



November 8, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to announce the exciting news that **Dr. Arthur Grollman received the 2011 EMS Award**. This award is conferred annually by the Environmental Mutagen Society (EMS) in recognition of outstanding research contributions in the area of environmental mutagenesis. Given Dr. Grollman's association with your institution/organization, the EMS Public Relations and Communications Committee thought you might wish to publicize Dr. Grollman's receipt of this Award within your institution/organization.

Dr. Grollman has had a remarkably productive career investigating mutagenesis and mutagenic mechanisms, having well over 200 publications in this area. Dr. Grollman was recognized with the EMS Award, however, because of the impact of his work, which included a multiple landmark achievements in the area of environmental mutagenesis research.

Dr. Grollman's studies on the site-specific mutagenesis of DNA adducts represents an important scientific advance. His work in this area led the way in terms of establishing the mutagenic specificity of single, defined DNA lesions. Dr. Grollman and co-workers played a critical role in establishing that DNA polymerases incorporate dAMP and dCMP opposite 8-oxoguanine. Consequently, his work in this area was key in terms of understanding the mutagenic spectrum induced by 8-oxoguanine. Furthermore, Dr. Grollman and his collaborators made landmark contributions to current understanding of the molecular mechanisms by which DNA repair proteins, including DNA glycosylases, DNA polymerases, and endonucleases, process oxidative DNA damage.

In addition to the significant achievements noted above, Dr. Grollman was recognized with the EMS Award for his impressive work on aristolochic acid, which was viewed as having international public health significance. Dr. Grollman conducted a series of studies that established Balkan endemic nephropathy, Chinese herb nephropathy, and aristolochic acid nephropathy were related diseases cause by ingestion of aristolochic acid (AA), a component of plant extracts of *Aristolochic* species. Dr. Grollman and colleagues provided a detailed, coherent, and irrefutable set of data establishing the mechanism of AA-induced carcinogenesis. These included analyses of *p53* mutations in humans exposed to AA, and evidence that AA-induced DNA adducts are capable of producing the spectrum of mutation observed in the human *p53* gene. Dr. Grollman's work established AA as the environmental cause of Balkan endemic nephropathy, whose etiology until then was not known. Indeed, Dr. Grollman's work has alerted scientist to the fact that AA-induced nephropathy and urothelial cancer are ongoing public health concerns in several areas of the world.

The Environmental Mutagen Society would appreciate whatever help you can afford in terms of publicizing Dr. Grollman's remarkable scientific achievements and his receipt of the prestigious EMS Award. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions related to publicizing the presentation of the 2011 EMS Award to Dr. Arthur Grollman.

Regards,

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