

Premiere: AESKU.AWARD for life contribution to autoimmunity

The 4th International Congress on Autoimmunity in Budapest November 3-7, 2004 opened with a premiere: The AESKU.AWARD for life contribution to autoimmunity was granted for the first time during the opening session on the first evening.

This year three of the pioneers in research in the field of autoimmune diseases have been rewarded for their work: Donato Alarcon Segovia, Ian R. Mackay and Noel R. Rose.

In the course of the past decades the award winners have made a major contribution to research into the causes of autoimmune diseases.

Introduced by Yehuda Shoenfeld, congress chairman and holder of the world's first professorship for autoimmunity at Tel Aviv University, Donato Alarcon Segovia, National Institute of Medical Sciences and Nutrition, Mexico, DF, Mexico, spoke about "Shared autoimmunity, a new concept" during the opening session.

Noel R. Rose, Departments of Pathology and Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, MD, USA, reported also introduced by Yehuda Shoenfeld, on "The transition from benign to pathogenic autoimmunity: the myocarditis model".

Last but not least Ian R. Mackay, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, Australia, who was introduced by the chairman M.E. Gershwin from the University of California School of Medicine, USA, held a short lecture about "Autoimmune epitopes: autoepitopes".

The AESKU.AWARD for life contribution to autoimmunity does not only want to show the importance of research on autoimmune diseases, it also aims to establish the significant field of autoimmunity as an independent research area and to foster interdisciplinary cooperation.

AESKU continuously invests in research and development to create new opportunities that improve diagnosis and therapy of autoimmune diseases substantially. Therefore the research team also contributed to the scientific program together with research partners from renowned universities.

Detailed information about the award winners, their research work and about new future trends in diagnosis and therapy of autoimmune diseases presented during the 4th International Congress on Autoimmunity in Budapest will be published in the next issue of AESKU.SCIENCE.



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