PRESS RELEASE
WINNER ANNOUNCED
2009/1430H KING FAISAL INTERNATIONAL PRIZE
FOR
MEDICINE

Topic: Molecular Targeted Therapy

**Riyadh, 26 January 2009**, HRH Prince Khalid Al-Faisal, Director of King Faisal Foundation, tonight announced the winners of the King Faisal International Prize.

The King Faisal International Prize for Medicine (Molecular Targeted Therapy) for 2009 (1429H) has been awarded to:

**Professor Ronald Levy - USA**
Chief, Division of Oncology, Department of medicine,
Stanford University Medical School, USA

Professor Levy has been recognized for his pioneering studies in Cancer Immunotherapy. Almost 30 years ago he developed antibodies that could distinguish between malignant and benign tumor cells. This created a tool for diagnosis and therapy. He showed in 1980 that monoclonal antibodies against a tumor-associated antigen could be employed to treat patients with B cell lymphoma. Many of these patients responded well to the treatment. Professor Levy generated a humanized monoclonal antibody against a specific protein expressed on B cell. In the last 11 years the drug he discovered has been used to treat a large number of lymphoma patients with remarkable remission and survival results.

In his more recent work professor Levy has used the patient's immune system to mount immune responses against the patient's own cancer cells. The ability of a patient to elicit immune responses against his/her own tumor cells by vaccinating the patient against the malignancy is likely to become a more effective way for longer lasting and more efficient therapy.
Note to Editor:

- Over the past 31 years, a total of 52 scholars from 11 different countries have won the King Faisal International Prize for Medicine.
- The topic for the 2010 King Faisal International Prize for Medicine is *(Non Arthroplasty Management of Degenerative Joint Disease)*. The deadline for nomination is **1 May 2009.**