



ROBERT BAROUKI

*Prof. Robert Barouki, an internationally reputed scientist from France is presently the Director of Research, at the unit 99 of the INSERM, Créteil, France. Prof. Barouki was born on 7th April 1957 in Lebanon and was raised there until 1976. He then came to Paris and followed his MD-PhD program at the University of Paris and graduated in 1983. His thesis was focused on the study of gamma-glutamyltransferase and its regulation, which was directed by Dr. Jacques Hanoune.*

*Prof. Barouki went to the Johns Hopkins Medical School, and worked for more than two years with, the Nobel laureate, Professor Hamilton Smith on the genetic transformation in Haemophilus influenzae.*

*He returned to France in 1986 and obtained a tenure research scientist position at the CNRS. Prof. Barouki became Director of research at the INSERM in 1992. At that time his laboratory was within a hospital at Créteil, in the suburbs of Paris. The unit was headed by Dr. Jacques Hanoune. In 1997, Prof. Barouki moved to the Biomedical Center of the Saint Pères in the University of Paris and founded a new unit with Professor Philippe Beaune. He was appointed Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Paris Necker Medical School in September 2001. He has research and teaching duties within the biomedical center, and clinical biochemistry duties at the new Georges Pompidou Hospital in Paris.*

*Prof. Barouki's research interests have always been focused on the regulation of enzymes relevant to liver biology or with clinical implications. In addition to gamma-glutamyltransferase, he was involved in studying the regulation of aspartate and alanine aminotransferases by drugs and hormones. This work was acknowledged by his colleagues in the field. Several years ago, he and his research team started a new program aiming at the study of the regulation of xenobiotics metabolizing enzymes, particularly cytochromes P450. This has become over the years his main research topic. They made recent contributions on the mechanism of regulation of these genes by oxidative stress, the combination of pollutants such as dioxin and pesticides, as well as other stresses. His interest now is to study the effects of several cellular*

*stresses and their combinations and to try to better understand the pathological and toxicological consequences of these interactions. He has developed projects with clinical implications, using genomic approaches (transcriptomes) to characterize tumors. His original research articles were published in several international journals. He is an invited expert in the field of biochemistry and has chaired several international conferences.*

*Prof. Robert Barouki was selected by World Scientists Forum for "Eminent Scientist of the Year 2002" international award of IRPC based on his research excellence in the field of biochemistry in general and hepatic biology in particular.*