The new Secretary of Health and Human Services, featured on this issue's cover, is Louis W. Sullivan, M.D. Among his unique qualifications are a long history of research accomplishment in hematology and special prominence in cancer, exemplified by former membership on the Board of Scientific Counselors of the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, National Cancer Institute, and on the National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB). While a member of the NCAB, Dr. Sullivan played a critical leadership role in focusing the attention of the cancer community on the problem of disproportionate cancer incidence and mortality in minority populations. Much of his research has dealt with various aspects of hematopoiesis and its disorders and the effects thereon of vitamin B₁₂, folic acid, and other metabolic and nutritional factors.

Dr. Sullivan was born in 1933 in Atlanta, GA, and, after obtaining the Bachelor of Science degree from Morehouse College magna cum laude in 1954, studied at Boston University School of Medicine, receiving the M.D. cum laude in 1958. He spent the next six years in residencies and fellowships at Cornell Medical Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, and the Thorndike Laboratory of Harvard Medical School and Boston City Hospital, largely devoted to research in hematology. He then joined New Jersey College of Medicine in Newark as assistant professor of medicine in 1964. He returned to Boston University where, from 1965 to 1975, as assistant professor and then associate professor of medicine and physiology, he conducted research with support from a United States Public Service Career Development Award on a range of nutritional and metabolic problems in hematology. He also served as head of the Boston Hospital sickle cell program and director of hematology.

In 1975 he was appointed professor of medicine and dean of the newly created Morehouse College School of Medicine. In 1981 he was made president and dean, positions he held until his appointment to the secretaryship this year. He is a member of many medical and scientific societies, and in 1975 he was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine of the United States National Academy of Sciences. He has been active on many governmental and academic advisory boards dealing with public health, as well as in editorial activities and civic organizations. He was Founding President, 1978–1983, of the Association of Minority Health Professions Schools and in 1983 was elected president of the Foundation of Minority Health Professions.

Among his awards are: Drum Major Award of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 1982; Award of the State Committee on the Life and Health of Black Georgians, 1983; and Outstanding Alumnus Award, New York Hospital—Cornell Medical Center, Affiliated Alumni Association, 1984. The Sterling Drug Company established the Louis W. Sullivan visiting professorship at Morehouse School of Medicine in 1984.

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