Jean D. Lockhart, M.D., FAAP, of Napa, Calif., who oversaw the administration of AAP committees and clinical manuals in the 1970s and '80s, died of complications of Alzheimer's March 20 at age 87.

From 1973-'88, she helped to shape policies on infectious diseases, drugs, nutrition, child abuse prevention and other issues. In 1989, Dr. Lockhart received the AAP Clifford G. Grulee Award for outstanding service to the Academy.

“She was one of the first to obtain national attention for AAP policies,” said AAP Executive Director/CEO Errol R. Alden, M.D., FAAP, who noted Dr. Lockhart’s abilities as a scientist and advocate.

While the AAP Red Book dates to 1938, Dr. Lockhart “had a lot to do with making the Red Book the outstanding publication it is today,” said Jackie Noyes, honorary FAAP and former AAP associate executive director who headed the AAP Washington office. Dr. Lockhart was instrumental in the formation of the women, infants and children (WIC) nutrition program as well as infant formula standards, Noyes said.

Dr. Lockhart guided the AAP efforts related to the required testing of drugs for children, first AAP manual on child care, and establishment of a task force on child abuse and neglect. Dr. Lockhart was an AAP spokesperson during early court hearings on alleged adverse reactions to childhood vaccines.

“She had a tremendous capacity to harness controversial perspectives and work for a consensus … ultimately for the benefit of the child,” said James P. Harisiades, former director of the AAP Department of Membership.

Dr. Lockhart, a former Food and Drug Administration (FDA) medical officer, received its Award of Merit for investigating hexachlorophene toxicity.

She was the liaison from the FDA to the AAP Committee on Drugs from 1968 to 1973.

In 1973, Dr. Lockhart joined the AAP staff, serving in various directorships. Her last title was director of the Department of Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health. Upon retirement, Dr. Lockhart was appointed to the AAP Committee on Medical Liability; she was associate editor of Medical Liability for Pediatricians (fifth edition).

A 1951 graduate of Georgetown University School of Medicine, where she later taught, Dr. Lockhart practiced for eight years in Virginia and served in the Army Reserve Medical Corps.

Dr. Lockhart is survived by her second husband, Keith (her first husband, Frank, preceded her in death); two sons, Frank of Washington and Douglas and his wife, Lisa, also of Napa. Another son, Richard, died in 2000. Other survivors are a brother and sister-in-law, Albert and Murray Douglas of New York.

Donations in memory of Dr. Lockhart can be made to CHILD Inc., which works to stop child abuse related to religious/cultural beliefs, Box 2604, Sioux City, IA 51106 (712-948-3500) or the AAP Friends of Children Fund, American Academy of Pediatrics, Development Lockbox, 38367 Eagle Way, Chicago, IL 60678-1383. Mark check memo, “J. Lockhart memorial” or donate at www.aap.org/donate/fcfdonate.htm.

— Alyson Sulaski Wyckoff
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