

Laudatio

Prof. A. Atilla Hincal

Born in 1940, Prof. Dr. Hincal spent most of his life for and in the field of pharmacy. On his family's request, he enrolled in a military high school, but left it after the first year for a civilian state high school, as another step toward his true goal, shaped by his passion for pharmacy. In late 1950s, he enrolled in Istanbul University School of Pharmacy, the only pharmacy college in Turkey at the time.

After graduating from Istanbul University, he completed his Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Technology (1964 and 1967), and military service (1968 and 1969). Afterward, on January 02, 1970, he became Assistant Professor at the Pharmacy School of Hacettepe University in Ankara. He became an Associate Professor in 1974, went to the USA in 1975 for his sabbatical. He worked in Prof. Bhogilal Sheth department at Tennessee University, focusing on the development of active coal suspension formulations on improving dissolution and formulations and stability of cancer drugs at the University of Kansas, with Prof. Takeru Higuchi and his team, whom he never gave up the hope of working with some day, since he was a doctoral student. He returned his country at the end of 1977. One year after repatriating to Turkey, Dr. Hincal became a full professor, and later the Dean of the School of Pharmacy (1981-1994), and of the Post-Graduate School of Health Sciences (1994-1997). Prof. Hincal is the founding president of International Pharmaceutical Technology Symposium (IPTS, 1982) (the first international meeting for pharmaceutical sciences and technology in Turkey, continuing over 30 years,), Hacettepe University Revolving Fund Establishment's Hemodialysis Manufacturing Facility (the first hemodialysis production laboratory in Turkey), Hacettepe University Drug and Poison Information Center (this first drug and poison information center established in a university in Turkey), and Interdisciplinary Instrumental Research Laboratory (the first interdepartmental instrumental research laboratory established in a pharmacy school in Turkey and in Hacettepe University,) and Turkish Doping Control Center (established in 1988 after Istanbul announced its candidacy to host 2000 Olympics;).

He strived to always fulfill his administrative roles without distancing himself from science, and tried to serve pharmaceutical sciences also internationally, sitting on the boards of EUFEPS and EAFP since their establishment and APGI. During his membership of the EAFP Board of Directors, he was responsible for communications with Pharmacy Schools in former Eastern Bloc countries prior to 1990, helping him build strong scientific relations in Central European and Balkan countries.

In recognition of his work in formulation development, stability dissolution and bioequivalence of anti-cancer drugs in new drug delivery systems, he received numerous international scientific awards from various national and international scientific and professional organizations, including the Czechoslovakian Medical and Pharmaceutical Sciences Academy, Fellowship of AAPS , Hacettepe University,

Spanish Royal Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, FIP 's "FIP Lifetime Achievement in Pharmaceutical Sciences Award 2006", Academie National de Pharmacie de France, Turkish Pharmaceutical Sciences Academy, Turkish CRS Achievement in Science Awards, India Pharmaceutical Dissolution Sciences Society's Disso-2105 Education and Research Award. Prof. Dr. Hincal was also conferred the titles Romania Bucharest Carol Davila Medical University Doctoris Honoris Causa (2006) and "Macedonian Skopji SS Cyril and Methodist University Professor Honoris Causa" (2008).

As is known, "research-based regulatory affairs" has been implemented in the marketing authorization application practices since late 1980s. The experiences in boards and committees for drug assessment and approval, pharmacopoeia, and cosmetics assessment at various institutions including the Ministry of Health, Pharmaceutical Industry, Turkish Patents Institute, Hacettepe University since 1970s helped him develop vast knowledge in "science based regulatory affairs." Building on this knowledge, he established "İDE" in 1998, a pharmaceutical scientific consultancy company. Prof.Dr. A. Atilla Hincal has over 250 articles published in international journals and more than 350 presentations on formulation development, stability, dissolution and bioequivalence, and new drug delivery systems and continues building on his vast scientific knowledge by sitting on international editorial boards of various journals and scientific boards of congresses.