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BIOMEDICAL APPLICATIONS

Preface

This Special Issue of the Journal of Chromatography B is dedicated to the memory of the late Prof. Dr. Manfred Donike, whose untimely death on August 21 1995 deprived the scientific community of an outstanding intellectual leader in the field of doping control.

Professor Donike headed what could be called the first comprehensive doping control laboratory in 1972 at the 20th Olympic games in Munich. Due to his development of analytical techniques and especially the introduction of a long-term stable nitrogen specific detector (N-FID), the detection of amphetamine and other nitrogen-containing drugs was made possible. He synthesized novel derivatization agents, such as N-methyl-N-trimethylsilyltrifluoroacetamide (MSTFA) and N-methyl-bis-(trifluoroacetamide) (MBTFA), which contributed further to the success of GC and benchtop GC-MS techniques. Since then,

Professor Donike and his team have been at the origin of all fundamental analytical developments in doping control: analysis of anabolic agents, β -blockers, diuretics, masking agents, etc.

I had the chance to work with Professor Donike and soon learned to value not only his scientific skills but also his human qualities. Although it was difficult to follow his working pace, he knew how to combine hard work with the pleasure of a good meal with a bottle of Rioja wine. The Journal of Chromatography is proud to have combined in this volume contributions from renowned scientists who have been fighting for many years side by side with Professor Donike against doping in sports. This is probably the best homage to Manfred Donike.

Barcelona, Spain

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