Diabetes Mellitus: Etiopathogenesis and Metabolic Aspects

Frontiers in Diabetes

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F. Belfiore, Catania

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Diabetes Mellitus:
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F. Belfiore, Catania
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G.M. Reaven, Palo Alto, Calif.

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The authors and the publishers have exerted every effort to ensure that drug selection and dosage set forth in this text are in accord with current recommendations and practice at the time of publication. However, in view of ongoing research, changes in government regulations, and the constant flow of information relating to drug therapy and drug reactions, the reader is urged to check the package insert for each drug for any change in indications and dosage and for added warnings and precautions. This is particularly important when the recommended agent is a new and/or infrequently employed drug.

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Preface

This book, the 4th in the series Frontiers in Diabetes, consists of the edited version of lectures and short communications presented at the 1st International Diabetes Conference on the ‘Etiopathogenesis and Metabolic Aspects of Diabetes Mellitus’, held in Catania (Italy), November 6-7, 1982. The explosive growth in the literature of this area makes it very useful to have periodic reviews of the available data in order to give a generalized view of the various aspects of diabetes mellitus. And, indeed, the main scope of the conference was to present a group of lectures in which personal results were integrated with the literature to provide up-to-date and extensive surveys of the subjects dealt with.
This book represents a review of the etiopathogenetic and metabolic aspects of diabetes mellitus, written by a group of outstanding diabetologists. The text begins with a discussion on the etiology of diabetes (including genetic, environmental and immunologic factors), followed by an analysis of the mechanisms of insulin secretion and insulin resistance, and the metabolic alterations occurring in diabetes. A detailed account is then given of the metabolic complications, i.e. ketoacidosis, nonketotic hyperosmolar coma, the basement membrane disorder, and hyperlipidemia. Extensive space is also devoted to clinically relevant aspects, such as modern diagnosis and therapy of diabetes (including continuous insulin infusion), and the role of physical exercise and patient education. A final chapter reporting a group of experimental studies on current topics in diabetes research further enriches the content of the book.

We hope that this volume will extend the benefit of the conference to a large audience, and will be useful to all those interested in diabetes mellitus, by providing easy access to the most advanced views in this rapidly expanding area of investigation.

We wish to express our appreciation to the S. Karger AG and its staff for their kind cooperation.

Francesco Belfiore,
David J. Galton,
Gerald M. Reaven