

Francine Ratner Kaufman, M.D.

Dr. Kaufman is a Professor of Pediatrics at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California and Head of the Center for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism at the Childrens Hospital Los Angeles. Dr. Kaufman's research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) since 1980 and focuses on many aspects of diabetes including prevention, treatment and complications. Presently, she is chair of the NIH-funded STOPP-T2 trials, which investigate strategies to prevent and treat (The TODAY trial) type 2 diabetes in children and youth. She was also a principle investigator in the Diabetes Prevention Trial - type 1 and now an investigator in TrailNet- the NIH study to try to prevent Type 1 diabetes and preserve beta cell function.

Dr. Kaufman has published extensively and has developed many diabetes clinical innovations, including Extend Bar, a snack bar containing uncooked cornstarch that is used as an appetite suppressant and a hypoglycemic preventive in diabetes. Dr. Kaufman was President of the American Diabetes Association in 2002-2003, and received the Banting Medal for Service and the Outstanding Contribution to Children and Youth Award. She chaired the 2002 LA County Task force on the Fitness and Health and Fitness, serves on the California State Task Force on Youth Fitness and Workplace Wellness, and was a delegate to the 2002 55th Assembly of the World Health Organization. Her book, *Diabesity* (Bantam), is a call to action to individuals, communities, health care, educators and government to begin to reverse the epidemics of obesity and diabetes that threaten the citizens of our country.