

Preface

11th International Congress of Biorheology and 4th International Conference on Clinical Hemorheology

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The 11th International Congress of Biorheology and the 4th International Conference on Clinical Hemorheology was held in Antalya, Turkey on September 22–26, 2002. The third joint meeting of the International Society of Biorheology and the International Society for Clinical Haemorheology provided the excellent basis for scientific, cultural and social activities. More than 150 active participants from 35 countries and about 50 accompanying guests attended this important scientific event, which was held in the Adora Resort Hotel located at the Mediterranean coast, east to Antalya city. The meeting was extensively supported by Akdeniz University.

The joint meeting was officially opened on Sunday, September 22nd, 2002 at 6:00 PM. The opening ceremony was followed by the Welcome Reception at the Pool Bar of Adora Resort. This gathering of the participants was enriched by a small group of musicians from the Antalya State Symphonic Orchestra.

The technical sessions started on Monday, September 23rd, 2002. The first plenary lecture was presented by Prof. Robert Nerem. He presented the latest developments in tissue engineering. The scientific program continued with four parallel symposia. The topics of these symposia included “Rheological aspects of tissue engineering”, “Molecular basis of blood cell adhesion”, “Hemorheological markers of evolution” and “Rheology of endothelium and glycocalyx”.

The afternoon program of September 23rd started with the lecture on the role of haemostatic system alterations in atherosclerosis and thrombosis presented by Prof. Orhan Ulutin. The plenary lecture was followed by four other symposia on “Cardiovascular diseases and hemorheology”, “Cell adhesion and the response of endothelial cells to shear stress”, “Polymer/red blood cell interactions” and “Biorheological properties of proteins and cells”. The scientific program of the day ended with the poster discussion session.

After the dinner, a movie on the archeology and ethnography of the south-west Anatolia was presented by Prof. Nevzat Çevik of Akdeniz University.

Prof. Takeshi Karino was the plenary speaker of the Tuesday, September 24th morning. He presented their theoretical and experimental findings on the low density lipoprotein transport to the endothelium

and the influences by the blood flow conditions. The plenary lecture was followed by the symposium, co-organized with the European Society for Clinical Haemorheology, "Impact of haemorheology in clinical medicine", and by the other symposia "Exercise hemorheology", "Frontiers in clinical rheology" and "Hemorheology and microcirculation".

Tuesday afternoon was devoted to the council and business meetings of International Society of Bio-rheology and International Society for Clinical Haemorheology.

Poiseuille Gold Medal Award Ceremony was the main event of Wednesday, September 25th, 2002. The Medal was presented to Prof. Shu Chien by the previous recipient of the Poiseuille Award, Prof. Giles Cokelet. Prof. Chien delivered a lecture on his latest studies of the effects of rheological factors on signal transduction and gene expression in endothelial cells. One of the following symposia was also chaired by Prof. Chien and included "state-of-art" presentations in the field of mechanotransduction. Other symposia paralleled this session were on "Rheology of biological fluids and tissues", "Red blood cell aggregation" and "Hemorheology and microcirculation in diabetes and metabolic diseases".

A tour to Aspendos antique theater and Phaselis antique city Wednesday afternoon provided the opportunity to taste the rich cultural environment of the Antalya region. Some of the participants enjoyed one of the finest beaches of the region.

The plenary lecture delivered on Thursday, September 26th morning was on the hemorheological aspects of flow-induced blood damage in artificial organs by Dr. Marina Kameneva. The plenary lecture was followed by four symposia with topics as follows: "Rheological properties of soft tissues", "Hemorheology and pharmacology", "New approaches to studies of red blood cell aggregation" and "Methodology and standardization".

Prof. Fulong Liao presented the last plenary lecture of the joint meeting on Thursday afternoon. He described the new research topics in clinical hemorheology and mechanocytobiology. The scientific program ended with the three symposia followed this plenary lecture. One of symposia was on "Comparative hemodynamics and hemorheology". The two other topics were "Blood flow and thrombogenesis" and "Recent developments related to erythrocyte aggregation".

The joint meeting was closed with the gala dinner on Thursday September 26th night.

Sightseeing tours to Akseki, Side and Manavgat regions were organized for accompanying guests during the week. A post-congress tour was also organized for the participants who wished to extend their experience with a visit to Istanbul.