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**MEDIA ADVISORY: LARRY KING TO MODERATE PANEL OF LEADING CARDIOLOGISTS AND CARDIAC SURGEONS DISCUSSING HOW HEALTHCARE REFORM COULD AFFECT CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICAL ADVANCES**

*Ninth annual conference also to feature seminars on breakthrough non-surgical techniques for valve repair and replacements as well as stem cell and gene therapies and presentations from British and American doctors highlighting how their country's medical insurance system affects patient treatment*

**WHAT:** The Ninth Annual Controversies and Advances in Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease continuing medical education conference will feature several discussions and presentations on how healthcare reform could affect cardiovascular disease patients' diagnosis, treatment and outcome. The conference, led by doctors from the [Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute](#), also will highlight developments in non-surgical valve repair and replacement as well as leading-edge stem cell and gene therapy research.

**U.K.-U.S. HEALTH SYSTEMS COMPARISON:** At 10:45 a.m. PDT on Thursday, Oct. 1, doctors from Great Britain and the United States will outline how they deliver patient care within their health care system and how their system's rules affect patient treatment and outcome. Roger Boyle, CBE, Britain's Department of Health national director for heart disease, will discuss the processes involved in his country's single-payer healthcare system. Steve Nissen, M.D., chairman of cardiovascular medicine at the Cleveland Clinic, will discuss his experiences treating patients within the U.S. private insurance system.

**HEALTHCARE REFORM:** At 11:30 a.m., CNN's Larry King, host of "Larry King Live," will moderate a panel discussion on how healthcare reform could help or hinder medical advances in the treatment of cardiovascular disease. Panel members include [P.K. Shah, M.D.](#), director of cardiology and the Atherosclerosis Research Center at the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute; [John G. Harold, M.D.](#), chairman of the American College of Cardiology Board of Governors; Martin Leon, M.D., associate director of the Center for Interventional Vascular Therapy of Columbia University Medical Center.

**STEM CELL UPDATE:** On Friday, Oct. 2 at 2:30 p.m., [Eduardo Marbán](#), M.D., Ph.D., director of the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute, and Great Britain's Sir Magdi Yacoub, M.D., who has performed more heart transplants than any other surgeon in the world, will share developments from their respective groundbreaking research into cardiac stem cell therapies. In June 2009, Marbán and his team at the [Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute](#) completed the world's first procedure in which a patient's own heart tissue was used to grow specialized heart stem cells that were then injected back into the patient's heart in an effort to repair and re-grow healthy muscle in a heart that had been injured by a heart attack. In April 2007, a British medical research team under the direction of Yacoub became the first to grow part of a human heart valve from stem cells.

**WHERE:** Beverly Hills Hotel, Beverly Hills, Calif.

(more)

**CONTACT:** *Attendance is strictly limited to medical professionals and journalists. To arrange attendance and interviews, contact Sally Stewart at 310-248-6566.*

**SPONSORS:** The meeting is co-sponsored by Promedica International CME and Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute, [Cedars-Sinai Medical Center](#) in conjunction with the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology, the British Cardiovascular Society, the California Society of Thoracic Surgeons the American College of Cardiology Foundation, the American Heart Association and is endorsed by the National Society of Thoracic Surgeons.

### **About the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute**

The Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute is internationally recognized for outstanding heart care built on decades of innovation and leading-edge research. From cardiac imaging and advanced diagnostics to surgical repair of complex heart problems to the training of the heart specialists of tomorrow and leading-edge research that is deepening medical knowledge and practice, the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute is known around the world for excellence and innovations.

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