Preface

Improving prognosis in NIDDM patients

Non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM) is an increasing and alarming health problem throughout the world, also in developing countries, especially in the Far East. The treatment of patients with NIDDM is clearly important, both in the early phase of the disease and, obviously, when late complications have developed. The latter present an increasing burden which is challenging physicians all over the world.

The aim of the Symposium was to survey origin, mechanisms and natural course of NIDDM complications, in particular vascular and renal damage. The discussion also focussed on ways in which quality of life and longevity in these patients could be improved.

The present volume collects the contributions to the Symposium organised in original studies, reports, clinical trial designs and short reviews. Hopefully, for both depth and width these proceedings will stimulate clinical and research work in NIDDM.

The staff at the editorial office in Pisa have worked hard on this Special Issue and Hoechst Marion Roussel have provided an educational grant to support the meeting and to cover publication costs. To both, the organisers and the editors would like to express their sincere thanks.

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