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Biomedical Applications

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PREFACE

The Sixth International Symposium “Biomedical Applications of Chromatography” was held in Hluboká castle from May 21st to 24th, 1978. The Symposium was organized by the Chromatography Group of the Czechoslovak Chemical Society and sponsored by The Institute of Physiology, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and The Chromatography Group of the Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Diagnostics of the German Democratic Republic. The symposium was attended by 90 active participants from 14 countries.

The Chromatography Section of the Czechoslovak Chemical Society organized the first symposium already 17 years ago, in 1961, in the castle of Liblice near Prague. This meeting dealt with general problems of paper chromatography [1]. The second [2] and third [3] meetings were also organized in Liblice and for the fourth symposium, Frascati, near Rome was selected [4]. The fifth symposium took place in Carlsbad [5]. It has become a tradition that these symposia were always devoted to advances in a narrow area of a certain chromatographic technique. Since 1966, in cooperation with The Chromatography Group of the Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Diagnostics of G.D.R., meetings on chromatography in clinical chemistry were regularly held in Leipzig. By coincidence there have also been five of these symposia.

Respecting the fact that currently the application of chromatographic techniques to biomedical research is increasing, it was decided to deal with this topic at the sixth symposium and most probably at the forthcoming symposium also. With the current flood of information it would seem that the most useful form of such a meeting would be a microsymposium with a limited number of participants who are actively working with these methods.

The present symposium was divided into two parts: plenary lectures, and original contributions, with appropriate discussion in sections. The following plenary lectures (not published in this special issue) were presented during the meeting:

- (1) E. Jellum: Metabolic profiles
- (2) E. Tomlinson: The relation between chromatographic migration and biological activity
- (3) K. Macek and J. Wagner: Chromatography in clinico-chemical laboratory
- (4) C. Horváth: Biomedical applications of reversed phases

In special sections the following topics were discussed:

- (1) Metabolic profiles and screening for metabolic errors
- (2) Chromatography in routine laboratory
- (3) Relation between chromatographic migration and biological activity
- (4) Specialized techniques for biomedical research
- (5) Drug monitoring and pharmacokinetic studies

Only a few of the total 43 contributions presented during the symposium are published in extenso in this issue.

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REFERENCES

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- 3 M. Lederer, K. Macek and I.M. Hais (Editors), *Reproducibility in Paper and Thin-Layer Chromatography*, *J. Chromatogr.*, 33, No. 1 (1968).
- 4 I.M. Hais, M. Lederer and K. Macek (Editors), *Identification of Substances by Paper and Thin-Layer Chromatography*, *J. Chromatogr.*, 48, No. 1. (1970).
- 5 K. Macek and I.M. Hais (Editors), *Flat-Bed Chromatography with Special Reference to Quantitative Analysis*, *J. Chromatogr.*, 78, No. 1 (1973).