

Konrad Beyreuther, PhD, MD (honorary degree), Professor of Molecular Biology is Director of the **Network Aging Research (NAR)** at the Ruprecht Karls University of Heidelberg, Germany.



Dr. Beyreuther is an international expert in the function and metabolism of the APP gene product, the amyloid precursor protein, from which the sticky substance called amyloid originates that clogs the brain in patients with Alzheimer's disease. In 1984 he began long and fruitful research collaboration with Colin L. Masters leading to the identification of the composition and chemical structure of the substance that forms the amyloid plaques and the discovery of the APP gene in 1987. He and his collaborators discovered the crucial role which cholesterol and metal ions play in APP processing and identified and tested drugs that lowered the production of  $\beta$  amyloid. Dr. Beyreuther has written more than 400 original papers, chapters and reviews. He has received continuous funding for his research on APP function and metabolism since 1984. His trainees hold leadership positions in Europe and abroad.

Dr. Beyreuther is a member of the Editorial Board for the journals *Amyloid*, *Neurobiology of Disease* and *Neurodegenerative Diseases*. He is Editor for Europe of the journal *Current Alzheimer Research*. He is Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Hertie Institute for Brain Research in Tuebingen, Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Thyssen Foundation, and Member, Founding Scientific Steering Committee of the German Center for Neurodegenerative Disorders. From 2001-2006 he was as State Secretary for Life Sciences, member and scientific advisor of the government of the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg.

Konrad Beyreuther graduated in chemistry in 1965 from the Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich, proceeding to PhD in 1968. He trained in Cologne, Harvard, and MRC Molecular Biology Cambridge in protein chemistry, molecular and cellular biology and genetics before beginning his research in Alzheimer's disease.

Dr. Beyreuther has received several honors for his research accomplishments including the 1990 Potamkin Prize from the American Academy of Neurology, the 1991 MetLife Foundation Award for Medical Research in Alzheimer's Disease, the 1991 Prix de Fondation IPSEN pour la Recherche Therapeutique la Maladie d'Alzheimer & les Demences Senile, the 1995 Klaus-Joachim-Zuelch-Prize for Neurology, the King Faisal International Prize for Medicine in 1997, the Alzheimer's Association's Lifetime Achievements Award in 2002, and the Lenox K. Black International Prize for Excellence in Medicine in 2006. In 2004 his achievements were awarded the Distinguished Service Medal on Ribbon of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany.

He is a recipient of the Honors Doctoral Degree in Medicine from University of Kuopio, Finland and member of the Heidelberg Academy for the Humanities and Sciences and the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina.