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Honorary Members of the Polish Society of Nephrology. Part XXXIX

— Professor Tilman Bernhard Drüeke

Abstract

We are pleased to present the 39th part of our series in *Forum Nefrologiczne — Edukacja*, spotlighting honorary members of the Polish Society of Nephrology (PTN). In our previous paper, we introduced the esteemed American physician and scholar, Professor Robert William Schrier, renowned for his contributions to nephrology and international collaborations, including those with Polish academic centres. In this edition, we turn our attention to the distinguished French physician and researcher, Professor Tilman Bernhard

Drüeke. Graduating from the University of Tübingen in Germany, Professor Drüeke's career path led him to Necker Hospital in Paris, France, where he made significant contributions before assuming leadership roles in scientific institutions. Professor Drüeke has a history of engagement with numerous scientific societies and has made several visits to Poland, further enriching his contributions to the field.

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Several years ago, the authors began a series of publications in *Forum Nefrologiczne*, now known as *Forum Nefrologiczne — Edukacja*, dedicated to profiling esteemed Polish and foreign nephrologists who have been honoured with the title of honorary member of the Polish Society of Nephrology (PTN). This distinguished award, bestowed by the General Meeting of PTN members upon the recommendation of the Management Board, recognises individuals who have made outstanding contributions to nephrology or the Society itself. Over 80 individuals have received this honour to date, with nearly half of them featured in our ongoing series.

In our previous publication, we highlighted the exceptional American physician and scholar, Professor Robert William Schrier, associated with the University of Colorado in Denver, USA. Renowned globally, Professor Schrier's profound impact extends not only in his homeland but also in Poland, where he made frequent visits [1]. Our next profile sub-

ject is another luminary in the field: the French physician and researcher, Professor Tilman Bernhard Drüeke, widely regarded as an internationally esteemed figure in nephrology and public health research.

Professor Tilman Bernhard Drüeke was born on 20th January 1942, in Marburg an der Lahn, Germany. He commenced his medical studies in Frankfurt am Main, in 1961, before pursuing further studies in Paris, from 1963 to 1964. He then continued his education in Tübingen, where he obtained his medical degree in 1967. Just a year later, in 1968, he earned his doctorate in medicine and acquired the right to practise medicine in Germany. In 1972, he specialised in nephrology at the University of Paris (Fig. 1).

Between 1967 and 1969, Dr Drüeke worked in Cologne, West Germany. He then pursued post-doctoral fellowships at the Nephrology Department of Necker Hospital in Paris, sponsored by the Claude Bernard Association. From 1970 to 1971, he continued

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Figure 1. Professor Tilman Drüeke (prof. Tilman Drüeke's archive)

his medical training through an internship in internal medicine split between the Medical School and the Nephrology Department of Necker Hospital. Dr Drüeke's dedication to research flourished with another year-long post-doctoral fellowship, supported by the German Research Foundation, at Necker Hospital's Nephrology Department.

From 1972 to 1977, Dr Drüeke worked as a researcher at the same hospital's Nephrology Department under the auspices of the Claude Bernard Association. Transitioning into academic leadership, he became an associate professor at the Necker-Enfants-Malades Medical School and the Nephrology Department of Necker Hospital, a position he held from 1977 to 1979.

Dr Drüeke then served as Research Director of the Day-Solvay Foundation from 1979 to 1983. His pursuit of scientific excellence led to appointments as Master of Research at Inserm Unit 90 (the French National Institute for Health and Medical Research) at Necker Hospital in 1983, followed by Director of Research in 1985. From 1986 to 1998, he was Director of Inserm Unit 90.

Continuing his legacy, Dr Drüeke led Inserm U507 and U845 from 1998 to 2009, and he served as Director Emeritus of Research at Inserm in Amiens from 2009 to 2015. Since 2015, he has held a similar position in Villejuif, France [2].

Professor Tilman Drüeke's extensive research focuses on chronic kidney disease (CKD) and its associated complications such as bone and mineral disorders, metabolic and endocrine disorders, anaemia, cardiac complications, hypertension, and nephrolithiasis, as well as haemodialysis and haemodiafiltration. He has authored or co-authored over 600 scientific articles published in esteemed peer-reviewed medical journals. Notably, his publication titled «Normalization of Haemoglobin Level in Patients with Chronic Kidney Diseases and Anaemia» in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 2006 is widely recognised.

Professor Drüeke's scholarly impact is further underscored by his impressive Hirsch index, with a coefficient of 78, reflecting the breadth and depth of his contributions to the field [3, 4].

In recognition of his scientific achievements, Professor Drüeke has received numer-

▶▶ He has authored or co-authored over 600 scientific articles published in esteemed peer-reviewed medical journals. ◀◀

ous prestigious distinctions and titles. He was elected as a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1998. He was also bestowed with the title of Honorary Member of PTN in the same year (Fig. 2, 3). Additionally, he became a corresponding member of the German Society of Internal Medicine in 2001 and received the title of honorary member of the German Society of Nephrology in 2002.

In 2008, Professor Drüeke received an honorary doctorate from the University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia, followed by a similar title from the University of Montevideo in Uruguay in 2010. He was awarded the Scribner Medal by the French Society of Dialysis in 2013 and became an honorary member of the Portuguese Society of Nephrology in 2017, followed by his designation as an international honorary member of the Japanese Society of Nephrology in 2021.

Professor Tilman Drüeke is a member of numerous esteemed scientific societies, including the American Society of Nephrology, the European Renal Association (ERA), the German Society of Nephrology, the International Society of Nephrology (ISN), the French Society of Nephrology, Dialysis, and Transplantology (SFNDT), and the Uruguayan Society of Nephrology.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions, Professor Drüeke was honoured during the 51st ERA-EDTA Congress in 2014 in Amsterdam, where he received an award for his dedication to advancing nephrology science (Fig. 4). Additionally, his scholarly impact was highlighted during the congress through the publication of his work titled *A health risk in and beyond CKD* in the 3rd issue of Daily Congress News [5–7]. He also delivered the prestigious plenary lecture titled *Is salt a health problem?* during the ERA-EDTA Congress held in London in 2015.

Professor Tilman Drüeke has also made significant contributions to academic publishing. He served as Editor-in-Chief of *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation (NDT)* from 1999 to 2005 and held editorial positions in other renowned journals like *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* (2005–2010), *Kidney International* (2012–present) or *Néphrologie & Thérapeutique*.

His expertise as a reviewer extends across numerous prestigious medical journals such as

Acta Physiologica, *American Journal of Hypertension*, *American Journal of Kidney Diseases*, *American Journal of Nephrology*, *American Journal of Transplantation*, *Atherosclerosis*, *Blood Purification*, *Circulation*, *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, *Clinical Nephrology*, *Clinical Kidney Journal*, *Endocrinology*, *European Journal of Clinical Investigation*, *Hemodialysis International*, *Hypertension*, *International Journal of Cardiology*, *JAMA*, *JASN*, *Journal of Nephrology*, *Kidney International*, *Lancet*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, *NDT*, *Peritoneal Dialysis International*, *PlosOne*, *Transplantation*, and many others.

He has served on numerous advisory committees, commissions, and boards of various important institutions. These include the INSERM Commission Scientifique Spécialisée, the Nominating Committee of the International Society of Nephrology, the Scientific Program Committee of the American Society of Nephrology (2008–2009), the Administrative Board of the French Society of Nephrology, the Executive Committee of the European Renal Association (ERA-EDTA) (1999–2005), the Steering Committee of the clinical trial CREATE as chairman, the Board of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) (2003–2009), the KDIGO CKD-MBD Working Group as co-chair (2007–2009), the international KDIGO Board (2005–2011), the KDIGO Work Group involved in preparing guidelines for the treatment of anaemia in renal diseases (2010–2012), and many others [8].

Professor Tilman Drüeke has made several visits to Poland, engaging with the Polish nephrology community on multiple occasions. He participated in PTN Scientific and Training Conferences, delivering lectures on topics such as *The rationale for calcimimetic-based regimens in the treatment of CKD-MBD* [9]. He also participated in the 15th Katowice Seminar *Advances in Nephrology and Hypertension*, where he presented a lecture titled *Salt intake — still a controversial problem?* (Fig. 5, 6).

His activity in the international arena is widely recognised and esteemed, and he maintains strong ties with Polish nephrologists. In recognition of his invaluable contributions to the development of nephrology, Professor Drüeke has been rightfully honoured with numerous prestigious awards and accolades.

▶▶ He has served on numerous advisory committees, commissions, and boards of various important institutions. ◀◀

29 September 1998

Mr le Professeur
Tilman B. Drüeke
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Dear Professor Drüeke,

It is a great honour and pleasure to inform you that the General Assembly of the Polish Society of Nephrology at its session on September 26th 1998 elected you as a honorary member of our Society in recognition of your essential contributions to International nephrology and your endeavours to promote cooperation between nephrologists from different countries. Please accept my sincere congratulations. The diploma of honorary membership will be conferead to you at the most convenient for you date and place.

I will inform you in due time about the dates of annual meetings of polish nephrologists, which could be a good occasion to come to Poland.

Once more congratulating you this high distinction I remain with personal regards.

Sincerely Yours

Prof.dr F.Kokot

Figure 2. A letter from Professor Franciszek Kokot informing about granting the title of honorary member of the Polish Society of Nephrology (PTN archive).

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October 19, 1998

Prof. dr. F. KOKOT
President, Polish Society of Nephrology
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Pologne

Re: Honorary member to the Polish Society of Nephrology

Dear Professor Kokot,

I wish to thank you and the Polish Society of Nephrology warmly for having elected me as a honorary member of your Society. This high distinction is a great honour for me which I appreciate greatly. I hope that I will be able to contribute further to promote cooperation between Polish and French nephrology in particular, and between European and extra-european countries in general.

Kind personal regards,


Tilman B. DRÜEKE, M.D.

Figure 3. A letter from Professor Tilman Drüeke with appreciation for having been granted the title of honorary member of the Polish Society of Nephrology (PTN archive).



Figure 4. Professor Tilman Drüeke receiving an award during 51st Congress of ERA-EDTA in Amsterdam, 2014. First left: Prof. Raymond Vanholder (then President of ERA-EDTA), Prof. Tilman Drüeke, Prof. Gerard London (Past President of ERA-EDTA) and Prof. Heini Murer (photo Janusz Ostrowski)



Figure 5. Professor Tilman Drüeke during the PTN Scientific and Training Conference in Warsaw in 2009 (photo Janusz Ostrowski)



Figure 6. Professor Tilman Drüeke delivering his lecture during the 15th Katowice Seminar Advances in nephrology and arterial hypertension in Katowice, 2015 (photo Janusz Ostrowski)

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