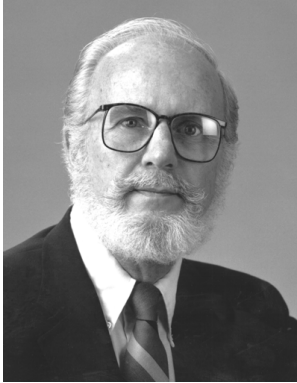


## The Elliott Middleton Memorial Lectureship



Elliott Middleton's interest in research began early in his career, when as a medical student at Columbia he was awarded a Medical Research Fund Student Fellowship. His research during this period led to a publication with an eminent member of the Columbia faculty, Dr Beatrice Seegal.

After his internal medicine residency at the Presbyterian Hospital in New York, Middleton worked in the laboratory of the renowned immunochemist, Dr Michael Heidelberger. Here Middleton developed the laboratory skills and knowledge that would enable him to conduct the research that was to occupy him for the remainder of his academic career. He subsequently spent 2 years at the National Institutes of Health, followed by 2 years at the Roosevelt Hospital in New York.

Over the next decade, during which he was in part-time private practice, he was actively involved in allergy research at Columbia and Roosevelt. His investigative efforts during this period focused on the various biochemical factors that governed the *in vitro* release of histamine from animal and human peripheral blood leukocytes. This research resulted in the publication of 30 articles in major scientific journals.

In 1969 Middleton moved to Denver to become the Director of Clinical Services and Research at the Children's Asthma Research Institute and Hospital (CARIH). During the eight years he spent in Denver he studied adrenergic-cholinergic "imbalance" in allergic reactions and asthma,  $\alpha$ -adrenergic effects on leukocyte function in asthmatic individuals, and the biochemical basis for the modulation of allergic reactions by drugs.

During this time he served as the President of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. In 1976, he moved to the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he was appointed Professor of Medicine and Director of the Allergy Division, succeeding Dr Carl Arbesman. During the two decades that he worked in Buffalo, Middleton developed an interest in the effects of ubiquitous family of plant compounds known as flavonoids. The latter are responsible for the yellow, orange, and red pigments found in many foods, flowers, tea and wine. In a series of 30 publications beginning in 1982, he elucidated the role of various plant flavonoids on mammalian cell systems.

His research revealed flavonoid effects on enzyme activities and in particular their role as modulators of various functions of immune and inflammatory cells. As a result of his work, he became an internationally recognized expert on flavonoids, which are currently receiving attention for their antioxidant, antiviral, antitoxic, antineoplastic, and other potentially important properties. An exhaustive review of the flavonoids, with more than 1000 references, was submitted for publication shortly before his death and published in the *Pharmaceutical Review* in December 2000.

Most practicing allergists will recognize Elliott Middleton for his editorial talents as editor of the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* from 1983 to 1988 and as the senior editor of the first four editions of the two-volume textbook *Allergy: Principles and Practice*. In addition to his research and editorial accomplishments, Middleton was a fine clinician and outstanding teacher, as the 75+ fellows he mentored during his career will attest.

**2014 marks the 13<sup>th</sup> year of the Elliott Middleton Memorial Lectureship. It will be presented in Plenary Session 2101: Immunotherapy: Mechanism, Outcomes and Markers on Saturday, March 1, 2014: 08:15 AM - 09:45 AM.**

## **The Elliott Middleton Memorial Lectureship - Cezmi Akdis, MD FAAAAI**



Medical Doctor in 1985, Bursa Turkey; Specialization on Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology in 1991; Specialization on Clinical Immunology in 1994; Associate Professor in 1996 all in Bursa Turkey. Professor in Zurich University Medical Faculty: 2006. Director of the Swiss Institute of Allergy and Asthma Research (SIAF): 2006.

Executive Committee member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: 2003-2013. President of the European Academy of Allergy Clinical Immunology: 2011-2013.

One of the founders and Executive Board Member of the Global Allergy Asthma European Network (GA<sup>2</sup>LEN). Directorium member of the Christine Kühne-Center for Allergy Research and Education (CK-CARE).

Associate Editor of Journal of Allergy Clinical Immunology, Editorial board member of Current Opinion in Immunology, Allergy Asthma Immunology, Journal of Allergy Clinical Immunology, Allergy, Journal of Investigational Allergology and Clinical Immunology, Allergy, Expert Opinion on Emerging Drugs, International Reviews of Immunology, European Journal of Immunology, Clinical and Translational Allergy, Nature Scientific Reports.

Founder and organizer of World Immune Regulation Meetings I-VIII, Davos.

Chair International Coalition in Allergy and Asthma, a collaborative network between 4 main organizations in the area, EAACI, AAAAI, American College of Allergy Asthma Immunology, World Allergy Organization (iCAALL): 2013-2015. Has published 252 articles in peer-reviewed journals, 14 book chapters and 98 unreviewed articles.

Received 10 international honors and awards to person: Ferdinand Wortman Prize, 1996; Hoechst Marion Roussel Award, 1998; Professor Hans Storck Award, 1998; Dr.-Karl Heyer-Preis, 1998; Sedat Simavi Medicine Award, 1998; Allergopharma Award, 2001; European Allergy Research “Gold Medal”, 2004; TUBITAK Exclusive Award, 2007, BUSIAD Award 2012.