Third Workshop on Structure and Function of Large Arteries: Part I

Editorial Commentary

The articles that follow in this issue of *Hypertension* represent part of the proceedings of a special symposium, the “Third Workshop on Structure and Function of Large Arteries,” a program organized by Professor Michel Safar on January 23 and 24, 1998. This workshop was organized in the context of a special Biomed Program of the European Community with a special educational grant-in-aid from Servier Laboratories.

Each of the papers submitted for publication have been subjected to the same peer review process that applies to all manuscripts submitted to *Hypertension*. This peer review process involved a prior selection of journal-approved reviewers with the intent that the accepted manuscripts would be included in regular issues of the journal rather than in a special journal supplement. Professor Safar agreed to serve as Guest Editor and to work closely with the Editor-in-Chief at each step to ensure that no breach occurred with our agreed procedure. Moreover, he and the grantor agreed to discuss with the American Heart Association, in advance and independent of journal editors, all financial arrangements with each of the foregoing administrative and editorial stipulations.

Professor Safar organized an Associate Editorial team including Hans Brunner, MD, Lausanne, Switzerland; Giuseppe Mancia, MD, Milan, Italy; Gérard London, MD, Paris, France; and Michael O’Rourke, MD, Darlinghurst, Australia. As in the previous workshop, the Associate Guest Editors then selected, well in advance of the meeting and with prior agreement by the Editors, all potential reviewers. The workshop participants/authors all came to the meeting with their manuscripts, which were immediately sent to the reviewers. Those papers that passed the proscribed review process were forwarded to the editorial office for publication in the July, August, and September issues of *Hypertension*.

The workshop was organized according to the following topics: mechanotransduction and the arterial wall; arterial remodeling and wall thickness; advances in methodology and technology with subsequent therapeutic applications; endothelium and mechanical factors; pulsatile arterial hemodynamics; and the impact of each of these areas on cardiovascular genetics and epidemiology. A great attempt was made to relate arterial changes in hypertension to the new aspects of molecular biology. We hope our readers will be as impressed and challenged as the journal’s Editor and Guest Editors were by the increasing diversity of the techniques and expertise of this maturing investigative field of large artery involvement and function in hypertension research.

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