

**Residents and Fellows Research Day
Keynote Speaker 2007**

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David M. Ota, M.D., F.A.C.S.
**“The Primary Role of the Clinician
In Multicenter Clinical Trials”**

Dr. David Ota is Professor of Surgery at the Duke University School of Medicine and Group Co-Chair of the American College of Surgery Oncology Group, a multicenter cooperative funded by the National Cancer Institute. He has served on several NIH scientific and policy review panels.

An honors student, Dr. Ota earned his medical degree at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in 1973, following which he served an internship and residency in general surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

He developed an early interest in research at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, where he was a research fellow and won a national award for his work. He subsequently became a resident and then chief resident in general surgery there and a senior fellow in surgical oncology at the MD Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute.

Dr. Ota had a long and successful career at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston and the MD Anderson Cancer Center before joining the faculty of the University of Missouri, Columbia as Professor of Surgery. He was also Chief of Surgical Oncology and Medical Director at the university's Ellis Fischel Cancer Center. He subsequently served as the Ruth Teske Professor of Surgery at the

Medical College of Wisconsin before becoming Professor of Surgery at Duke.

In addition to his academic achievements, Dr. Ota has frequently been recognized as a “Best Doctor in America” for his clinical expertise.

Dr. Ota's research interests have focused on the mechanisms of metastasis in colorectal cancers and other solid tumors. He has published extensively on his work since 1973, including 116 articles in refereed journals, 29 book chapters and 25 abstracts presented at professional meetings.

Dr. Ota is a champion of evidence-based medicine and has made a strong professional commitment to improving the standard of cancer care through prospective clinical trials. In his keynote address, he will share his extensive experience as a clinically active investigator who has been involved in all aspects of the research process including study design, leadership, mentorship, grantsmanship and administration. He will encourage residents and fellows to develop an early and lifelong involvement in research by discussing how participation in research can contribute to professional growth as well as patient care. He will also review some of the important contributions that multicenter clinical trials have made to our treatment of common and important malignancies.