

## Prof. RNDr. Dr.h.c. Jaroslav Květina, DrSc. Celebrates His 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday

The 65th annual meeting of the Czech Society of Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology was co-organized in parallel with the 5th annual Conference of the Czech Society of Clinical Pharmacy to jointly celebrate the 85th birthday of professor Jaroslav Květina, who uniquely contributes to the development of both these specializations in the Czech Republic. This exceptional issue of *Physiological Research* contains selected papers presented at the conference to highlight the exceptionally wide scientific interest of prof. Květina in the field ranging from preclinical and molecular pharmacology up to the clinical applications of pharmacology and pharmacy.

Jaroslav Květina was born on 19th May 1930. After graduation from pharmacy at the Masaryk University in Brno in 1953, he worked as an assistant at the Department of Pharmacology Charles University in Prague and later continued at the Institute of Pharmacology in Hradec Králové.

In 1963 he defended his PhD degree in medicine on „*Pharmacology of pethidine and its metabolites during postirradiation syndrome*“ and subsequently he was nominated as an associate professor in 1969 with the work entitled „*Biotransformation activity of liver tissue during radiation illness*“. His main scientific interest was the study of comparative biotransformation of drugs on the isolated organs. He continued his research activities successfully as a visiting professor at the Research Institute Mario Negri (Milan, Italy) and at the Nihon University (Tokyo, Japan) in the period of 1966-1969. He defended DrSc. title on „Interspecies

comparative and pathological pharmacology“ in 1975. The range of scientific achievements is voluminous. He published more than 250 scientific papers and several books dealing with biodistribution of many biologically active compounds. The interspecies variability of drug metabolism represents another topic of his scientific publications. During these studies he used new pharmacological models and applied the technique of QSAR (quantitative structure activity relationships).

In addition to his scientific discoveries and research, professor Květina acted 20 years as a dean and founder of the Pharmaceutical Faculty of Charles University in Hradec Králové and continued as a head of the Institute of Pharmacology. In the period 1990-2007 he was a director of Institute of Experimental Biopharmaceutics of the Czech Academy of Sciences. He created a new concept of teaching curriculum of pharmacy university studies. Thanks to his foresight he is acknowledged as a founder of a new field,

clinical pharmacy, in the Czech Republic. Since the 1970s the system of pharmaceutical undergraduate university education dramatically changed to include the research contents of the discipline as well as its applications for the practice.

The development of both Czech Pharmacy and Pharmacology in the last 60 years is inseparably connected with the personality of professor Jaroslav Květina. His work was acknowledged by two national awards of the Czech Medical Academy, Czech Society of



Pharmacology and Toxicology and honorable membership of the Czech Medical Society of Jan Evangelista Purkyně. He is also a member of French Pharmacological Society, Slovak Pharmaceutical Society and many others.

One of the exceptional abilities of professor Květina is his art of lecturing and art of asking difficult and inspiring scientific questions. Despite his age, he actively continues as a consultant of Institute of Experimental Biopharmaceutics, as a researcher of Gas-

tronintestinal Department of Teaching Hospital in Hradec Králové and as a professor of pharmacology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Veterinary and Pharmaceutical University in Brno. We sincerely wish him all the best and steady health, so that professor Květina can continue in his activity for many more years.

Ondřej Slanař, František Perlík