

FOREFRONTS IN NEPHROLOGY SYMPOSIUM
IN AND OUT OF CONTROL

Introduction

This issue of *Kidney International* contains manuscripts and abstracts of the research presented at the International Society of Nephrology-sponsored Forefronts in Nephrology Symposium entitled, "In and Out of Control: The Regulation of Renal Growth." The symposium was held at Jackson Lake Lodge in the Grand Teton National Park, Jackson Hole, Wyoming, USA, on June 13–16, 1998. The purpose of the Symposium was to bring together leading scientists from the renal and nonrenal communities whose interests focus on the regulation of cell growth and death. The nearly 100 participants came from many institutions in 12 countries. Thirty-one of the participants were young investigators and nephrology fellows, all of whom received ISN travel grants to attend the Symposium. The meeting generated lively discussions and interactions, both in the sessions and at the evening events. These discussions served to catalyze the initiation of new collaborations between members of the renal and nonrenal communities.

The following pages contain abstracts and articles that reflect the presentations and discussions of the symposium. In the order of presentation, this issue of *Kidney International* contains (a) abstracts from most of the nonrenal speakers, with a list of recent references for additional reading, (b) articles from speakers of the renal

community, and (c) extended abstracts from many of the poster presenters. Submission of an extended abstract was voluntary. It should be noted that the extended abstracts were reviewed for appropriate subject matter but not for the quality of the scientific data presented. Posters that represented pilot studies or projects too preliminary for publication are not included in this conference issue.

Together, these articles and abstracts should provide the reader of *Kidney International* with our current understanding of cell growth and, specifically, what is currently known about the regulation of renal cell growth and death in the mature, adult kidney. We hope the *Kidney International* readership derives as much knowledge and excitement as we did from participating in this stimulating Forefronts in Nephrology Symposium, and that these articles inspire more investigators to study the regulation of renal growth and death in health and death.

The organizers are grateful to the International Society of Nephrology, National Institutes of Health (grant #R13 DK53780-01), Hoeschst Marion Roussel, Merck, Novartis, and PharMingen for the educational grants that supported this Symposium.

PATRICIA PREISIG and R. BERND STERZEL
Guest Editors

Key words: cell proliferation, apoptosis, renal growth.

Received for publication March 29, 1999

© 1999 by the International Society of Nephrology