

PSYCHIATRIC GRAND ROUNDS – Wednesday, August 11th, 1200 Noon – 1:30 pm

Burtness Auditorium, Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital

Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Center for Psychiatry and Behavioral Healthcare invites you to attend its August 2010 presentations for the healthcare community.

WEDNESDAY, August 11th

Ken Kosik, MD, Co-Director, Neuroscience Research Institute and Harriman Professor of Neuroscience, UCSB

PREDICTIVE GENETIC INFORMATION: A NEW CHALLENGE FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSION

The human genome was sequenced in 2000 and since that time the cost of sequencing has spiraled downward and the amount of data has spiraled upward. Although genetic information is burgeoning, the knowledge needed to understand this information is lagging. On top of this gap between the growing genomic datasets and their interpretation are our limited resources for communicating genetic results. Although genetic information can be seriously distressing and for some may trigger significant depression, expertise on the topic is rare among physicians and the number of genetic counselors is far too few. Furthermore, the promise of personalized medicine cannot be fully realized without the predictive power of genetics.

The key question in human genetics is understanding the relationship between genotype and phenotype. Genetic and epigenetic differences among individuals are pervasive as are phenotypic differences—the link between the two remains elusive.

What makes these differences of medical interest is that some of them increase the risk for disease. The interpretation of risk among individuals and cultures may vary widely.

At the conclusion of the talk, participants should understand the following:

- The psychological consequences of genetic information
- The meaning of genetic polymorphisms and the nature of risk
- The impact of direct to consumer gene marketing

- The issues of predictive genetic testing in Alzheimer's disease

Dr. Kenneth S. Kosik is nationally known as a leader in the field of Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders. He was recruited from Harvard University by the University of California Santa Barbara to Co-direct the Neuroscience Research Institute and is Professor of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology at UCSB. He is responsible for directing and integrating research and information technology developments into The Center for Cognitive Fitness & Innovative Therapies (CFIT) program. CFIT's mission is to help people maintain a healthy brain for life. The specter of cognitive decline is one of the most frightening prospects for all of us as we age. Interventions that are well supported by research can decrease our risk. Prevention is the key. Whether middle aged or beyond, CFIT offers both the client and their family the peace of mind that they are doing everything possible to slow or delay cognitive decline. CFIT decreases risk. They are the 1st non-profit, full service, community based "cognitive shop" in the nation.