



Robert A. Clark, MD

Dr. Clark is Professor, Edward B. LeWinn Chair, and former Chairman of the Department of Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA), as well as a physician-scientist at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System. He has served since 2006 as Assistant Vice President for Clinical Research and Director of the Institute for Integration of Medicine and Science, and is Principal Investigator of the NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award, now in its third five-year cycle of funding (15-year total ~\$80M). He also directs the Stevens Foundation Parkinson's Disease Center of Excellence. He sees patients and teaches on the Infectious Diseases Service at San Antonio's Audie Murphy VA Medical Center and the University Hospital.

A graduate of Syracuse University and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Dr. Clark completed internal medicine and infectious diseases training at Columbia, the University of Washington, and NIH/NIAID. Prior to moving to UTHSCSA in 1994, he served on the faculty of the University of Washington (1973-1977), Boston University (1977-1983), and the University of Iowa (1983-1994), and spent a sabbatical year at the University of Geneva (1990-1991).

Dr. Clark is an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the Association of American Physicians, as well as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Infectious Diseases Society of America, and a Master of the American College of Physicians. He has been a Society for Leukocyte Biology Council member and served a two-year term as President (2016-2017). He chaired two Gordon Research Conferences (Phagocytes and NOX Family NADPH Oxidases) and served in senior editorial positions for *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, *Journal of Immunology*, and *JAMA*, among others. In 2011, he received the UTHSCSA Presidential Distinguished Senior Research Scholar Award.

Focusing his research on mechanisms of inflammation and host defenses against infection, Dr. Clark has published ~170 peer-reviewed articles. He currently studies neuro-inflammation with a goal of developing new therapeutic strategies (small molecules and cell-based gene therapies) to halt progression of neurodegeneration in patients with Parkinson's disease. He also contributes to collaborative research on the human genetic factors involved in susceptibility to HIV, progression to AIDS, and response to therapy. His work has been funded by numerous grants from NIH (including R37 MERIT, P01 program projects, R01 projects, and T32 training awards), VA, and foundations. He has been the primary mentor for 8 graduate students, 13 postdoctoral fellows, and 7 junior faculty research career grant awardees.

He holds two issued US patents (plus four submitted) and is co-founder of a biotechnology company that is developing small-molecule NADPH oxidase (NOX) inhibitors for clinical use. The company's lead compound is in phase 2 clinical trials as an anti-fibrotic agent in primary biliary cholangitis, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, and diabetic nephropathy. A second co-founded company is in pre-clinical phases of developing a platform technology for cell-based gene therapy.