

## Special Issue-articles on “Cellular Lipid Binding Proteins”

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### Erratum to: *Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry* 277, 284, 286, 299

The proceedings of the *5th International Conference on Lipid Binding Proteins*, held in Sendai, September 2004, were scheduled to be published as a single Focussed Issue of *Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry*. Due to an unfortunate error at the publisher's the various contributions to these proceedings have been published in four distinct issues of *Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry*, i.e., volumes 277, 284, 286, and 299. Below please find the *Preface* for this collection of papers, and a listing of the constituting articles together with a reference to the exact source. Note that six articles appear in the present issue of *Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry*.

The online version of the original articles can be found at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9029-y>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9030-5>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9031-4>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9032-3>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9033-2>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9034-1>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9035-0>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9036-2>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9038-x>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9039-9>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9040-3>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9041-2>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9042-1>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9043-0>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9044-z>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9045-y>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9046-x>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9047-9>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9048-8>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9049-7>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9050-1>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11010-005-9052-z>

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### Preface

For a long time it was believed that lipids are solely building blocks of cellular membranes and sources of metabolic energy. However, it is now well established that various lipids, including fatty acids, vitamins, cholesterol and ceramides, function in concert with lipid-binding proteins (LBPs) to play important roles in cellular lipid metabolism and signal transduction, whose alterations consequently affect the condition of our health and disease in various manners. LBPs include the intra- and extracellular lipid carrier proteins, lipid-modifying enzymes and its receptors. Indeed, some metabolic diseases, such as atherosclerosis and (type-2) diabetes, have been characterized by malfunctioning of LBPs or by mutation in genes encoding LBPs. Therefore, we are now directing our further attention toward the role of LBPs to clarify the mechanism underlying lipid-mediated physiological and pathological phenomena in health and diseases.

In view of this growing interest in LBPs, a series of *International Conferences on Lipid Binding Proteins* have been held in Maastricht (1989, 1992, 2001) and Minneapolis (1997). Following the success of these conferences, the 5th Conference was held in September 2004 in Sendai, as the first one outside Europe and America. Participants came from more than ten countries, presented their recent research results, and discussed actively the scientific basis and implications of LBPs from their different specialties. Selected articles in some previous and the present issue of *Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry* form a collection of papers from the lectures and poster presentations during the

conference, and will provide the updated understanding of the significance of LBPs in health and diseases.

Hisatake Kondo, MD, PhD  
Yuji Owada, MD, PhD  
Jan F.C. Glatz, PhD  
Guest Editors

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