

Introduction

Uremia Research

WE ARE PLEASED to provide the readership of *Seminars in Nephrology* the proceedings of the Third International Congress on Uremia Research which were held in Taormina during September 17-20, 2003. This Congress was attended by 220 clinicians-scientists from 12 countries including Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Japan, Italy, Iran, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Turkey, United States of America, and the United Kingdom.

The series of international congresses on Uremia Research began in 1999 when the first Congress was held in Trieste, Italy and was organized by Professor Gianfranco Guarnieri. The second Congress took place in Osaka, Japan in 2001 and was hosted by Professor Yoshiki Nishizawa.

The presentations in the third Congress dealt with newer advances in uremia research with emphasis on hyperphosphatemia and its management, vascular calcification, cardio-

vascular diseases, inflammation, Vitamin D analogues, and calcimimetic agents in the treatment of secondary hyperparathyroidism.

We are very appreciative of the support of Abbott Laboratories, Amgen, Inc., Asani, Baxter, Bellco, Bieffe, Biolife, Braun, Carex, Edward Life Science, Fresinios, Gambro, Genzyme Corporation, Golden Balance, Helbio Italia, Hospal, Kinesis, Plasmon, and Sigma Tau Italia.

We trust that the readers will find these proceedings interesting and helpful.

Guido Bellinghieri, Taormina, Italy
Vincenzo Savica, Taormina, Italy
Shaul G. Massry, Los Angeles, CA
Guest Editors