

ARS 2009 Award

The second ARS (Antioxidants and Redox Signaling) award of US \$1,000 was given out to **Dr. Vijay Kutala**, organizing secretary of the 9th Annual Conference of Society for Free Radical Research – India (January 11-13, 2010, Marriott Hotel Convention Center, Hyderabad). The support is directed at partly covering costs of organizing the conference that focuses on a translational theme - Natural products and Nutraceuticals.

The Society for Free Radical Research-India was formed as a constituent unit of the Society for Free Radical Research-Asia in 2001, which in turn is affiliated to the SFRR-International. The foundation for the genesis of the society was laid at the UNESCO/SFRR-Asia conference on “Emerging Potentials of Antioxidant therapy in Goa, India, in January 1999 organized by Professors Dipak Das and Chandan K. Sen – Editors-in-Chief of ARS.

ARS 2008 Award

The first ARS (Antioxidants and Redox Signaling) award was given out at the XIV Biennial Conference of the Society for Free Radical Research International held in Beijing, China on October 18-23, 2008. The award consisted of a cash prize of US \$1,000 and a certificate to recognize the best poster on translational research in the field of antioxidant and redox biology. The ARS award committee 2008 was chaired by Professor Arne Holmgren, a highly distinguished scientist from the Medical Nobel Institute for Biochemistry, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden. The award committee consisted of Professors Junji Yodoi (Kyoto University, Japan), Sue-Goo Rhee (Ewha Women's University, Seoul), Dipak Das (University of Connecticut, CT), Sashwati Roy (The Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus), and Patricia Oteiza (University of California- Davis).

Dr. Chun-Seok Cho of Seoul won ARS award 2008 for his work on sickle cell anemia. Hydroxyurea (HU) is commonly used to treat sickle cell patients. Dr. Cho and team developed a micrplate immunoaffiity capture assay for the measurement of the activity and the amount of glutathione peroxidase 1 (GPx1) in cell extracts and applied this approach to analyze GPx1 in HU-treated sickle cell anemia patients (n=13), untreated sickle-cell anemia patients, (n=9) and healthy African-Americans (n=17). Their work demonstrated for the first time that increased de novo synthesis of GPx1 by HU compensates for the loss of GPx1 activity by selenocysteine oxidation under severe oxidative stress and helps protect red cells of anemia patients.

The award was given out by ARS Editor Professor Chandan Sen and Awards Committee Chairman Professor Arne Holmgren at the Conference banquet held at a restaurant in the Olympic Village in Beijing on October 21, 2008.