

YECHESKIEL STEIN



I was born in 1926, married Olga, nee Weindling, in 1947 and we both graduated from the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, Jerusalem, and obtained the M.D. degree (1953). After graduation I joined the Department of Medicine at Hadassah University Hospital. My postgraduate training was in the Department of Biochemistry chaired by Prof. Benjamin Shapiro, who introduced me to lipid research. Thereafter I was a visiting research scientist at Yale University, where I learned gas liquid chromatography under the guidance of Prof. S. Lipsky. I spent the next year at Rockefeller University, New York, with Prof. Peter Ahrens, where I continued my research on lipoprotein and cholesterol metabolism. After returning home to the Department of Medicine at Hadassah University Hospital, I was appointed director of the Lipid Research Laboratory (1965-94), professor of medicine since 1969, and later on, I was elected chairman of the Department of Medicine (1969-94). My research centered on induction and regression of atherosclerosis in experimental animals, and the role of lipoproteins in these processes. My clinically oriented research dealt with the study of risk factors, with the aim of prevention of atherosclerosis. We also established an NIH sponsored Jerusalem Lipid Research Clinic that focused on risk factors for CHD in the various ethnic groups in Israel.

Since the early sixties I have been active in the European Atherosclerosis Society. I was elected its chairman (1990-93) and got deeply involved in courses for senior physicians in internal medicine that dealt with prevention of risk factors for CHD with the emphasis on lowering plasma cholesterol levels. In 1980 I became a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, and in 1987 was elected an Honorary Member of the American Association of Physicians.

Among the awards, I would like to mention the Heinrich Wieland Prize (1987), the Humboldt Research Award (1993), and the Dr. Rainer Wild Prize (1995), all jointly with O. Stein.

In 1996 I was awarded the Israel Prize for Medicine.