Dr. Epstein rips the $55B ‘war on cancer’

and environmental pollutants, told the 31st Labor Day convention of the Cancer Control Society (CCS) that “the more we spend, the more cancer we get,” while the public is essentially left unaware of the utter failure of the war on cancer declared during the Nixon Administration.

Relentlessly updating his information, Dr. Epstein, professor of occupational and environmental medicine at the University of Illinois Medical Center School of Public Health, accused the federally funded National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the highly profitable private American Cancer Society (ACS) as being little more than “flacks for private industry interests... What we are seeing is a systematized, well-planned effort to privatize the national cancer program.”

Ever referring to a chart he has been developing for years, Dr. Epstein demonstrated that when the NCI began skippering the “war on cancer” in 1971 it had a budget of $170 million which, by 1999, had swelled to $4.6 billion while cancer incidence and mortality rates have surged dramatically.

“We’re farther away than ever from winning the war on cancer. Every prediction made about this war has been wrong. Cancer is a weapon of mass destruction,” he said, spicing up his keynote address with Department of Defense analogies.

The worst element in all this, he said, is that “the public is not informed about avoidable cancer causes,” including all manner of pollutants, industrial chemicals and cosmetics. Negative information concerning the same is systematically suppressed, he said.

While hailing heart experts for conducting “an aggressive prevention campaign” which has helped to stabilize heart disease fatality and incidence rates, no such campaign has been forthcoming for cancer, he stressed, adding that the cancer establishment routinely issues “breathless announcements” about allegedly new breakthrough drugs and occasional downturns in cancer mortality figures.

An example of the latter, he said, was the hyping of “targeted anti-cancer drugs” as somehow superior to the standard, and toxic, chemotherapeutic drugs already in general use. He noted that an Associated Press survey of US oncologists had turned up the startling collective opinion that such new drugs are no more effective than the old ones.

BELLING THE CAT — Flanked by CCS President Norman Fritz, Samuel Epstein MD, University of Illinois Medical Center, L, a continual gadfly in the side of US orthodox oncology, lambasted the US “war on cancer” as a failed effort run the wrong way by the wrong people and claimed Americans are consistently denied information on preventable causes of the disease. He also chairs the Cancer Prevention Coalition, which links independent experts on cancer prevention and public health with consumer groups.

— Mike Colbert photo

USA — The “war on cancer,” which has eaten up $55 billion in taxpayer funds since it was declared in 1971, is the “wrong war with the wrong strategies run by the wrong generals,” according to America’s number-one critic of that very war.

Continuing to pull no punches, Samuel Epstein MD, a pathologist and internationally recognized expert on cancer prevention

Among convention’s standout speakers

MAKING THEIR POINTS — Among standout speakers at the Cancer Control Society’s 31st annual convention over the Labor Day weekend were, from L, Charlotte Gerson, daughter of the late metabolic pioneer Max Gerson MD and head of the Gerson Institute in Mexico, as she updated 30 years of research and application of Gersonism from an international network of doctors and patients some have called “Charlotte’s web”; Lorraine Day MD, C, who overcame her own cancer with natural therapies “designed by God and available to everyone,” as she described her 10-step program for “preventing cancer naturally”; Dr. R. physician, chemist and biologist James Prifiera MD, as he described “silent clots,” “as assessable through a special blood test and advanced darkfield microscopy while revealing “lockstep medicine’s conspiracy to suppress the test that should be done in emergency rooms throughout the world.”

— Mike Colbert photos