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Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

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BREAKTHROUGHS IN BIOSCIENCE ARTICLE OUTLINES ROAD TO TAMOXIFEN

Bethesda, MD – The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) is pleased to announce the release of the publication, “Breast Cancer, Tamoxifen and Beyond: Estrogen and Estrogen Receptors,” the latest article in the *Breakthroughs in Bioscience* series. This publication, made possible through the generous support of the Endocrine Society, describes the various breakthroughs that came together over decades of the study of estrogen to result in tailored cancer treatments for women suffering from breast cancer.

From the breeding of fancy mice to the discovery of the estrogen receptor, each scientific finding added another piece to the complete picture. The tipping point came when a failed contraceptive, renamed tamoxifen, was shown to be effective against breast cancer. Along the way there were unexpected spinoffs, including a failed anti-estrogen called keoxifene that was found to increase bone density and has become a successful treatment for osteoporosis. Today more details unfold as researchers continue to study the complex relationship between estrogen and breast cancer.

The *Breakthroughs in Bioscience* series is a collection of illustrated articles, published by FASEB, that explain recent developments in basic biomedical research and how they are important to society. This article is the second produced in collaboration with the Endocrine Society, a FASEB member organization dedicated to promoting excellence in research, education and clinical practice in the field of endocrinology. To obtain a free copy of these publications, visit the *Breakthroughs in Bioscience* Web site (<http://opa.faseb.org/pages/Publications/breakthroughs.htm>) or contact FASEB’s Office of Public Affairs at (301) 634-7650.

FASEB is composed of 21 societies with more than 80,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB’s mission is to enhance the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. FASEB serves the interests of these scientists in those areas related to public policy, facilitates coalition activities among Member Societies and disseminates information on biological research through scientific conferences and publications.