

## **Carlos Labarrere: Research Foci**

The Experimental Pathology Laboratory at the Methodist Research Institute is performing research in vascular biology related to native and transplant-associated atherosclerosis. The role of inflammatory molecules such as C-reactive protein and interleukin-6 upon development of chronic rejection following solid organ transplantation, as well as the role those molecules play in native atherosclerosis using an animal model of atherosclerosis in apolipoprotein E-deficient mice are under study. Under the direction of Carlos Labarrere, MD, the laboratory staff is at present collaborating with the Indiana University School of Medicine on studies involving the role of inflammatory markers and development of bronchiolitis obliterans following lung transplantation. Studies are also underway in looking at the relationship between inflammation and atherosclerosis in pediatric heart transplantation. It is anticipated that these studies will open new avenues to understand the pathogenesis of chronic rejection of solid organ transplants and will allow new opportunities to introduce new therapies in order to mitigate or impede long-term rejection.