

Preface

The Fourth Asian Congress for Microcirculation (ACM'00) was held during February 25–27, 2000 at Bandung, Indonesia under the presidency of Prof. Lily I. Rilantono (Faculty of Medicine, University of Indonesia, Jakarta). The main theme of the congress was “*A comprehensive understanding of microcirculation is the gateway for various health solutions in the next millennium*”. As the pre-congress symposium, *Asian traditional medicine (ATM)* was selected for a prospective and promising research and health solution area, specific to Asia.

The congress was open to all persons who were concerned about various health solutions. Reflecting an exhaustive multi-disciplinary character, the meeting attracted about 300 participants, with expertise in various fields, basic, experimental and clinical, from Asian countries and other countries worldwide. It was very fortunate that the congress was opened by the Ministry of Health of Indonesia. The Asian Union for Microcirculation (AUM) presented the AUM award to Dr. Shunichi Usami (Department of Bioengineering, University of California, San Diego) for his great contributions to the development of Microcirculation in Asia. After the congress banquet, the Indonesian traditional cultural performance was sponsored by the Governor of West Java (Bandung area).

This volume contains selected proceedings from the congress, consisting of plenary lectures, workshops/symposia lectures, and selected papers presented in free communications. The contributions reflect recent advances in experimental and clinical microcirculation in Asia. Major topics include Asian traditional medicine, clinical approach such as chronic venous diseases, molecular and cellular aspects, cerebral angiogenesis, lymphatic circulation and instrumental development.

We wish to express our thanks to all the contributors who obliged us by submitting their manuscripts within the time limit. We are also obliged to Drs. Sjukri Karim, Murinial Dahlan, Ary Mboeik, Adnil Basha, Hendro S. Yuwono, Faik Heyder and other organizing members of Indonesia. Thanks are also due to Drs. M. Yamin and Hadja Priatna and Ms. Maria, Vera and Yuli at Kardio Info, Jakarta for their great help in the preparation of the meeting. The editorial work was assisted by Drs. S. Yamaguchi and K. Nageswari at National Cardiovascular Center of Japan.

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