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## Preface

This special issue of the *Journal of Steroid Biochemistry and Molecular Biology* contains the manuscripts presented at symposium entitled "Aromatase 2002—VIth International Aromatase Conference" which was held at the Westin Miyako Hotel, Kyoto, Japan, on 26–30th October 2002.

The main topics covered at the meeting were as follows:

1. Aromatase molecular structure and control.
2. Pharmacology and effectiveness of aromatase inhibitors.
3. Aromatase inhibitors versus tamoxifen.
4. Neoadjuvant comparisons of aromatase inhibitors and tamoxifen.
5. Reproduction.
6. Comparative biology and behavioral aspects.
7. Lessons from models of aromatase deficiency.
8. Adjuvant trials in breast cancer.
9. Alternative approaches to therapy.
10. Experience in anti-aromatase agents for combination therapy in breast cancer.
11. Estrogen sulfatase and its inhibition in breast cancer.
12. Aromatase excess.
13. Breast cancer prevention.

The members of the Program Committee were Angela Brodie, Richard Santen, Nobuhiro Harada, Evan Simpson, Per Lonning, Hironobu Sasano, Bill Miller, Mitch Dowsett. This conference was organized by Local Committee of Aromatase 2002 and its members were Yuichi Iino, Hiroshi Sonoo, Yoshiyuki Osamura, Tomoo Tajima, Jo Kitawaki, Teruhiko Tamaya, Shunzo Kobayashi, Masakazu Toi, Toshihiko Yanase, Hajime Nawata, Bunzo Sato, Shinzaburo Noguchi, Nobuhiro Harada, Yukitaka Miyachi, Takuya

Moriya, Hironobu Sasano. Our sincere thanks are due to the organizations that made this meeting possible, in particular the following sponsors: AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, Novartis Pharmacia AG, Pharmacia Oncology, BioMedicines Inc. and Kyowa Hakko. A special thank is due to Ms. Shinako Abe, Ms. Aki Sugawara, Dr. Yasuhito Miki and Dr. Takashi Suzuki, Department of Pathology, Tohoku University School of Medicine, Sendai, Japan for bearing the brunt of the organizational work for the meeting.

### List of editors

- Angela Brodie;
- Mitch Dowsett (Chairperson of the Program Committee);
- Nobuhiro Harada;
- Per Lonning;
- Bill Miller;
- Jorge R. Pasqualini;
- Richard Santen;
- Hironobu Sasano (Chairman of the conference);
- Evan Simpson.

Hironobu Sasano

Mitch Dowsett

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