

Koranyi prize and ERA-EDTA national grant for Young Investigators 2014

Prof. Andrzej Wiecek - is the recipient of the Koranyi prize of the Hungarian Association of Nephrology this year. The prize has been founded in 1992 in the memory of Sandor Koranyi the distinguished Hungarian physician and nephrologist, who used physicochemical methods for the first time to estimate renal function. Among other important observations he also found the characteristic changes of the urinary freezing point depression - termed hyposthenuria.

With the Koranyi prize and Koranyi medal (made by Janos Kass, a famous Hungarian artist) the outstanding work for the development of the Hungarian nephrology of a national or international expert is honoured each year. Among the former laureates there are such outstanding representants of nephrology as Profs. Richet, Mallick, Massry, Ritz, Eknoyan, Kopple, or recently Prof. London and Prof. Fine.

Prof. Andrzej Wiecek started his nephrological career more than 30 years ago. After graduating in Katowice Poland, he worked as a postdoc at the Nephrology Unit at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. Since 2000 he is the Chair of the Department of Nephrology, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases at the Medical University of Silesia, Katowice, Poland. He is also specialized in Hypertension, Clinical Transplantation and Angiology. In the past years he held various eminent positions, including the President of the Polish Society of Hypertension and Polish Society of Nephrology. In addition he is also engaged with the ERA-EDTA for long; after being council member since 1999 and treasurer (2011-2014), at present he is the President of the Society. He received several awards and honorary memberships and is the author of more than 600 scientific papers and more than 100 book chapters, as well as co-editor of 20 books on the field of hypertension and kidney diseases.

Beside the Koranyi Prize the ERA-EDTA national grant for Young Investigators was also given for the second consecutive year in Hungary at the Congress. For this award, the Scientific Committee nominated Orsolya Cseprekal (MD, PhD) as the best young abstract-author at the Annual Congress, a choice that has not only been approved by ERA-EDTA, but due to the felicitous circumstances the award was handed over by the President, professor Wiecek.

Dr. Cseprekal's main research interest is since her very early works the relationship between vascular damage and kidney disease. Her actual presentation was focusing on the „Biomarkers of microvascular damage in chronic kidney disease”. Despite her young age her outstanding scientific achievements holds the promise of a bright career in nephrology.

Andrea Fekete, MD, PhD
ERA-EDTA national grant holder (2013)