Dr. Isadore Zipkin 1914—1973

Dr. Isadore Zipkin, noted dental scientist and an advisory editor to Calcified Tissue Research, died October 17, 1973 of cancer at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center. He would have been 59 on October 30.

A long-time Bethesda, Maryland, resident, Dr. Zipkin was born in Rochester, New York. He served as a biochemist with the National Institute of Dental Research at the National Institutes of Health from 1946 until he retired in 1968. He then assumed the position of Professor of Periodontology at the School of Dentistry of the University of California at San Francisco, a post which he held until the present time.

Dr. Zipkin made many outstanding contributions to a better understanding of dental caries and periodontal disease, the biochemistry of saliva and its relation to oral diseases, and the physiologic effects of fluoride. As an authority on fluoride metabolism, he frequently represented the Public Health Service at hearings on fluoridation.

In addition to his research responsibilities, he served for many years as assistant chief of the Institute's Laboratory of Biochemistry. He held the grade of Scientist Director in the Public Health Service Comissioned Corps.

Dr. Zipkin received the H. Trendley Dean Memorial Award in 1973 from the International Association for Dental Research in recognition of his scientific accomplishments.

He held a Ph. D. degree from Pennsylvania State University and was the author of many publications in the field of dental research. His latest book, "Biological Mineralization", Wiley: New York 1973 was published just a few months ago. He was a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and a member of various professional organizations including Sigma Xi, the International Association for Dental Research, the American Chemical Society, the Biochemical Society of London, the Society of Experimental Biology and Medicine, and the American Institute of Nutrition.