

MEETING REPORT

Symposium on Alpha Adrenoceptor Distribution and Function

Indianapolis, Indiana
August, 1984

Research focusing on alpha-adrenoceptors has witnessed an immense growth in recent years. This has resulted in a large part due to the development of alpha-adrenoceptor subtype selective agents, which has confirmed the notion that alpha-adrenoceptors are not a single homogeneous population. This development coupled with the realization that alpha-adrenoceptors subserving a multitude of functions are distributed throughout the body has provided the necessary research impetus. Clinical application of this information has resulted in the development of novel and highly effective treatment(s) (e.g., clonidine in hypertension) for various pathophysiological conditions. It is also known that alpha-adrenoceptors are located in non-cardiovascular areas. Thus with the availability and continued development

of highly selective alpha-adrenoceptor subtype selective agents, better treatment of pathophysiological conditions involving derangements (cardiovascular and non-cardiovascular) of alpha-adrenoceptors should be possible.

Obviously, advances in our understanding of alpha-adrenoceptors will continue to depend on information generated by biochemists, physiologists, pharmacologists, and anatomists. This symposium presents a multidisciplinary outlook of some recent developments in the field of alpha-adrenoceptors. It was made possible by generous financial assistance from the following: A. H. Robbins; Ciba Geigy Corporation; Merrell Dow Pharmaceutical, Inc.; and Stuart Pharmaceuticals.

Manuscripts were received on January 24, 1985.