



DEAR CONGRESS PARTICIPANTS!



On behalf of Organizing Committee I would like to welcome you to beautiful Moscow, to the 10th International Congress “Cell Volume Regulation: Novel Therapeutic Targets and Pharmacological Approaches” (CVR-2013).

The tenth meeting is a milestone in the CVR meetings series, which has a rich history. The first CVR meeting

was organized in 1990 by Florian Lang and Dieter Haussinger in Innsbruck, Austria. The subsequent meetings took place in Smolenice, Slovakia (1997), Berlin, Germany (2000), Queenstown, New Zealand (2001), Dayton, Ohio, USA (2003), Copenhagen, Denmark (2005), Salzburg, Austria (2007), Okazaki, Japan (2009), and Tübingen, Germany (2011). The CVR gatherings have a remarkably consistent and steadily growing core of participants. They created a tight-knit community of investigators whose interests are related to mechanisms of cell volume regulation. In the present difficult times of shrinking scientific budgets, the continued progress in our field depends on our close cooperation, free exchange of ideas, and unrelenting advocacy explaining the critical significance of our work to a broader community of physiologists and to policy makers.

Cell volume homeostasis is the quintessential part of physiology of all living cells that have no rigid wall. An ability to maintain cellular volume at nearly constant levels can be detected in all animal organisms on the phylogenetic tree, from unicellular protozoa to humans. Our combined research efforts strongly suggest that even moderate variations in cell volume dramatically impact numerous cellular functions and, if left uncompensated, cell viability. The contribution of cell volume regulatory mechanisms to execution of cellular functions has been frequently overlooked. Recent developments in the field shed a light on role of cell volume and cell-volume dependent processes in regulation of cellular metabolism, exocytosis, migration, proliferation, apoptosis, and malignant

transformation, among other normal and pathological processes. Importantly, the interplay between cell volume and cell function likely has a critical role in pathophysiology of a wide variety of diseases.

As during all preceding CVRs, we will focus our attention on molecular mechanisms of cell volume sensing and cell volume regulation, which remain poorly understood. We will discuss the tissue-specific aspects of cell volume homeostasis and its dysfunction in pathological states. The newly added emphasis of this Congress will be on recent developments in the field that link defects in cell volume homeostasis to human disorders. We now find ourselves in a unique position when our understanding of cell volume regulation can be translated into development of new pharmacological interventions.

I would like to thank our major sponsors, M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University, Siberian State Medical University, Institute of Pharmacology, the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences and the Russian Foundation for Fundamental Research, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation for their financial and organizational support. Furthermore, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all members of the local Organizing committee for making this exciting venue possible, and members of the International Advisory Board for their invaluable contributions to sculpturing the CVR-2013 program.

I hope that you will enjoy your all aspects of your stay in Moscow: learn new ideas, find new friends and collaborators, and discover the cultural treasures of Russia.

Yours sincerely,

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