**Zerem (Serem) Freier**

Zerem Freier (*זרם פריאר*) is a renowned pediatrician. Currently Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, he served as the Director of the Department of Pediatrics at Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem since its inception in 1961 until his retirement in 1991.

**Biography**

Freier was born in Munich, Germany on June 3, 1926, the son of Rabbi Dr. Moritz (Moshe, Yissachar) Freier and Recha Freier, the founder of the Youth Aliya Organization. Zerem Freier grew up in Berlin until April 1939, after which he emigrated to London with the Kindertransport. There he attended the Jewish Secondary School and later studied medicine at St. Bartholomew’s Hospital Medical School at the University of London. His obtained his training in Pediatrics at the Jenny Lind Hospital for Children, Norwich, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, London, and the Alder Hey Children’s Hospital, Liverpool. He graduated with a Diploma in Child Health in 1952.

Freier emigrated to Israel in 1958, and after two years in private practice, he was appointed as the first Director of the Department of Pediatrics at Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem, directing the department from 1961 until his retirement in 1991. He was a pioneer in pediatric gastroenterology in Israel, the first to perform an intestinal biopsy for the diagnosis of celiac disease in children in Israel and the first in Israel to identify infant allergic reactions to cow’s milk protein. He established a gastroenterology service laboratory at Shaare Zedek Hospital, as well as a research laboratory in mucosal immunology. In 1990, he was appointed full professor at the Hebrew University.

Freier has been a visiting professor at several universities, including the Universities of Adelaide and Perth, Australia, in 1973, the State University of New York, Buffalo, in 1981 and the University of Birmingham, Alabama, in 1989.

Freier is the editor of the Pediatrics Section of the *Journal Club*, published by the E-med company.

Freier has served in several public capacities, including President of the Israel Pediatric Association from 1978 through 1981 and President of the Annual Meeting of the European Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Jerusalem, 1995. He organized an International Conference on Breastfeeding in Tel Aviv in 1980 and an International Symposium on the Immunology of the Intestine and the Liver in Jerusalem in 1987.

Freier married Miriam Feuchtwanger in 1960 and they had five children, Shlomit, of blessed memory, Michah, Etan, Yosef and Tamar.

Freier has written over 100 medical articles and has edited two books:

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