



Carnegie Shul Chatter

January 15, 2020



Light Candles 5:02pm Shabbat Services 9:20 am

Israel Does it Again

Sixty years ago this Shabbos, January 23, 1960 of the Julian calendar, I was Bar Mitzvahed at Parkway Jewish Center in Eastmont.

It was a snowy morning and we were concerned that some of our relatives would not make that “long trip” out the Parkway with snow falling. But most of them did come, and I got through my speech and Haftorah without making a single mistake!

60 Years

“Dear parents, esteemed Rabbi, grandparents, relatives, and friends,” so began my Bar Mitzvah speech. I didn’t write it myself. In our shul, the Rabbi wrote it and it was best if we did the whole thing from memory, which I did.

I don’t remember much of that speech. I do remember that it talked about the Torah portion, or perhaps the Haftorah, and that after the services were over, everyone told me what a great speech I gave, but it was strange for me to take credit for something I had not really written myself.

At the time, I was actually glad I didn’t have to write my own speech. But now I kind of wish I had, because the Torah portion that Shabbos, as it is this Shabbos, is the first parshah in Exodus, the book that tells the great story of the our ancestors’ escape from slavery and their journey to the promised land. And just as the Children of Israel were about to embark on that incredible journey, on that day, I too, was about to embark on the incredible journey through my life, with God as my guide just as he was to our ancestors.

It really has been an incredible journey. I hungered to start a new life sixty years ago. I hunger to experience what remains of my life sixty years later.

With God to guide me, I know it will continue to be an incredible journey.

But the greatest part of that morning came when my mother's mother, my Bubbe, was brought into the room in a wheelchair. My Bubbe had been ill for several years and had been in and out of hospitals and nursing homes with many ailments, including severe diabetes. Several times it was thought that she might die, but she promised to come to my Bar Mitzvah, and she kept her promise.

Sadly, more and more people in today's world have become afflicted with diabetes. In fact, one in three people now have diabetes or pre-diabetes. And though there are medications to treat the disease, there is still no cure for diabetes. But Israeli doctors may soon have one!

Below is an article from israel21c.org discussing this new cure for diabetes that hopefully will become available sooner rather than later.

Finally, a pill that could fix the root cause of diabetes

Concenter Biopharma of Jerusalem is developing a drug to treat and even prevent type 2 diabetes by restoring the body's insulin sensitivity.

By Abigail Klein Leichman January 13, 2020, 8:00 am

Of the 463 million people in the world with diabetes, up to 95 percent have type 2 (T2D). In T2D, peripheral tissues – mostly muscles – are resistant to insulin, a hormone made by the pancreas to stabilize blood-sugar levels and enable the body to use and store sugar.

Medications available today treat the symptoms and complications of T2D but do not solve the core problem of insulin resistance.



Zygosid-50, a drug under development in Israel, could be the first to restore near-normal cellular sensitivity to insulin, without side effects.

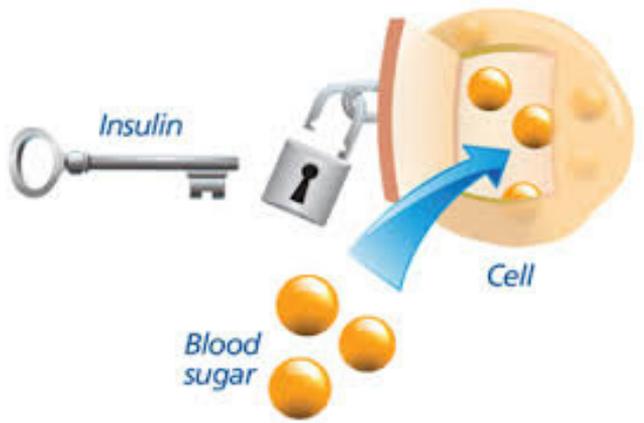
Concenter BioPharma in Jerusalem is raising funds for clinical trials approved by the FDA based on evidence from earlier testing in animal models for T2D.

In December, Concenter Biopharma cofounder and CSO Prof. Mottie (Mordechai) Chevion won first place at the 17th Annual World Congress on Insulin Resistance, Diabetes and Cardiovascular Diseases.

“The World Congress attracts the top researchers and clinicians, who understand the problem and the limited solutions available – which aren't really solutions at all,” says Concenter Biopharma cofounder and CEO Dror Chevion, Mottie's son.

“This is a great achievement for a small company,” notes Dror Chevion.

“We are working on accommodating those requests and making the final formulation of the drug as a pill. We plan to perform clinical studies here in Israel. Then we will submit another IND application to go to phase 2b, by the end of 2020. We are currently raising funds to do all of that.”



Concenter was self-funded until six months ago. The company will launch a \$5 million round for its T2D activities during 2020.

Concenter BioPharma’s scientific advisory board includes three globally recognized diabetes experts: Dr. Peter Nawroth of Germany, Dr. Ralph DeFronzo from the United States, and Dr. Itamar Raz, chairman of the Israeli Council on Diabetes and the National Diabetes Prevention and Care Plan.

“Diabetes is a global epidemic and is expected to grow,” says Dror Chevion. “The estimated cost of treating diabetes per year is over \$850 billion. More than 150 companies are developing diagnostics or applications for diabetes, but there are no drugs to treat the actual problem of insulin resistance without side effects. This is what we are doing.”

Yahrzeit Plaques

Commemorate a loved one by dedicating a yahrzeit plaque in his or her memory at the Carnegie Shul. These beautiful plaques, mounted on the sanctuary walls, are lit on the loved one’s yahrzeit, Yom Kippur, and days when Yizkor is recited. The names are also read aloud from the Bimah during services on the Sabbath of the yahrzeit and on Yom Kippur. To purchase a plaque, for only \$175, please email Mike Roteman at mrmike7777@yahoo.com.



Sponsor a Kiddush



Please consider sponsoring a Kiddush in honor or in memory of a loved one, for only \$36. Your sponsorship will be announced from the bimah and in the weekly Chatter. To sponsor a Kiddush, email mrmike7777@yahoo.com.