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Thomas A. Pearson is Albert D. Kaiser Professor in the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine and Professor of Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine. Dr. Pearson is also Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Research at the University of Rochester Medical Center and directs the Rochester Prevention Research Center. He is Co-Principal Investigator of the Rochester Clinical and Translational Science Institute. Pearson's major research interests are in the epidemiology and prevention of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, with a special interest in the international trends of coronary heart disease and stroke. Pearson was installed as National Forum Chair-Elect in October 2008 and also serves as the Chair of the National Forum's Regional and Global Collaboration Implementation Group.

Pearson received his Doctor of Medicine, Master in Public Health, and Doctor of Philosophy in cardiovascular epidemiology, all from The Johns Hopkins University, where he also completed residencies in preventive medicine and internal medicine and a fellowship in cardiology. He is a Fellow of the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology, the American College of Preventive Medicine, and the American College of Physicians. Pearson has served as a member and chair of important committees of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the Institute of Medicine, the American Heart Association, and the American College of Cardiology. He has lectured and published extensively in the prevention of cardiovascular disease, including research at the patient, health care system, community, and public policy levels.

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