

The University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The 40th Merrimon Lecture

Seven Assumptions that Drive Too Much Medical Care

H. Gilbert Welch, M.D., M.P.H.

*Professor of Medicine, Dartmouth Institute for
Health Policy and Practice*

Professor of Public Policy, Dartmouth College

*Professor of Business Administration, Amos Tuck
School*

March 5, 2015
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Bondurant G100
School of Medicine

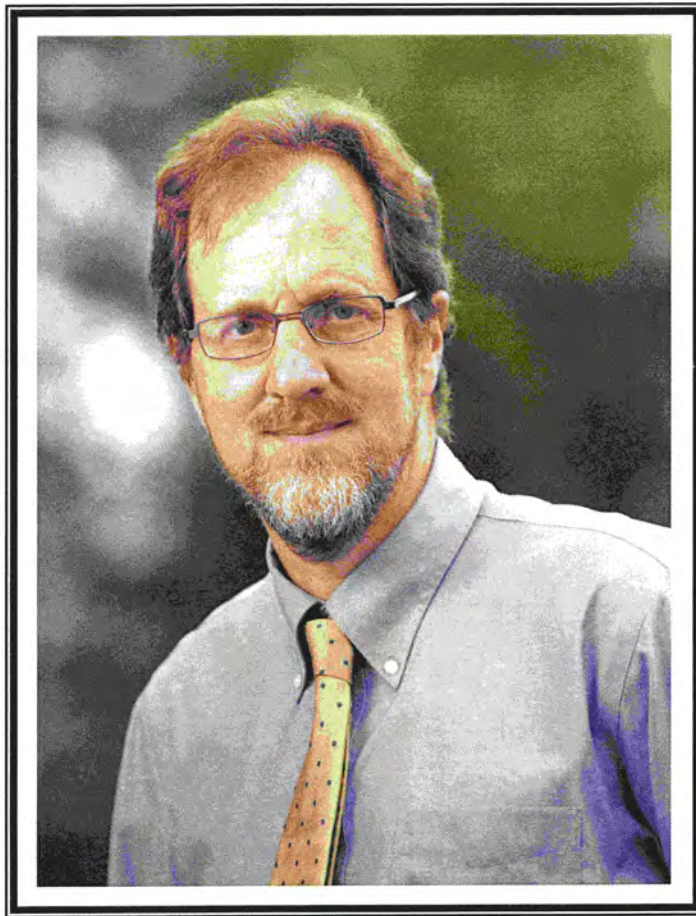
Welcome and Introduction

Eric T. Juengst, Ph.D.

Director, UNC Center for Bioethics

Dr. H. Gilbert Welch is a general internist at the White River Junction Veterans Administration Hospital, Professor of Medicine at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Research, Professor of Public Policy at Dartmouth College, and Professor of Business Administration at the Amos Tuck School of Business. He is a graduate of Harvard, the University of Cincinnati Medical School, the University of Utah Residency in Internal Medicine, and the University of Washington, where he was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar. Between medical school and residency, he spent two years as a General Medical Officer for the Indian Health Service in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region of Alaska. Dr. Welch's research has focused on the problems created by medicine's efforts to detect disease early, and he has published extensively in journals such as the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA*, and the *British Medical Journal*. Much of his work has focused on overdiagnosis in cancer screening: in particular, screening for melanoma, thyroid, lung, breast and prostate cancer. In 2009 he won the Veterans Administration Award in Health Services Research, and he is a frequent Op/Ed contributor to the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Boston Globe* on health policy matters. He is the author of **SHOULD I BE TESTED FOR CANCER? Maybe Not and Here's Why** (UC Press 2004), an author of **OVERDIAGNOSED: Making People Sick in the Pursuit of Health** (Beacon Press 2011) and has just completed his newest book: **LESS MEDICINE, MORE HEALTH: 7 Assumptions that Drive Too Much Medical Care** (Beacon Press 2015).

Book signing to follow in lobby



THE MERRIMON LECTURESHIP IN MEDICINE

This Lectureship, which was established by the late Dr. Louise Merrimon Perry, was inaugurated in 1966. Dr. Perry's idea was that the lectures be open to all, but that they be concerned with the origins, traditions and history of the medical profession and of that ethical philosophy which must dominate this field of human endeavors. It was her intention that the Merrimon Lecturers be distinguished both for scientific or clinical skills and a notably humane attitude towards Medicine.

Previous Merrimon Lecturers

Dr. Nicholson Joseph Eastman
Dr. William Bosworth Castle
Dr. René Jules Dubos
Dr. John Hilton Knowles
Sir Peter Brian Medawar
Professor Sune Bergstrom
C.P. Snow
Dr. Kurt W. Deuschle
Dr. Charles A. Janeway
Dr. Michael E. DeBakey
Dr. Renée C. Fox
Dr. Kenneth B. Clark
Dr. Fredrick C. Robbins
Dr. Arnold S. Relman
Dr. D. Carleton Gajdusek
Dr. Robert J. Glaser
Dr. David A. Hamburg
Dr. Jared M. Diamond
Dr. Samuel O. Their

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