Editorial

Dear Friends,

The 9th Annual Conference of the Japanese Society for Hemodiafiltration in conjunction with the International Symposium on Hemodiafiltration was held in August 2003, in Kamakura, Japan. Most of you have already received a supplement issue of *Blood Purification* that includes abstracts translated from Japanese into English, except for those originally written in English. It is my great pleasure to send you another supplement issue of *Blood Purification* that is a compilation of selected papers from the meeting.

This issue includes 15 scientific papers written by world recognized researchers and clinicians, including a review article on hemodiafiltration (HDF) written by Prof. N.K. Man who made a keynote lecture at the meeting. The topics of other papers cover almost all areas of HDF therapy with a special interest in on-line HDF and hemodialysis with a considerable amount of internal filtration (IF-HD). The very first necessary step is the preparation of on-line substitution fluid/dialysate. Clinical aspects of on-line HDF and IF-HD are also discussed from the economical point of view. The impact for preservation of residual renal function is a controversial issue, especially between HDF and peritoneal dialysis. Method of dilution may be another technical issue of the 'on-line' treatments. Finally, choice of centralized delivery and individual delivery systems of dialysate is also covered in this supplement issue.

Readers who are interested in on-line HDF will find something new or something interesting in these papers. Other readers may find differences between European and Japanese clinical standards on performing HDF

treatments. I hope this issue will give you some useful hints for your current research or daily clinical investigation.

With best regards,
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