

Preface

Pharmacogenomics and pharmacogenetics, new and interesting topics in pharmacological research, are now included within the scope of the *European Journal of Pharmacology*. We are therefore delighted to herewith present you with a Special Issue dedicated entirely to recent research in Pharmacogenomics. Leaders in the field have contributed a broad range of topics, ranging from reviews on the methodology of pharmacogenomics, to reviews on the pharmacogenomics of neurological, psychiatric and cardiovascular diseases as well as on the pharmacogenomics of body weight control.

Pharmacogenomics may be defined as the science of the development of drug therapies based on knowledge of the human genome. Pharmacogenetics is the science that studies the consequences of variation in genes between individuals on responses to drugs. As pharmacogenomics includes pharmacogenetics, the *European Journal of Pharmacology* has chosen the term pharmacogenomics for its new section. We refer to pharmacogenomics as the science that studies variation in DNA sequences and expression in order to find new drug targets and drugs as well as to understand variability in responses to drug.

With this special issue the *European Journal of Pharmacology* announces its interest in receiving submissions in the broad field of pharmacogenomics. The journal will consider reviews, rapid communications, full papers and

short communications dealing with pharmacogenomics. Examples of subjects the journal is interested in are: (1) the incidence of (single) nucleotide polymorphism in (potential) drug targets in disease populations versus control populations; (2) the effect of naturally occurring variation in amino acid sequence of a drug target on the pharmacological properties of that drug target; (3) the identification of (potential) new drug targets from the analysis of the (human) genome and gene expression data.

The *European Journal of Pharmacology* offers rapid publication. Manuscripts are in general published within 2 months after their acceptance. Abridged general instructions for authors are published at the end of each issue of the journal. Detailed instructions can be found in the "Notice to authors" which is published once a year (see Vol. 411, pp. v–x) and may also be downloaded from the journal's website (<http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejphar>).

We are grateful to the authors of this Special Issue for their timely and highly interesting contributions and are confident that the *European Journal of Pharmacology* will become one of the leading sources of information on pharmacogenomics.

W.H. Gispen (Chairman)
R.A.H. Adan (Guest editor)