Michigan and several scientific achievement awards from the JDRF and the American Diabetes Association. Additionally, she has been listed in Best Doctors in America for 10 consecutive years.

Among Eva's greatest accomplishments is her training of both scientists and neurologists. Six scientists have received their Ph.D. degrees under her, she has trained 31 postdoctoral fellows in her laboratory to become neuroscientists, and 26 neurologists have trained under her to specialize in the understanding and treatment of neuromuscular diseases.