MDADVANTAGE ANNOUNCES 2012 RECIPIENTS OF PRESTIGIOUS EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE AWARDS

William F. Owen, Jr., MD,
Former President of UMDNJ and Resident of South Orange Among Honorees


The Excellence in Medicine Awards are named after Edward J. Ill, MD, a New Jersey physician who was a pioneer in promoting continuing education in ways that set the national standard. Every year since 1939, exemplary New Jersey physicians and leaders whose dedication to education, research and public service have significantly impacted the delivery of healthcare in the state and around the nation have been honored. This annual event has been sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company of New Jersey since 2003.

Patricia A. Costante, Chairman and CEO of MDAdvantage, stated, “MDAdvantage is honored to sponsor this prestigious event. Once again this year, we look forward to recognizing Excellence in Medicine Scholarship Honor Roll members, such as Kern, Augustine, Conroy & Schoppmann, PC, who share our commitment to investing in the future of medicine in New Jersey and to improving access to healthcare for New Jersey residents.”

Among those being honored this year is former University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) President William F. Owen, Jr., MD, a resident of South Orange who will receive the Outstanding Medical Executive Award. The award is presented to an executive in a medically-related organization or field who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in the enhancement of patient care and medical practice in New Jersey.

Also being honored are:

- **Outstanding Medical Educator Award:** Jeffrey S. Abrams, MD, Medical Director, Princeton Orthopaedic Associates, PA, Chief, Shoulder Surgery, SportsMedicine Princeton, Clinical Professor, Seton Hall University School of Graduate Education, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and attending surgeon, University Medical Center at Princeton.

- **Edward J. Ill Physician’s Award®:** Jeffrey C. Brenner, MD, Executive Director, Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers and Director, Institute of Urban Health at Cooper Hospital.

- **Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award:** Executive Director Judy Donlen, RN, DNSc, JD, on behalf of the Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative.
Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Basic Biomedical Research:
Paola Leone, PhD, Associate Professor of Cell Biology and Director, Cell and Gene Therapy Center, UMDNJ – School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Clinical Research:
Jeffrey L. Carson, MD, Richard C. Reynolds Professor of Medicine and Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine, UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Citizen’s Award®:
Eve E. Slater, MD, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and former Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Paul J. Hirsch, MD, Chairman of the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation, stated, “Once again, we are proud to acknowledge the many accomplishments and contributions of this year’s honorees, and are looking forward to an outstanding awards program. Profits from the event will be dedicated to fund scholarships for six extremely talented and deserving students who represent the future of New Jersey healthcare.”

This year’s awards will be presented at the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards ceremony on May 2, 2012 at Greenacres Country Club in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. To participate in the 2012 Excellence in Medicine Awards by purchasing tickets, an Honor Roll sponsorship or an advertisement in the awards journal, contact the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation at 609-803-2350 or visit www.EJIawards.org.

William F. Owen, Jr., MD

William F. Owen, Jr., MD, was the fourth President of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ). He helped transform UMDNJ from an institution whose future was in question to a top-tier university. With a $1.7 billion annual budget, Dr. Owen oversaw the largest publicly funded health university in the United States. Comprised of eight health schools, UMDNJ operates New Jersey’s largest public hospital and is New Jersey’s sixth largest employer. UMDNJ expended $230 million in biomedical research in 2010.

Dr. Owen is former Chancellor of the University of Tennessee, Professor of Medicine at Duke University and senior staff member at Brigham and Women’s Hospital while at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Owen was a Chief Scientist at Baxter Healthcare Corporation. He served on federal oversight and advisory committees, including the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee and the Warren Magnuson Center at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Dr. Owen secured $25 million in research funding and has published 200+ articles, reviews, editorials and book chapters, including two textbooks.
Dr. Owen served on the boards for the New Jersey Presidents Council, New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, New Jersey Council of Teaching Hospitals, New Jersey Hospital Association and Newark Alliance. He is an Overseer for Tufts University Medical School, board member of the Association of Academic Health Centers and health policy advisor to the President of the International Association of University Presidents.

Dr. Owen holds a BA from Brown University and an MD from Tufts University, and he completed postgraduate training in internal medicine, nephrology and immunology at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School.