

BD Award for Research in Clinical Microbiology

Stephen C. Edberg, Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Internal Medicine, Yale University School of Medicine, and Director, Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, Yale-New Haven Hospital, is honored with the BD Award for Research in Clinical Microbiology. This award,



Edberg

which has been supported by BD Diagnostic Systems for 30 years, recognizes a distinguished scientist for research accomplishments that form the foundation for important applications in clinical microbiology.

Edberg's contributions to clinical microbiology range from basic science, through applications and technology transfer, to critical analysis of current microbiologic findings and principles as applied within the context of public health problems. His research has resulted in more than 180 publications, including 34 in the *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*, and his work has been foundational in many areas.

Among Edberg's research activities that have found their way into usage in clinical microbiology laboratories are constitutive enzyme testing for the rapid identification of gram-negative species, the refinement of immunoglobulin coating of latex particles for the direct detection of antigens, and the use of hydrolyzable substrates to directly identify bacterial and mycotic isolates within one hour. His work laid the groundwork for many of today's rapid identification methods. Edberg's most significant contribution to global well-being was his development of the "Colilert" test for the detection and enumeration of *Escherichia coli* in drinking water under field and laboratory conditions. This test system is a monumental contribution to world health, especially in developing countries.

Edberg, a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, received his B.A. in Biology from Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa., and his M.A. in Bacteriology from Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y. He earned his Ph.D. at the State University of New York at Buffalo Medical School and completed postdoctoral work at the

University of Washington, Seattle. Edberg was nominated by James C. McLaughlin, Ph.D., Fellow, American Academy of Microbiology, Microbiology Laboratory Advisor, National Institute of Public Health, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.