

2009 Bonazinga Award winner - Peter A. Ward, M.D



Dr. Ward received his M.D. from the University of Michigan in 1960, entered a residency in Internal Medicine at Bellevue Hospital (First Medical Division, NYU) in New York City, and then pursued Anatomic Pathology training at the University of Michigan Hospitals. Subsequently, he entered a postdoctoral fellowship at the Scripps Research Institute (La Jolla, CA) where he worked with Charles Cochrane and Hans Muller-Eberhard on the complement basis of neutrophil chemotaxis and vasculitis. In 1965, he entered the U.S. Army Medical Corps as a Captain and was assigned to the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, DC) where he was Chief of the Immunobiology Branch. In 1971, he moved to the University of Connecticut Health Center (Farmington, CT) as a Professor of Pathology, pursuing his interests in mechanisms of acute lung injury. In 1973, he became Chair of the Department of Pathology at the University of Connecticut Health Center. In 1980, he was appointed Professor and Chair of the Department of Pathology at the University of Michigan Medical School. Over the past decade he has continued to pursue studies of lung injury as well as studying complement-related mechanisms of sepsis in rodents following cecal ligation and puncture. He and his group have shown that sepsis induces robust activation of complement and that C5a interacts with its receptors (C5aR, C5L2) to induce a series of events leading to multi-organ failure.

Dr. Ward has been President of a large number of pathology societies as well as President of the American Board of Pathology. He has received numerous awards acknowledging his numerous scientific accomplishments and his academic leadership skills. He has been the Stobbe Professor of Pathology at the University of Michigan for the past 22 years and is a member of the Institute of Medicine (National Academy of Sciences).