Ori S. Better: Corresponding Member of the Gesellschaft für Nephrologie

Dr. Ori S. Better, a native of Haifa, studied medicine at the Hadassah–Hebrew University Medical School in Jerusalem and received his medical degree in 1957. During the subsequent two years practicing as a physician in settlements of the semi-desert Negev-Dead Sea region and as member of the Israeli Emergency Medical Team in the Congo Civil War, his interest in the fields of fluid and electrolyte balance and in acute renal failure was awakened and strengthened during his military service. During and after the 1973 war, his clinical and experimental work focussed on the crush syndrome to improve clinical management of rescue and salvage of casualties of mass disasters and burn injuries. With this experience, he was appointed as Annie Chutick Professor of Medicine in 1985; he also became Director of the Dr. Rebecca Chutick Crush Syndrome Center which he established at the Technion Faculty of Medicine in Haifa in 1993. He also served as advisor of the rescue and salvage unit of the Home Front Command of the Israel Defense Forces.

Dr. Better is one of the founders of the Faculty of Medicine at Technion, the Israel Institute of Technology, established in Haifa in 1971. He became Head of the Department of Nephrology which was founded at the Rambam Hospital in Haifa in 1965; there, the first cadaver kidney transplant in Israel was performed in the affiliated Transplant Center. Dr. Better was a Fullbright Fellow in 1964 and has taken sabbaticals at different time periods beginning in the early sixties at the University of California in Los Angeles, later at the Universities of Utah in Salt Lake City, Colorado Medical School in Denver, the Yale University Medical School in New Haven and the School of Medicine at the State University of New York Stony Brook, New York. In 1983, he was elected Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in Haifa.

His extensive clinical experience and his great devotion to research in the fields of Nephrology and Internal Medicine are reflected by a great number of publications mainly in

international Journals. These include especially the fields of acid-base and water and electrolyte balance, liver and kidney disease and the pathogenesis and management of the crush syndrome. This work is acknowledged worldwide so that Dr. Better is often invited to Europe, the United States and Asia as an expert in this field. He has also trained a large number of presently acting nephrologists in Israel; from his former students, four now hold professorships in Nephrology and one in Transplant Surgery.

Dr. Better has close personal relations to German Nephrology, with numerous invitations to seminars and lectures during congresses and meetings previously held in Berlin, Bonn, Erlangen, Hannover, Heidelberg, Würzburg and others. He speaks fluently German. In the early eighties he also cooperated in a research project sponsored by GIF (German-Israeli Foundation) in coordination with the Federal Ministry for Technology, Bonn.

Dr. Better is a member of the editorial boards of Kidney International, Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation, Nephron and the Israel Journal of Medical Sciences.

In 1992, he received the International Distinguished Researcher Medal from the American National Kidney Foundation for his excellent clinical and experimental work.

We cordially welcome Dr. Ori S. Better as Corresponding Member of the Gesellschaft für Nephrologie and are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation on the basis of our mutual interests in the fields of clinical and experimental nephrology. We wish him the fulfillment of all his plans for his professional and personal future and that he

continues—aside from his professional activities—to enjoy his watersport activities, especially wind surfing, for many more years.

Herbert J. Kramer, M.D., Bonn