

Parvin Saidi, MD

Parvin Saidi, MD, was a veteran member of our faculty, having joined then Rutgers Medical School as an assistant professor of medicine in 1968. Dr. Saidi was an outstanding physician, recognized nationally and internationally for her work in hemostasis. She served as a leader in hematology/oncology disorders and research, having garnered nearly \$19 million in grants during her 40-year career at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Dr. Saidi completed her undergraduate degree at Smith College, Northhampton, MA, and earned her medical degree from Harvard University. She performed her residency at the University of California (UC) Medical Center in San Francisco. Upon completion of her research fellowship in Hematology (National Institutes of Health) at UC Hospitals and Children,Äôs,Äô Medical Center in San Francisco, Dr. Saidi completed special training in the principles and application of radioisotopes to clinical and investigative medicine at the Radioisotope Research Center and Donner Laboratory of the University of California. She then served as associate professor of medicine at Shiraz University and Tehran University in Iran.

Following her initial appointment at our school, Dr. Saidi became an associate professor of medicine in 1971 and chief of the Division of Hematology and Oncology in 1972. She was named a professor in 1974 and appointed director of the Melvyn H. Motolinsky Laboratory for Hematology Research. In 2000, Dr. Saidi was named the first recipient of the Melvyn and Ab Motolinsky Chair in Hematology. Both the laboratory and the endowed chair were created by the Motolinsky Research Foundation, named in honor of Melvyn Motolinsky who had just begun practicing law in New Brunswick when he succumbed to acute leukemia in 1969. The foundation supports medical research to prevent, treat, and cure leukemia and related blood diseases and has been a champion of Dr. Saidi,Äôs work.

Dr. Saidi was a pioneer for the hemophilia and bleeding disorders community. She established one of the first Comprehensive Care Centers in the country in 1975 and served as the Director of the NJ Regional Hemophilia Program at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School for over three decades. Her unique leadership, insightful and pro-active planning, and constant emphasis on what is ethically and medically best for the bleeding disorders community led to several progressive treatment models that have been emulated throughout the country.

Dr. Saidi earned numerous awards that included the Humanitarian Award from the Hemophilia Association of Northern New Jersey; the UMDNJ Foundation Excellence in Teaching Award; the Dr. L. Michael Kuhn Memorial Award from the Hemophilia Association of New Jersey; and the 2006 Physician of the Year award from the National Hemophilia Foundation. In 2007, she received the Norman H. Edelman Clinical Science Mentor Award. She also devoted herself to numerous associations, serving most recently as the Chair of the New Jersey Governor,Äôs Task Force on Women with Bleeding Disorders and as a member of the Governor,Äôs Advisory Council on AIDS. Dr. Saidi passed away in 2008.