Foreword

This supplement consists of papers presented at the Fourth International Conference on Intestinal and Pancreatic Adaptation which was held at the Free University of Berlin on 25-28 October 1989. It was the latest in a sequence of meetings on intestinal and pancreatic adaptation, the first of which was held at Titisee in the Black Forest during 1973.

The aim of this conference was not only to discuss progress in the cell and molecular biology of adaptive and neoplastic growth in the intestine and pancreas, but also to focus on the role of connective tissue and of gut-associated lymphoid tissue in the growth of these organs.

As in previous conferences in this series, this was a multidisciplinary assembly of some 80 participating scientists from 13 countries representing physiology, biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, immunology and clinical science. The format of the meeting included overview lectures, verbal and poster presentations with adequate time and space for formal and informative discussions.

The contributions in this supplement appear in the order in which they were presented at the meeting. Equal importance was given to verbal and poster presentations, but the authors of posters were offered the option of submitting an abstract or a full manuscript. The abstracts are printed at the end of the relevant sections. However, because of limitations of space, we were not able to include an edited version of the discussions.

While all manuscripts were reviewed by the editors, to ensure a rapid publication the authors were asked to bear full responsibility for the careful proof-reading of their contributions.

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