PTC Therapeutics is proud to honor Dr. Thomas Hofmann recipient of the Milton Graub Award in recognition of his contributions towards advancing treatments for those affected by cystic fibrosis





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Dr. Milton Graub Award Presented, November 21, 2015 in Recognition of Medical Achievements in the field of Cystic Fibrosis Research and Care



Milton and Evelyn Graub and their children Lee, Pearl and Kathy.

In 1950, Dr. Milton Graub was a pediatrician in West Philadelphia when he and his wife discovered the worst about their 2-year-old son, Lee. Lee was not ill exactly, but he showed signs of mysterious ailments. The cough he had had since birth never went away . . .

Even to his pediatrician father, Milton, Lee's symptoms were puzzling.

In their efforts to identify the cause of Lee's ailments Dr. and Mrs. Graub took him to Columbia University . . . the only place at the time where research was being done on cystic fibrosis. He was found to have the illness.

When a daughter, Kathy, was born a year later, she was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis as well.

The Graub's were devastated that their children had a disease that not only was incurable, but that very few people had ever even heard of . . ."

Distraught at first but determined in the end to do something to help their children, in 1955 Dr. Graub and his wife joined other parents of ill children to launch the national Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. When it was founded, children with the illness were not expected to live long enough to attend elementary school. A member of its first board of trustees, Dr. Graub was president of the foundation from 1964 to 1970 and also served as International Vice President. Over the course of 60 years Dr. Graub and his wife counseled many parents of children with CF.

"As one of the founders of the CF Foundation, Dr. Graub and his wife, Evelyn, helped lay the groundwork for the success that we have realized as an organization for more than five decades," says Robert J. Beall, today's president and chief executive officer of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.



THOMAS HOFMANN, MD, PHD



Thomas Hofmann is a physician and pediatric pulmonologist, specializing in pharmaceutical drug development and medical affairs in the area of respiratory and infectious diseases. Dr. Hofmann is the founder and CEO of Auma Pharma, a unique consulting and pharmaceutical startup company, with a focus on consulting services in Pulmonary Indications. He has more than fifteen years of industry experience in the development of drugs for the treatment of cystic fibrosis, asthma, influenza, sleep apnea and neonatology. Dr. Hofmann is recognized for his ability to invent successful drugs and execute clinical trials. He has spent his entire career in respiratory drug development, both in the laboratory and in the design, conduct, analysis and publication of innovative therapeutic approaches to respiratory diseases. Dr.

Hofmann's expertise includes genetic, inflammatory and infectious pulmonary diseases as well as sleep medicine, neonatology and infectious diseases. In 2014, he returned his focus on startup activities, and is working on Cystic Fibrosis development at Qrumpharma Inc..

Dr. Hofmann's depth of knowledge includes translational research in the utilization of laboratory data in the design of clinical trials, both in the establishment of relevant endpoints and in the conduct of correlative laboratory/clinical studies that enable further understanding of mechanism of action, drug/drug interactions, proper dose and schedule of therapy. His experience spans both academia and industry, including US and European regulatory aspects of drug development and marketing approval. He brings a unique insight about FDA processes, with a focus on the Pulmonary and Antiinfectives Divisions. Dr. Hofmann served as Chief Medical Officer of Activaero GmbH, a German company focused on nebulizer development with airflow control. Activaero was sold to Vectura Inc in March 2014, and the programs continue successfully. He also has a teaching appointment as Adjunct Professor at Temple University, in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. Teaching appointments include also PERI (Washington), with a focus on Pulmonary Drug development. He also serves on the Advisory Board of an NIH funded interdisciplinary program to treat pulmonary diseases, as well as on such boards for large pharma.

Previously, Dr. Hofmann was co-founder of Corus Pharma Inc., a biopharmaceutical company in Seattle, Washington, specializing in respiratory medicines, particularly for cystic fibrosis. The company was founded in 2001, partially upon a patent filed by Dr. Hofmann. Dr. Hofmann and his clinical team brought an inhaled antibiotic, Cayston (aztreonam) for cystic fibrosis from the preclinical stage to Phase 3 clinical trials (now approved and marketed by Gilead in US and Europe); Phase 2 programs in sleep apnea and asthma were brought to completion. All clinical trials were completed within aggressive timelines, and within budget. While at Corus, he filed three additional patents for novel therapeutic approaches to pulmonary diseases. Dr. Hofmann also served as VP, New Product Development, for Discovery Labs, a public company focused on the approval of Surfaxin, the first protein containing lung surfactant for neonates and other important lung diseases, both via instillation and via aerosolization. Prior to co-founding Corus, Dr. Hofmann was the Medical Director, Chief Scientific and Safety Officer for Pulmopharm GmbH, which is now Novartis Germany. During this time, he was a member of the team that gained approval for TOBI (tobramycin for inhalation) in Germany. Prior to his entry into the pharmaceutical industry in 1998, Dr. Hofmann held a faculty position in pediatric pulmonary medicine at the University Pediatric Hospital of Giessen, Germany. Prior to that position, he was a postdoctoral fellow at the Cystic Fibrosis Center of the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill from 1995 to 1998. Dr. Hofmann pioneered a method for the diagnosis of CF by measurements of nasal electrical potential differences. He also developed mucolytic and ion transport modifying therapies for CF, such as amiloride and benzamil. His postdoctoral research was sponsored by the DFG (German national research foundation), as an award for an outstanding PhD thesis at the University of Giessen in 1994. While training as a pediatric pulmonologist, he completed his PhD program in the area of cystic fibrosis (CF) research.

Dr. Hofmann lives in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. His passion is Cystic Fibrosis Research, and making a difference by bringing new treatments to patients with the disease.

