

Announcements

Symposium 19–20 March 1999

Genes and Development: Interacting Processes or Hierarchical Organization?

New Theoretical Approaches to Developmental Biology and their Ethical Implications

Current results in molecular and developmental biology challenge traditional concepts of the role of the genome in the developing organism. This interdisciplinary symposium aims at an evaluation of new theoretical approaches in the field that are directed toward an integration of genetics and developmental biology:

- Developmental Systems Approach
- Process Structuralism
- Methodical Constructivism
- Hermeneutics of Description
- Process-concept of the Molecular Gene

Speakers include

Markus Affolter (Basel), Brian Goodwin (London), James Griesemer (Davis), Paul Griffiths (Sydney), Mathias Gutmann (Bad-Neuenahr-Ahrweiler), Evelyn Fox Keller (Boston), Gerd Mueller (Wien), Eva M. Neumann-Held (Bad-Neuenahr-Ahrweiler), Susan Oyama (New York), Jackie Leach Scully (Basel), Christoph Rehmann-Sutter (Basel) and others.

Organisation

Institut für Geschichte und Ethik in der Medizin (IfGEM) in connection with the MGU-research project 'Genome and Organism' (Christoph Rehmann-Sutter/Eva M. Neumann-Held). In collaboration with the Swiss Society for Biomedical Ethics SGBE-SSEB and the 'European Academy for the Study of Consequences of Scientific and Technological Advance' Bad-Neuenahr-Ahrweiler GmbH.

Information

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International Symposium on Moderate Alcohol Consumption and Cardiovascular Disease, Milan (Italy), 17–19 September 1999

Scientific Committees

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Scientific secretary: A. Poli (Italy)

Steering committee: C. Ehnholm (Finland), J.-C. Fruchart (France), H. J. Pownall (USA), E. B. Rimm (USA)

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Purpose of the symposium

Recent scientific data indicate the existence of a possible link between moderate alcohol drinking and the prevention of cardiovascular disease. There is, however, controversy concerning the balance between the positive and negative effects of alcohol consumption, hence the need of an in-depth analysis of available data to provide a balanced evaluation of this complex topic for the medical community. The aim of the symposium will be to discuss the most recent advances on the health effects of moderate alcohol consumption, with specific attention paid to the prevention of atherosclerotic disease.

Scientific program

The scientific program will include invited lectures, symposia, oral communications and poster sessions for submitted papers.

Preliminary list of topics to be discussed during the symposium:

- Alcohol consumption and cardiovascular diseases: the data from epidemiology
- Effects of alcohol on cardiovascular risk factors
- Animal models in alcohol studies
- Antiatherogenic effects of alcohol: basic and biochemical issues
- Direct effects of alcohol on the arterial wall
- Alcohol and the insulin resistance syndrome

- Specific populations: aged, pre- and post-menopausal women, young
- National differences in alcohol consumption

The advanced program (with registration and abstract forms) will be mailed in January 1999.

Organizing Secretariat

ALCOHOL '99

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