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Foreword

The growing interest in lung physiology and the interaction of different biochemical and cellular processes in the pathogenesis of lung diseases prompted another scientific meeting on recent advances in surfactant research after a first one 1979 in Hamburg, FRG. The surfactant system is absolutely fundamental for lung function in mammalians. In the last years it has stimulated more and more attention in medical research both in basic and in therapeutic aspects.

This volume collects papers presented at the Second International Symposium on Surfactant Research held at the Philipps-University, Marburg, FRG, from 22nd to 24th September 1983. Further success in this field depends on an interdisciplinary discussion, and physiologists, biochemists, surgeons, pediatricians, gynecologists and physicians take part.

Just this general interest in a problem rather than in a speciality was one of the outstanding features of the conference. The conference was generously supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the PhilippsUniversity, the Astra Pharmaceutical Company, the Byk-Gulden GmbH, the Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH, and the Dr. K. Thomae GmbH.

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Peter von Wichert