Heart Perfusion, Energetics, and Ischemia

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Heart Perfusion, Energetics, and Ischemia

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PREFACE

The principal purpose of a NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) Advanced Research Workshop, a part of the NATO Advanced Study Institutes Programme, is to:

- (a) exchange thoughts at the frontiers of knowledge or at the frontiers of two (or more) fields or sectors;
- (b) review and assess the state of the art;
- (c) formulate recommendations for future research directions;
- (d) formulate plans for large international scientific experiments.

The aim of the ARW on "Microvascular, rheological, metabolic and heat-transfer aspects of the heart: relation to ischaemia and thrombosis", convened in Chateau de Bonas, July 4-11, 1982, was to describe functions and performance of the heart in an interdisciplinary effort, involving cardiologists, pathologists, biochemists, haemorheologists, physiologists, pharmacologists and bioengineers; to explore interactions between such subfields as blood rheology, microcirculation and ischaemia of the myocardium, heat transfer, heat work and performance as a pump, effect of metabolites and ion transfer, mechanism of sudden death, protein synthesis and protein molecular transformations.

One of the purposes of the Convenor was to relate clinical haemorheology to the heart energetics and heart metabolism. This was only partly established, as difficulties of communications between different fields, difficulties of semantics and of specialized outlooks could not be overcome within a few days. Nevertheless, a gate was opened for communications interchange in the future.

There was even a problem within each specialty, and as is rather common, quite diverse views have been expressed. This, of course, is quite normal in the progress of science.

I felt greatly privileged to assemble such a group of brilliant minds, and I can only hope that the resulting proceedings will give justice to their deliberations.

I enjoyed the conference tremendously; it was an intellectual, esthetic, and culinary feast. The most friendly spirit of this conference as greatly influenced and enhanced by a magnificent setting of the Chateau de Bonas, and our charming host, Countess Simon.

The success of the conference is very much due to the excellent leadership of Professor Desmond Julian; to the enthusiastic help of Professor Dr. G. Elzinga and Professor Julien Hoffman; to the cooperation and assistance of all lecturers and authors, and to the active participation of some observers; and last, but not least, to the most friendly and efficient ground work of the secretary of the Association Scientifique Culturelle et Educative de Bonas, Miss Maryse Lagarde.

LEOPOLD DINTENFASS

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