

Risk Appraisal Forum
October 5 – 7 2006
Chase Park Plaza Hotel
Saint Louis MO

The Risk Appraisal Forum is a group of 17 large insurance producers that host biannual seminars for insurance medical directors and senior underwriters across the USA. The Forum recruits academics to present cutting edge research that helps to underwrite life policies. The Longer Life Foundation co-sponsored the Fall 2006 session in Saint Louis and provided speakers from Washington University School of Medicine and the Foundation.

The Foundation provided a list of possible topics to the meeting planners who made their selections based upon timeliness and appropriateness. Phil Smalley MD, Managing Director of the Foundation, provided the speakers with guidance on how to translate their research in terms that were relevant to the audience. The topics and speakers included:

Diabetes Update	Dominic Reeds MD Washington University School of Medicine
Atrial Fibrillation, Warfarin, and Life Expectancy	Brian Gage MD, MSc Washington University School of Medicine
Prognostigram: A program to provide cancer patient-specific survival information	Jay Piccirillo MD FACS Washington University School of Medicine
Medical Risk of Obesity and Obesity Therapy	Sam Klein MD Director: Longer Life Center Washington University School of Medicine
Medical Advances Impacting Future Mortality	Philip Smalley MD FRCPC Managing Director: Longer Life Foundation RGA International

Approximately 35 underwriters, insurance directors and advisors attended the meeting. Feedback from the group indicated that the presentations were the best they have had in the 30 years that they have been holding these meetings. They said the talks had a perfect balance of presenting cutting edge medical research as well as giving practical tips on how to prognosticate disease to offer more life insurance to more of the public at competitive rates. The talks also generated interest in the Foundation and ideas for further involvements including contributions to the Foundation research budget from member organizations. A summary of the two day conference will be published in their Broker's Magazine.