Dale E. Bredesen, M.D., Professor and Founding President/Chief Executive Officer of the Buck Institute for Age Research, has spent the past 25 years working in the field of aging and neurodegeneration. He earned a B.S. degree from Caltech and an M.D. from Duke University. After training in Internal Medicine at Duke and Neurology at UCSF, he was an NIH Fellow in the laboratory of Nobel laureate Professor Stan Prusiner, working on prions and neurodegeneration. After serving on the faculty at UCLA, he became the first Director of the Program on Aging at the Burnham Institute, and then the founding President and CEO of the Buck Institute for Age Research. His laboratory, which has published over 200 papers, books, and book chapters, discovered a novel class of receptors—"dependence receptors"—that mediate processes as disparate as Alzheimer’s disease, the spread of cancer, and fetal development. This has led to a novel view of Alzheimer’s disease and a new approach to treatment.