NONINVASIVE METHODS IN CARDIOLOGY
A symposium held in Brno, November 3 to 6, 1999

The 7th International Fair of Medical Technology and Pharmacy was held simultaneously with a scientific congress involving several symposia. One of these, “Noninvasive Methods in Cardiology”, included, as usual, international participants from USA, France, Austria and other countries. This symposium was organized by the Department of Functional Diagnostics and Rehabilitation (Head, Prof. Jarmila Siegelová) and the Department of Physiology (Head, Prof. Bohumil Fišer, now Minister of Health Care, Czech Republic). Prof. Thomas Kenner, Vice-Dean of the Medical Faculty of Karl Franzens University in Graz, expressed the hope of continued cooperation between his University in Graz and Masaryk University in Brno. His contribution to the Symposium contained several interesting issues such as the optimal control of parameters in biological systems. He studied the regulation of different organs and organ systems in the body as related to optimal interaction and ideal function. At the same time, he investigated the body’s possibilities for adaptation to varying loads and different forms of stress. Another problem of great importance is declining of optimal or ideal function with age. A growing number of older people now present an important problem for clinical and biochemical research. There is a tremendous need for simple devices to assist aging people. In the medical field particularly, the need for simple and noninvasive diagnostics is urgent. To solve these problems, it is important to cooperate in the fields of basic research, development of clinical diagnostics and therapy and of practical devices using industrial technologies. Prof. Jean-Paul Martineaud of the Medical Faculty, Hopital Lariboisiere Paris, France, presented the results of the joint research carried out with Masaryk University concerning blood flow in cerebral vessels in normotensive and hypertensive subjects. Other presentations dealt with chronobiology of blood pressure and cardiovascular variables. The “Father of Chronobiology”,
prof. Franz Halberg, along with Germaine Cornélissen, Othild Schwartzkopff and others, presented the latest findings in the field of chronobiology, chronodiagnostics and chronotherapy.

Part of the symposium dealt with impairment of the autonomous nervous system in patients with essential hypertension, myocardial infarction, chronic ischaemic heart diseases and the influence of pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapy. These contributions came from departments of the Medical Faculty, Masaryk University in Brno. The international scientific cooperation, as demonstrated at the MEFA symposium, has a long tradition and has enhanced the international prestige of Masaryk University.

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