In memory of Professor Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz



Prof. Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz (1964–2014)

Prof. Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz was born on 31 July 1964 in Poznan. In the years 1983-1989 he studied at the Faculty of Medicine at Poznan University of Medical Sciences. In the years 1991-1994 he was granted by the Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD) at the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology at the Freie Universität Berlin. In 1994 he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine on the basis of work entitled "Evaluation of frequency of alleles for polymorphic arylamino-N-acetyltransferase in children with insulin-dependent diabetes in the population of the Greater Poland". From 1994 to 2001 he worked as an assistant at the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology (Charité) of the Humboldt University in Berlin, where he received a first and second degree of specialization with clinical pharmacology. In 1999 he achieved first-degree specialization in the field of internal medicine at the Poznan University of Medical Sciences. In 2000, Professor Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz received habilitation based on the work entitled "Evaluation of the frequency of genetically determined polymorphisms

of xenobiotic metabolizing enzymes in selected population groups of the Greater Poland". During years 2001-2002 he held the position a Head of the Laboratory of Pharmacogenetics at the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology, Humboldt University of Berlin. After returning to Poland, in 2002 he took the position of Director of the Research Institute of Medicinal Plants in Poznan (RIMP). Prof. Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz was the proponent of the development of phytotherapy. In the RIMP he initiated the molecular basis of phytotherapy and the safety of the herbal drug. He expanded the scope of the Institute's research on genetic issues of xenobiotic metabolism and susceptibility to the occurrence of diseases of civilization. He also focused on the interaction between herbal preparation and synthetic drug. He organized numerous international conferences which drew attention to the individualization of pharmacotherapy. Professor also interested in legal and ethical regulations in Poland and the European Union concerning the testing and approval of new drugs on the market and he conducted clinical trials in accordance with Good Clinical Practice (GCP). Under his supervision it were introduced quality systems (ISO 9001: 2001 and GMP) to the studies conducted by the Research Institute of Medicinal Plants. Institute under his direction was the first research and development unit which introduced the ISO system.

Professor Mrozikiewicz held the position of the Head of the Research Institute of Medicinal Plants until 2008 to the moment of merger of RIMP and the Institute of Natural Fibres in Poznań. He also held the position of Manager of Department of Pharmacology and Biotechnology in the Institute from 2002 to 2009. Since October 2009 Professor was employed in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Biopharmaceutics at the Faculty of Pharmacy in Poznan University of Medical Sciences, where he was a Head of the Laboratory of Experimental Pharmacogenetics. Since March 2010, he was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Biology at the Institute of Natural Fibres and Medicinal Plants in Poznan. In October 2010 Professor Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz received the title of professor of medical sciences awarded by the President of RP. In the same year he was a Supervisor of Restructuring Medicinal Plants Division in the Institute of Natural Fibres and Medicinal Plants in Poznan where he also served as a Head of the Department of Quality Control of Medicinal Products and Dietary Supplements. Since January 2014 he was a Head of the Department of Pharmacology and Phytochemistry in this Institute.

Prof. Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz was the author and co-author of 105 original papers (IF = 114.637) and 40 review papers (IF = 11) published in Poland and abroad. He was also a co-author of three monographs and author or co-authored more than 180 published reports from congresses and conferences in Poland and abroad. Between 2002 and 2014 he was the member of the Scientific and Editorial Boards of the quarterly Herba Polonica. In the years 2004-2009 he also served as Editor in Chief of Herba Polonica.

From 2003 he was a member of Commission of Natural Drug and Biotechnology of Committee of Therapy and Drug Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

In 2003-2006 Prof. Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz was the Coordinator of research network entitled "Interactions between herbal and synthetic drugs. The benefits and risks". In 2004 he was appointed a member of the Polish Pharmacopoeia Commission, where he was chairman in the Subcommittee of Pharmacognosy. In 2004, he initiated cooperation with the EMEA (Pharmacogenetics Working Party). In 2005 he was appointed to the Committee for Qualifications of Borderland Products at the Ministry of Health, and a year later he was elected Vice-President of the Polish Herbal Committee. In the years 2006-2010 he was the chairman of Section of Phytotherapy of Polish Medical Association and from 2010 he served as President of the Polish Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics. In addition, he was a member of scientific societies, such as the German Society for Clinical Pharmacology, The European Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung, Association for Good Clinical Practice. From 2002 to 2009 he directed a course of herbal commodity for people leading herbal medical stores, and from 2005 to 2009 he was a head of courses in the framework of continuous training of pharmacists. From 2009, he participated in a series of training conferences for the Polish Society of Laboratory Diagnosticians in the field of interactions of drugs with laboratory tests and the role of laboratory diagnostics in optimizing pharmacotherapy. In the years 2005 to 2008 in cooperation with Oberstufenzentrum Bürowirtschaft und Verwaltung in Berlin he participated in the pro-Polish project within the Leonardo da Vinci program aimed at introducing apprenticeship in Poland for German vocational school students. He supervised several master's theses, 6 completed doctoral dissertations, reviewer of doctoral theses and dissertations. In 2010 he was awarded the Silver Cross of Merit for his scientific work and promoting the development of the Institute of Natural Fibres and Medicinal Plants.

Professor Przemysław M. Mrozikiewicz died on 2 February 2014. He will always remain in our memory as a benevolent boss, able to appreciate the industriousness and commitment to the scientific work of their colleagues. He will also remain as a man distinguished by enormous personal culture and blessed with an excellent sense of humor.

Prof. dr hab. Grzegorz Spychalski Institute of Natural Fibres and Medicinal Plants in Poznan

Dr Anna Bogacz
Dr Joanna Bartkowiak-Wieczorek
Laboratory of Experimental Pharmacogenetics
Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Biopharmacy
University of Medical Sciences, Poznan, Poland

Department of Pharmacology and Phytochemistry Institute of Natural Fibres and Medicinal Plants in Poznan