Preface

Istvan Berczi Editor in Chief

When common folks hear the word "*stress*", they think of something bad, something dangerous. Indeed, the stress response is associated with bad, life threatening situations. However, the mission of the response to stress is to defend the host organism against life threatening, noxious insults. The hallmark of this response is the activation of the hypothalamus-pituitary-adrenalinnate immune axis, which would exert a general immune inflammatory response, known as the acute phase response (APR). Acute febrile illness often occurs in our life time and in most instances we recover. This shows the critical importance of APR for survival.

More recent results indicate that the Nervous-Endocrine and Immune Systems, which interact in the stress response, form a Neuroimmune Regulatory Circuitry, which regulates everything in the body in health and disease and from conception till death. This book highlights some of the recent headlines in Neuroimmune Biology, the science which deals with this area of Biology.