



Enzymes of Lipid Metabolism II

Edited by

Louis Freysz

Henri Dreyfus

Raphaël Massarelli and

Shimon Gatt

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PREFACE

This book presents the proceedings of the 2nd meeting on "Enzymes of Lipid Metabolism" which took place in Strasbourg in October, 1985. It is a sequel to the first conference bearing this title which took place, also in the vicinity of Strasbourg, in March, 1977. In either case the meetings were coorganized by L. Freysz of Strasbourg, France and S. Gatt of Jerusalem, Israel. The present meeting was set up as a joint NATO Advanced Research Workshop and CNRS-INSERM International Symposium.

The conference was guided by two principles, namely, that science has no boundaries, neither has the study of lipid metabolism. Participants came from Europe, the USA, Israel and Japan and represented areas of research in lipid metabolism involving fatty acids, cholesterylesters, glycerol- and sphingolipids. The experimental approaches utilized purified enzymes, artificial and biological membranes, as well as a variety of cells, primary or cultured lines. A session was also devoted to modification of lipid enzymes and metabolism resulting from inherited, inborn defects such as the lipid storage diseases which are caused by genetic modification of degradative enzymes of lipid metabolism. A second type of disease stemming from a defect in a cell organelle (ie, the peroxisome) was also discussed. The eight and one and a half years which elapsed since the previous meeting, highlighted the changing emphasis of research in lipid metabolism. While the previous symposium discussed mostly properties of isolated enzymes, the present meeting strongly emphasized study of lipid metabolism in integrated systems. The latter included transport across biological membranes and metabolic aspects of lipids in living cells. In the latter case, emphasis was directed to regulatory processes, manipulation of the cell genome and intracellular utilization of externally-applied lipids. The sessions included lectures as well as close to 75 posters, which were exhibited for the entire week and discussed extensively, in personal as well as formal group meetings. All lectures, posters and "round table" discussions are included in

this book. The latter was edited so that the respective manuscripts were grouped according to subjects rather than chronological or type of presentation.

The symposium was sponsored by very generous support from NATO, CNRS and INSERM which is gratefully acknowledged. Without the generous grants of these three respective Institutions, the meeting would not have been materialized.

We also wish to thank the members of the scientific advisory committee and the local organizing committee for their excellent assistance and Ms. H. Urban, C. Thomassin-Orphanides, M. Stahl and A. Grasset for their skilful and devoted secretarial help.

L. Freysz
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