

Dr. Tomaselli

/The Population Research Prize recognizes an individual who is making outstanding contributions to the advancement of cardiovascular science and who heads a major population research laboratory.

Dr. Tomaselli

/This year's recipient is Dr. Elizabeth Barrett-Connor, Distinguished Professor and Chief of the Division of Epidemiology at the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine.

Dr. Tomaselli

/In a career of extraordinary achievement, Dr. Barrett-Connor has established herself as one of the world's pre-eminent epidemiologists and has helped to profoundly enhance preventive medicine. Her findings have had an enormous impact on medical practice, probably more than any other population scientist.

Dr. Tomaselli

/She is founding director of the Rancho Bernardo Heart and Chronic Disease Study, now in its 40th year. The project has helped identify numerous causal factors for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer and osteoporosis. Dr. Barrett-Connor is also the current or past principal investigator of several additional multi-center clinical trials, including the largest cardiovascular disease prevention trial ever conducted in women with cardiovascular disease or diabetes.

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/Her studies have provided vital insights into many aspects of healthy aging, with a strong emphasis on women's health. Her work helped affirm the health risks associated with elevated blood lipids, obesity and cigarette smoking, and demonstrated that diabetes poses a greater threat to women than to men. She has published some 885 scientific reports and is highly sought after worldwide as a lecturer and invited professor.

Dr. Tomaselli

/Please join me in welcoming the recipient of this year's Population Research Prize, Dr. Elizabeth Barrett-Connor.

Dr. Barrett-Connor

/I am thankful for Dan Steinberg and Joseph Stokes III, who gave me the opportunity to become a CVD epidemiologist with the gift of the San Diego Lipid Research Clinic Prevalence Study in 1971, which became the Rancho Bernardo Study.

Dr. Barrett-Connor

/I am thankful for my first three co-investigators Michael Criqui, Deborah Wingard, and Kay-Tee Khaw. All are full Professors now.

Dr. Barrett-Connor

/I am thankful for many other faculty, students, fellows, and visiting scholars from many countries. They were first or second authors on nearly half the Rancho Bernardo publications. I am thankful for so many UCSD faculty. I can name only a few; the following were lead authors on at least three recent Rancho Bernardo publications: Happy Araneta, Tien Dam, Lori Daniels, Joe Ix, Simerjot Jassal, Donna Kritz-Silverstein, Gail Laughlin, Rohit Loomba, Deborah Wingard and Denise von Muhlen.

Dr. Barrett-Connor

/I am thankful for many talented data managers and biostatisticians over the years who contributed immensely to Rancho Bernardo. I am thankful for the many wonderful staff for their superior management, recruitment, and retention skills, most notably Mary Lou Carrion-Petersen [35 years] and Nory Kamantigue [15 years].

Dr. Barrett-Connor

/On the personal side, I am thankful for Jim Connor, husband of 46 years, for his unfailing support (marry a pediatrician),for our children Dave, Susan, Jon, Carol, and Steve,for the wonderful life partners they brought home, and for 8 handsome grandchildren (all look like my husband) ages 2 months to 20 yrs.

Thank you one and all for my fortunate life, and this lovely prize.