



PROFESSOR NARINDER MEHRA

Professor Narinder Mehra is the Head of the Department of Transplant Immunology & Immunogenetics at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi. He has pioneered this speciality in India, and established the Asian Indian Donor Marrow Registry (AIDMR), the first facility of voluntary bone marrow donors in the country, which has proved most valuable in the area of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. His group has made original contributions on the Immunogenetic aspects of mycobacterial, autoimmune and rheumatological diseases leading to better understanding of their molecular basis of susceptibility. Currently his research is focused on the study of immune mediators in organ and bone marrow transplantation, genome diversity of HLA at the population level, and towards developing MHC based vaccination approaches in tuberculosis and other mycobacterial infections. His group has launched a major program in Molecular Medicine and HIV research with focus on a host of polymorphic immunomodulatory genes.

Professor Mehra is the 'Founder Secretary General' of the Federation of Immunological Societies of Asia-Oceania (FIMSA) and has been the Vice President of the Federation. He has also been the President of the Australasian & South East Asian Tissue Typing Association (ASEATTA) and Visiting Professor to several international universities. He is an elected 'Council Member' of the International union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) (Elected three times) and of the International Histocompatibility Advisory Council. He is a Past President of the Indian Immunology Society (IIS) and founder President of the Indian Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ISHI). He is on the Editorial Board of several International journals and is a Fellow of several science academies that include the Indian Academy of Sciences (Allahabad), Indian National Science Academy (INSA), International Medical Science Academy and Honorary Member of the prestigious Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Professor Mehra has several awards and honours to his credit. Amongst these is the S.S. Bhatnagar Award of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in 1992, Ranbaxy Science Foundation Award in 1996, O.P. Bhasin Science Foundation Award in 2000, Chief of the Army Staff Award, 2003, and several awards from the Indian Council of Medical Research and other science organizations and associations in India. In 2003, the French President, Mr. Jacques CHIRAC conferred on him the title of '*Chevalier de L'ordre National du Merite*'. The President of Iran awarded him the Khwarizmi International Award in 2004 which is considered to be the highest award for Science in Iran. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India has recently awarded him their prestigious "Tata Innovation Fellowship".

Professor Mehra and his group have published more than 385 original research papers in leading international journals. He has trained 35 MD/MS postgraduate and 25 Ph.D students in the area of Immunogenetics and Transplant Immunology, many of whom occupy positions of eminence in India and abroad.

