HYPOTHALAMIC CONTROL OF METABOLIC & ENDOCRINE DISEASE

A symposium with:

PROF. ANDREW V. SCHALLY, PH.D., MDhc (MULTI), DSc hc

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (1977)

Distinguished Medical Research Scientist of the Department of Veterans Affairs
Head of the Endocrine, Polypeptide and Cancer Institute
Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Research Service (151) Miami, FL and
South Florida VA Foundation for Research and Education
Distinguished Leonard Miller Professor of Pathology
Professor Division of Hematology/Oncology
and Division of Endocrinology Department of Medicine
Professor, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
Miller School of Medicine, University of Miami, FL, USA

30. 09. 2016

King’s College London, Strand Campus,
The Great Hall
A welcome note from Prof. Schally

“I have been asked to greet you. In this welcoming message I have a personal connection to mention to the participants. So I would like to elaborate on the theme of what a great occasion this is for me and why.

First, I would like to thank Prof. Stefan Bornstein and the organizers for their invitation and for the opportunity to take part in this outstanding and exciting symposium. In this city of London, more than five decades ago, I made my first steps in medical research and I endured my “baptism of fire” in medical research. I am most grateful for this chance to present some aspects of the work that I did after I left England. But I wish to point out that, whatever I may have achieved in medical research is in large part due to the wonderful training that I received at the National Institute for Medical Research of the Medical Research Council, at Mill Hill.

There, in North London, I was fortunate to work with and be exposed to the stimulating influences of such scientists as Dr. D. F. Elliott, Sir Charles Harington, Dr. R. R. Porter, Dr. A. J. P. Martin, and others. Several of these later won Nobel prizes in chemistry or physiology and medicine. I will always remain deeply grateful to them for inculcating inspiration and training and for teaching me the laboratory discipline for the subsequent and continuing years of my research career.

I also particularly deeply appreciate the guidance and support of Prof. Geoffrey W. Harris, a great Physiologist and Anatomist of Oxford University, who with prophetic insight, postulated that hormones secreted by the hypothalamic area of the brain regulate the function of the anterior pituitary gland. He set the course for my entire future and accomplishments. He provided essential inspiration for my work and continued to be my mentor and friend. I would not be here if it wasn’t for his great theory.

I must also acknowledge the friendly support of Prof. Robert Edwards of the University of Cambridge, in the process of the publication of my early findings on luteinizing hormone releasing hormone (LHRH) in his journal Reproduction. Subsequently, we became great friends and participated together in many Medical Congresses. I was very pleased when he subsequently received the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 2010.
In the 1970’s, after my laboratory isolated, characterized and synthesized thyrotropin releasing hormone (TRH), LHRH and somatostatin and made their analogs, I was fortunate to establish clinical collaborations with brilliant English Clinicians including Prof. Reginald Hall, Prof. Mike Besser, Prof. Steve Bloom, Dr. Michael Thorner, and others. Their clinical investigations on TRH, LHRH and, especially, somatostatin in normal subjects, and patients with acromegaly, diabetes, Morrison’s syndrome and other diseases, were carried out at Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle and at St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, St. Mary’s Hospital, and Hammersmith Hospital in London. They established the clinical activities of these hypothalamic neurohormones with regard to the release of pituitary hormones GH, TSH, insulin, glucagon, and gastrin. In the early 1980’s I collaborated with Dr. H. Parmar and Dr. Stafford Lightman, at Westminster Hospital, in clinical studies of my LHRH analogs, in patients with ovarian cancer and prostate cancer. We reported clinical findings of our studies in the U.K. in more than 40 publications including 8 in Lancet and 3 in the British Medical Journal. We even made it to the Medical pages of the London Times. I could never forget the astute thinking of British clinicians as well as their exceedingly cordial relationships with me. While certain American clinicians had some reservations about my early collaborative clinical studies of hypothalamic hormone conducted in Mexico and South America, they did not dare question those results obtained at English hospitals. These investigations and contributions of British clinicians to the field of hypothalamic hormones were critically instrumental in establishing the roles of these neuro-hormones in medicine.

The opportunity to renew my research ties with my colleagues in the U.K. through this exciting symposium at King’s College is most gratifying to me and I am very, very pleased to be here. I hope that you are going to enjoy this symposium as much as I will.

Andrew V. Schally “
Programme:

8:45 am Arrival

9:00 am Welcome Prof. Byrne

9:05 am Welcome Prof. Lechler

9:10 am Welcome Prof. Bornstein

9:20 am Prof. H. Lehnert
Oxytocin - beyond bonding

9:45 Prof. Andrew Schally
Hypothalamic hormones; From Neuroendocrinology to therapy of cancer and other diseases with analogues of hypothalamic peptides

10:45 coffee break

11:00 am Prof. Bornstein
Microenvironment of the adrenal in HPA-Axis

11:25 am Dr. Cynthia Andoniadou
Stem Cell Function in the Anterior Pituitary

11:50 am Dr. Leonardo Guasti
Generation of human steroidogenic cells from urine

12:15 pm- 1:30pm lunch and poster session

1:30 pm: Closing and thanks, Prof. Bornstein
THE SPEAKERS:

**Prof. Edward Byrne**  
President and Principal of King’s College London

**Prof. Robert Lechler**  
Vice-Principal (Health) &  
Executive Director of King’s Health Partners  
King’s College London

**Prof. Hendrik Lehnert**  
President of the University of Luebeck, Germany

**Prof. Stefan R. Bornstein**  
Chair of Medicine, University Hospital Dresden, TUD, MK3  
Dean of Development and International Affairs  
Transcampus Dean, King’s College London

**Dr. Cynthia Andoniadou**  
Group Leader  
Craniofacial Development and Stem Cell Biology  
King’s College London

**Dr. Leonardo Guasti**  
Centre for Endocrinology  
William Harvey Research Institute,  
Queen Mary University of London
Venue:

King’s College London, Strand Campus, London WC2R 2LS
Room: The Great Hall, ground floor (opposite the main Foyer)