

Preface

A workshop to evaluate the state of research in psoriasis was held in Deer Valley, Utah, in September, 1989. The workshop was initiated and sponsored by the National Psoriasis Foundation to bring together a group of scientists actively pursuing research in psoriasis. Sixty scientists from North America and Europe discussed new information and techniques as they might apply to basic and clinical psoriasis research.

The program was designed to discuss in detail areas encompassing clinical and molecular genetics relating to psoriasis and similar diseases; biochemical alterations in psoriatic skin, including intracellular messenger systems, growth factors, and proteases; inflammatory and immunologic systems, including cytokines and adhesion molecules; new animal models of mutant and transgenic mice; association of AIDS and psoriasis; and mechanisms of pharmacologic action in psoriasis. A major concept for the workshop was to include invited scientists from other biomedical areas to provide additional potential approaches that could be applicable to psoriasis in addition to both basic scientists and clinical investigators within dermatol-

ogy. Cross-fertilization between these groups was very successful in inducing vigorous discussions about new research directions.

It is likely that insights obtained from this workshop will stimulate research, particularly research concerning molecular genetics of psoriasis, immunoregulatory mechanisms of epidermal hyperplasia, better model systems for psoriasis, and different pharmacologic approaches. A further outgrowth of this workshop may lead to increased research funding from private, corporate, and governmental resources. This supplement to *The Journal of Investigative Dermatology* presents brief papers with pertinent references on many of the subject areas discussed at this meeting, the Workshop on Molecular, Immunologic, and Pharmacologic Aspects of Psoriasis. Additional support for this meeting was also provided by the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases.

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