

STEROID REFERENCE COLLECTION

A large collection of steroids for use as reference standards is maintained with support from the U.K. Medical Research Council and U.S. National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, N.I.H., and many individual donors of samples. Milligram or microgram quantities of steroids, including steroid hormones and their metabolites, are available free of charge for use in clinical or biochemical studies, such as the identification of unknown steroids, the development and standardization of micro-assay techniques, chromatography, mass spectrometry, etc. A Collection of bile acids and related compounds is also being established. The Collection's team of chemists offers advice and assistance, where possible, in chemical problems involving steroids, and an N.M.R. service (^1H and ^{13}C) to help in the identification of steroids.

Enquiries, requests for detailed information and a list of available steroids, or offers of samples for the Collection, should be addressed to:

Professor D. N. Kirk,
Curator of the Steroid Reference Collection,
Chemistry Department,
Westfield College,
Hampstead,
London, NW3 7ST

Workers in the U.S.A., however, are asked to address enquiries or requests to:

Dr. D. F. Johnson,
Building 4, Room 141,
National Institutes of Health,
Bethesda,
Maryland 20014,
U.S.A.

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF STEROID SECRETION

An International Symposium

December 11–12, 1979, Catania, Italy

The International Symposium on the *Pathophysiology of Steroid Secretion* will be held in Catania, Italy, on December 11–12, 1979.

Scientific committee: R. D'Agata, C. Flamigni, L. Martini and M. Serio.

The programme will include invited lectures, round tables and free communications on steroid physiopathology.

This alternate-year meeting was designed to discuss the new advances in steroid physiopathology.

This year the scientific programme will comprise the following topics:

Role of adrenal secretion in puberty

Recent advances in the role of estrogens in Andrology

Estrogens and idiopathic gynaecomastia

Estrogens and male fertility

Researchers are invited to submit 500-word abstracts before October 15, 1979.

Official language: English and Italian. Simultaneous translation in and from Italian will be provided.

Further information may be obtained from:

Dr. R. D'Agata,
Centro di Andrologia,
Istituto di Patologia Medica,
Ospedale Garibaldi,
95100, Catania, Italy

THE ROLE OF DRUGS AND ELECTROLYTES IN HORMONE SYNTHESIS AT CELLULAR LEVEL

An International Symposium

A 2–3 day (depending on the number of Invited Speakers) International Symposium on *The Role of Drugs and Electrolytes in Hormone Synthesis at Cellular Level*, will be held in July 1981, at the University of Ulm—date to be announced later. The official language of the Symposium will be English and the Proceedings will come out 3 months after the Symposium. Further information from: Dr. S. B. Pal, Universität Ulm, Abteilung für Innere Medizin, Steinhövelstrasse 9, 79 Ulm (Donau), West Germany.