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3rd Symposium "Free Radicals in Biology and Medicine" was held in Łódź on April 29-May 1, 1996.

This meeting was organized by the Polish Biophysical Society, Polish Group of SFRR and the Institute of Biophysics of the University of Łódź.

It is the third international symposium that the Polish Group of SFRR has organized since its inauguration in 1993. Major sponsors of the symposium included Polish State Committee for Scientific Research, Ministry for National Education and the University of Łódź.

The organizers were able to bring together leading world scientists and the substantial number of Polish researchers interested in the field, who gave lectures on both basic science of free radical research and the biological as well as medical aspects of free radical actions. There were also 55 poster presentations.

About 150 participants attended the symposium for three days. The programme consisted of 28 talks given by foreign and domestic speakers as follows: Gidon Czapski (Jerusalem, Israel) "Mechanisms of oxidation by peroxynitrite" / Aldo Tomasi (Modena, Italy) "Reactive free radicals and nitric oxide in an experimental model system of rat brain ischemia-reperfusion using electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy-spin trapping" / Jorg Schaur (Graz, Austria) "Modification of human low density lipoprotein by myeloperoxidase from neutrophil granulocytes" / Vyacheslav Buko (Grodno, Belarus) "Modification of rat liver cytochrome P-450 by malondialdehyde and 4-hydroxynonenal" / Lech Wojtczak (Warsaw, Poland) "Effect of oxygen reactive species on energy-coupling processes in mitochondria" / Bela Matkovics (Szeged, Hungary) "Nitrogen oxide (NO): a new, but nowadays very popular free radical" / Tomasz Bilinski (Zamość, Poland) "Free radical theory of ageing. The role of oxygen" / Jerzy Popinigis (Gdańsk, Poland) "Formation of megamitochondria: adaptive response of tissue to free radicals" / Roger T. Dean (Sydney, Australia) "Protein oxidation: Mechanisms and roles in atherosclerosis" / Helga Schuessler (Erlangen, Germany) "Radiolysis of DNA in the presence of protein" / Ryszard Oliński (Bydgoszcz, Poland) "Oxidative DNA damage and cancer risk" / Sergei Andreev (Moscow, Russia) "DNA strand break clustering" / Luitpold Distel (Erlangen, Germany) "Radiation-induced protein-DNA-crosslinks and DNA double-strand breaks" / Alexander Peskin (Moscow, Russia) "DNA damage during redox chains functioning" / Ewa Lenartowicz (Warsaw, Poland) "Oxidation and regeneration of protein thiol groups in cell" / Ivan Stepuro (Grodno, Belarus) "Oxidative modification of proteins by free oxygen radicals. Formation of covalent adducts with amino acids and crosslinking of proteins" / Andrzej Wojcik (Essen, Germany) "Are radiation-induced chromosomal aberrations randomly distributed?" / Andrzej Płonka (Łódź, Poland) "Fractal-time reaction patterns of free radicals in condensed media" / Helmut Sies (Duesseldorf, Germany) "The reaction of ebselen with peroxynitrite" / Grzegorz Bartosz (Łódź, Poland) "Effect of peroxynitrite on the red blood cell" / Guenther Stark (Konstanz, Germany) "Radiolytic, photolytic and photodynamic inactivation of ion channels in lipid membranes" / Maria Zuk (New York, USA) "Photodynamic decontamination of blood. The use of quenchers of reactive oxygen species to enhance specificity" / Ekaterina Slobozhanina (Minsk, Belarus) "Panmyelopathies in children and free radical processes" / Milton B. Yatvin (Portland, USA) "Linking drug such as AZT to ceramide increases drug uptake, retention and antiviral action while decreasing bone marrow toxicity" / Andras Vereckei (Budapest, Hungary) "The effect of amiodarone and / or antioxidant treatment on splenocyte blast formation" / Anna Blazovics (Budapest, Hunagary) "Flavonoids in the liver therapy" / Michał Woźniak (Gdańsk, Poland) "New endogenous low molecular weight defences against heart ischemia" / Witold Korytowski (Cracow, Poland) "Phospholipid-glutathione-peroxidase dependent reduction of various lipid hydroperoxides and its relation to cytotoxicity".

Discussions during the symposium as well as informal meetings were stimulating and attracted participants' attention and interest. The meeting was concluded by prof. Maria Bryszewska who took opportunity to thank all the participants for attending and making the meeting a success through their excellent contributions.

We hope that the 4th Symposium "Free Radicals in Biology and Medicine" will traditionally take place in two years, in May/June 1998.

Prof. Maria Bryszewska
Chairperson of the Organizing Committee

The publication of the Symposium materials was supported by the Polish State Committee for Scientific Research (KBN).

INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

I General

1. The Editors of ***Current Topics in Biophysics*** are prepared to accept direct experimental studies, reviews and theoretical articles. Papers submitted may deal with any problem relevant to biophysics.
2. Papers may be submitted in English to:
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II Specific

1. Manuscript and illustration should be submitted in duplicate. Double-spaced typing and at least 2 cm margins are required. The length of the manuscript is not limited.
2. The first page must include: the title; name(s) of author(s); affiliation(s); short running head (no more than 50 characters include. spaces); a detailed address for correspondence.
3. References should be cited in the text by giving the last name of the author (or authors) followed by the year of publication in parentheses, e.g. Reich (1970), Liboff and Furst (1974). If there are three or more authors, citations, beyond the first, need give only the first author, e.g. Pineri, Escobues and Roche (1978) becomes Pineri et al. (1978). If there is more than one work by the author (or authors) in a given year, then label them alphabetically within each year, e.g. Lang (1966a, 1966b).
4. The full references should be typed on a separate page (or pages) placed at the end of the article and should not be given as footnotes. They should include the names of all the authors and their initials, the year of publication in parentheses, the full title of the article or book, the standard abbreviated name of the journal, the volume number and the pages, and, for books, the city of publication and the publisher. The following may serve as illustration:

   Stępień K. & Wilczok T. (1982). Studies of the mechanism of chloroquine binding to synthetic DOPA - melanin. *Biochem. Pharmacol.*, **31**, 3359-3365.

   Gennis R. B. (1989). *Biomembranes. Molecular Structure and Functions*. Springer-Verlag, New York.
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