Compendium of Inflammatory Diseases

Michael J. Parnham
Editor-in-Chief

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With 218 Figures and 116 Tables

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Preface

Inflammation has become one of the most exciting and rewarding areas of medical research. Recent years have seen a revolution in our understanding of how blood and tissue cells interact and of the intracellular mechanisms controlling their activation. This has revealed the underlying inflammatory pathology of a wide variety of diseases and provided multiple new targets for drug therapy. As a consequence, there has been a burst in the development of new anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory drugs for these diseases. In parallel, the literature on inflammatory diseases, the mechanisms and mediators involved, and approaches to drug therapy has expanded dramatically so that it is very difficult to obtain an overview of the field.

The *Compendium of Inflammatory Diseases* is an attempt to rectify this situation, providing in-depth information for students, teachers, researchers, and clinicians working in academia, hospital, and industry. The reference work provides insight into the cellular and humoral components and processes of inflammation, its treatment, and its clinical expression in a collection of articles each written by experts in their fields. The simple A–Z format provides easy access to relevant information. The compendium is being published simultaneously in print and electronic forms. Extensive cross references to entries in the compendium and in other Springer Reference works enable efficient and user-friendly searches.

Because of the constant change in our understanding of inflammation, the print version provides a selective view of the current status, and in such a large reference work omissions are inevitable. However, a significant aspect of the format is that a living reference or dynamic online version is available, which can be updated by authors and editors to keep up with new developments. Since new authors can also submit contributions to the online edition, this version will continue to grow. The DOI for the living reference (currently, *Encyclopedia of Inflammatory Diseases*) is <http://link.springer.com/referencework/10.1007/978-3-0348-0620-6>. As a living project, the compendium will serve as a reliable data pool for all those working in inflammation research, becoming an indispensable source of information for academia, clinical practitioners, and industry.

Work on the compendium was started in 2004 and has involved a large number of people over the years. I thank, in particular, the associate editors of the various parts of the compendium: Anne-Marie Irani, Jason McDougall, and Marc Feldmann for inflammatory diseases; Sylvie Chollet-Martin for

inflammatory cells and processes; Heiko Mühl and Heinfried Radeke for inflammatory mediators; and Garry Graham and Kevin Pile for the pharmacology of inflammation. Thanks for your patience, dedication, and hard work. I also acknowledge the assistance of John Hamilton, Alan Lewis, Luke O'Neill, and Peter Lipsky who originally helped to put a list of potential articles together and Vincent Lagente and Valerie Quesniaux who gave support along the way. I am also extremely grateful to all the authors who gave their time and energy to the writing of the approximately 120 chapters. A special word of thanks to the people at Springer who encouraged, cajoled, and supported the collation and processing of the manuscripts: Detlef Klüber who initiated and promoted the project together with Sandra Fabiani and Susanne Friedrichsen; Lydia Müller, Kerstin Kindler, and Somodatta Roy who did the hands-on processing work in the early phases of the project; and Sunali Mull and Keerthi Sudevan who pulled the strings together to bring the project to its first print milestone.

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Michael Parnham studied Pharmacology at Chelsea (now King's) College, London, including a year working on prostaglandins and pain with Sergio Ferreira at The Royal College of Surgeons and completed doctoral studies at Bristol University in 1973. Postdoctoral research took him to Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands, to work with Ivan Bonta on prostaglandins and chronic inflammation. This led to the award of the Goslings Prize for research on antirheumatic therapy and the cofounding with Bonta and Kay Brune of the European Workshop on Inflammation, of which Dr. Parnham was secretary for many years. In 1980, he moved to Germany for a decade in anti-inflammatory research with A. Nattermann/Rhône-Poulenc, becoming Head of General Biology. In 1990, he and his colleagues were awarded the Prix Galien Germany for the development of ebselen, a novel organoselenium approach to anti-inflammatory therapy. In the same year, Dr. Parnham established a consultancy and became a lecturer in pharmacology and toxicology at Goethe University, Frankfurt. Appointed Professor in Frankfurt in 1998, Dr. Parnham also moved to Zagreb, Croatia, where he established new pharmacology and toxicology labs in the Research Institute of PLIVA Pharmaceuticals. He and his team characterized the immunomodulatory effects of macrolide antibiotics and developed two new chemical agents and two biogenerics to clinical trials, receiving two awards from PLIVA. Subsequently,

after ownership changed in 2006, he was Director of Preclinical Discovery at GlaxoSmithKline in Zagreb. Currently, he is Head of Preclinical Research at Fraunhofer IME-TMP in Frankfurt, Germany, carrying out applied research in neuroinflammation, autoimmunity, sepsis, and pain. He is editor of the monograph series *Progress in Inflammation Research* and coeditor of *Milestones in Drug Therapy* and of the textbook *Principles of Immunopharmacology*. From 1982 to 2013, Prof. Parnham was Editor, then Managing Editor of the peer-reviewed journal *Inflammation Research*. In 2015, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the International Association of Inflammation Societies.

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