Cystic Fibrosis Part II

Biochemistry

of Glycoproteins and

Related Substances

Edited by E. ROSSI and E. STOLL, Berne
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Foreword to Part I

The 4th International Conference on Cystic Fibrosis has been so successful that the number of reports and discussions exceeded all our expectations. For this reason, the present proceedings had to be published in two volumes: Part I dealing with Physiology and Pathophysiology of Serous Secretion, Clinical Investigations and Therapy of Cystic Fibrosis; Part II dealing with Biochemistry of Glycoproteins and Related Substances. One of the goals of this conference was to establish close contacts between clinicians and basic researchers. It is regrettable, therefore, that the reports of the two groups had to be separated again, but we sincerely hope that both, the basic researcher and the clinician, will respect the technical advice of our publishers, S. Karger AG.

We thank Dr. S. Roseman for his invaluable assistance in editing Part II and S. Karger AG for their efficient cooperation throughout the preparation of these proceedings.
Foreword to Part II

Studies on the chemistry and metabolism of glycoproteins, glycolipids and related substances have increased in scope and significance during recent years. While numerous original investigations have been published, along with important reference works such as those by Gottschalk and by Jeanloz and Balazs, it appeared appropriate to review the recent, exciting aspects of these problems. For this reason, this Symposium was held. It is clear from the eminent list of speakers that we have succeeded in gathering together at one meeting many of the major contributors to this area. The value of the Symposium is illustrated by the excellent review articles submitted by the speakers. These critical reviews are found to stimulate both the novice in the field and the expert. An additional and important aspect of the Symposium was the discussion following each paper, where the experts from various areas focussed on a single problem. Thus, the merit of the Symposium greatly exceeded the sum of its parts.

As stressed elsewhere in this volume, little is known concerning the functions of glycoproteins, glycolipids etc. However, it seems very clear that when these functions are known, they will have extremely important ramifications in medicine. It was therefore appropriate that this Symposium be held under the auspices of the International Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. We particularly wish to thank Dr. Paul di Sant’Agnese and the National Cystic Fibrosis Research Foundation of the USA for its encouragement and financial help. In addition, of course, we are most grateful to Drs. E. Rossi and E. Stoll for their very considerable help in making this a successful Symposium.

Finally, it is hoped that the reader will find this Symposium as significant as did the participants.

S. Roseman