

The program will include invited lecturers as well as sessions of free communications and/or poster presentations on the following topics: Genetic components; Endocrine components; Clinical aspects; Psychosexual implications; Comparative studies.

Anyone interested in participating in the meeting is kindly requested to contact the Scientific Secretaries of the Symposium. Scientists wanting to submit a short communication and/or a poster presentation are requested to submit a preliminary title to the Scientific Secretaries. For registration, travel and logistic information, please contact the Organizing Secretariat.

Scientific Secretaries:

M. MOTTA, M. SERIO and M. ZANISI  
Department of Endocrinology,  
University of Milano,  
21, Via Andrea del Sarto,  
20129—Milano, Italy  
Tel. 02-7385351

Organizing Secretariat:

Serono Symposia  
Via Ravenna, 8,  
00161—Roma, Italy  
Tel. 06-423767

The Symposium will be preceded by a one day Workshop on *Metabolism of Hormonal Steroids in the Neuroendocrine Structures*.

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## STEROID REFERENCE COLLECTION

The Steroid Reference Collection, which is maintained by the U.K. Medical Research Council and the U.S. National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, N.I.H., provides milligram or microgram samples of reference steroids free of charge for use in clinical or biochemical studies, including the development and standardization of microassays, chromatography, and mass spectrometry.

Recent donations of samples from eminent scientists and from the pharmaceutical industry, as well as syntheses in our laboratories, have expanded the Collection to over 4000 different compounds including steroid hormones and their metabolites, sterols, bile acids, and commercial synthetic analogues of the steroid hormones.

The Collection employs a team of chemists who offer assistance with chemical problems involving steroid structures, identification, or synthesis. Members of the team are engaged in collaborative research with workers in various clinical, endocrinological and biochemical aspects of steroids. Proposals are invited for new collaborative projects with a chemical content: any proposals should be accompanied by sufficient background information for evaluation by a Steering Committee of the Medical Research Council.

The Collection also offers NMR services ( $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$ ) for the identification of new steroidal compounds, and for structural studies.

Enquiries, requests for information, lists 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 Institute of Health,  
Bethesda,  
Maryland 20014,  
U.S.A.