
EDITORIAL

The Jagiellonian Medical Research Centre (JMRC) organized its 13th international symposium in June 2005. It was held in a very special conference hall of the International Cultural Centre, just on historic Market Square in Kraków. The two-and-a-half day long symposium entitled *Atherothrombosis-Diabetes-Vasculopathies* was shaped by twenty seven lectures covering various aspects of vascular pathology in atherosclerosis and diabetes. Speakers representing both basic and clinical sciences came from the USA, Canada and Europe. The symposium featured two plenary lectures (Prof. Michael Gimbrone, Harvard Medical School and Prof Frances Ashcroft, Oxford University) and was composed of nine sessions which addressed:

- clinical and genetic aspects of vascular damage in diabetes and *atherothrombosis* (papers 1–3);
- platelets (papers 4–7) and endothelium (papers 8–13) as a target for pharmacotherapy in cardiovascular diseases;
- unique features of the involvement of resistance vasculature and coronary, renal and retinal microcirculation in vascular pathology (papers 14–17);
- distinct characteristics of inflammatory response in pulmonary circulation (papers 19–21) and, finally, the involvement of nervous system in vascular pathology (paper 22).

Apart from the scientific programme, an important and solemn event took place during the 13th JMRC symposium. As part of the awards ceremony during the opening of the symposium, the JMRC Foundation Council represented by Prof. Aleksander Koj, Prof. Andrzej Szczeklik and myself, inferred the dignity of JMRC overseas Honorary President to Professor Jack McGiff (USA), and of JMRC Honorary President to Professor Richard J. Gryglewski (Poland). The JMRC Foundation has had quite a long tradition in organizing annual international scientific conferences and it has been these two persons who shaped the unique formula and outstanding scientific level of those meetings.

Finally, on behalf of the JMRC Council and myself, I would like to express our gratitude to all lecturers for their effort of sharing with us their scientific expertise and their original thoughts. Thanks to all lecturers and to the approximately 150 participants our 13th JMRC symposium once again provided true scientific entertainment for all of us. The full program of the 13th JMRC symposium as well as documentation of the meeting can be found on our webpage (www.jmrc.org.pl), while the 22 papers related to topics presented are contained in this special issue of *Pharmacological Reports*.

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President of the JMRC Foundation Council