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Foreword of the editor

Editor in Chief: Gábor L. Kovács, M.D., Ph.D., DSc

Dr. Tamás Kőszegi presently is a full professor of laboratory medicine at the Department of Laboratory Medicine, University of Pécs, Hungary. He graduated as an MD from the University of Pécs (1979) and obtained his specialty degree in Medical Laboratory Diagnostics (1984). He wrote his PhD thesis on the release kinetics of intracellular ATP using different cellular models (1996). His research interest is wide but in common, he uses mainly those methods that are related to luminescence. One of his pioneering work on procalcitonin (PCT) research began in 1999. He published several papers in collaboration with clinicians on the role of PCT in systemic inflammation (sepsis). He also proved that neutrophil granulocytes might be a potential source of PCT release in septic patients. He is devoted to proteomics and to find protein biomarkers in systemic diseases with a special emphasis on inflammation. He worked out a method to characterize perchloric acid soluble serum proteins in systemic diseases related to inflammation (sepsis, malignancies, autoimmune diseases, Crohn's syndrome, etc.). Recently, his interest has been focusing on serum actin, actin binding proteins (gelsolin and Gc-globulin) and also on urinary orosomucoid, cystatin C and actin detection in systemic inflammatory conditions. His group adapted gelsolin, Gc-globulin, urinary orosomucoid and urinary cystatin C to automated routine laboratory instruments. These biomarkers may give substantial additional help for the clinicians at the intensive care unit to make a quick decision in the treatment of severely ill patients. He also published several papers on the mode of action, molecular and cellular interactions of mycotoxins with a major focus on ochratoxin A. His most recent interest is to capture and characterize circulating tumor cells and cell-free nucleic acids in breast cancer patients. Dr. Kőszegi has published more than 300 papers including abstracts, has a cumulative IF 140, and obtained independent citations close to 500.