Progress and Challenges in Transfusion Medicine, Hemostasis, and Hemotherapy

State of the Art 2008

41th Congress of the German Society for Transfusion Medicine and Immunohematology

Editor
Rüdiger E. Scharf Düsseldorf

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Preface

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In the foreword of the Brussels State-of-the-Art book, Professor Verstraete once wrote, ‘A preface is that part of a book that is placed first, written last, and read least.’ Since all three statements he made are true, I will be brief. Transfusion medicine, hemostasis, and hemotherapy are relatively ‘young’ fields. They have in common both the subject ‘blood’ and the interdisciplinary approach. Thus, it is the translational impact of basic and clinical research that provides progress and challenges in patient care.

I am grateful to the authors, all experts in their field, who provided a chapter to this volume prior to the conference, meeting strict deadlines and accepting inevitable limitations in length, illustrations, and references. The support by our sponsors who made this project possible at all is particularly acknowledged, including CSL Behring, Wyeth, Baxter, NovoNordisk, and Novartis. Special thanks are also extended to the technical editing and production team of Karger publishers who worked hard to deliver this volume in due time. Finally, I would like to thank Uta Vandreccappelle for her assistance, Nikola Möller for checking with me all manuscripts, and Anne Scharf for her coordination work as industrial liaison officer.

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Rüdiger E. Scharf, Düsseldorf
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'Having Light We Pass It On To Others'

Plato, 'The Republic', 328a
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