Retinoids: New Trends in Research and Therapy

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Retinoids:
New Trends in Research and Therapy

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J.H. Saurat, Geneva

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Drug Dosage
The authors and the publisher 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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Contrary to common belief, therapy of skin diseases has stood still for many years, being simply an exercise in dispensing ointment. However, for the first time in the history of this speciality, dermatologists have in their possession a class of drugs of such outstanding importance in clinical medicine that it can be compared to the corticosteroids. Dermatologists in several areas of the world have now been familiarized with the clinical efficacy and side effects of the first generation of retinoids, so that their experience can be disseminated to the entire medical community.
The aim of this Symposium was to bring together the most outstanding scientists engaged in basic research on retinoids and clinicians trained in using these compounds in human therapy. This unique approach was felt to be interesting since two retinoids for treatment of skin diseases have already been released on the market, and the question of the second and third generations of retinoids is open. Each session included one or more invited lectures, as a general review given by world leaders in the field, and free communications on new experimental data related to ongoing research. These contributions all appear in this book; poster presentations could not be included for lack of space, but the abstracts have already been published [Dermatologica 169: 217-264, 1984]. The Symposium was held under the auspices of the European Society for Dermatological Research, and the scientific programme was organized by Peter Elias, Anders Vahiquist, Edouard Grosshans and myself. Financial support was obtained from F. Hoffmann-La Roche & Co. Ltd. (Basel); the personal commitment of Dr. Lefrancq and Dr. Appenzeller was of paramount importance in organizing the meeting. Finally, we are grateful to Ms. Christine Wasung for skilful secretarial work and to S. Karger AG, Basel, for publishing this volume of proceedings.

J.H. Saurat