

LAUDATIO Dana Seidlová-Wuttke
Bionorica Phytoneering Award 2009

According to stated objectives, the Bionorica Phytoneering Award acknowledges outstanding research in the field of development and application of phytopharmaceutical products. The aim of the award is to motivate scientists to perform research in the following areas:

- pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of herbal medicinal products and their active principles
- clinical research in the areas of respiratory tract infections, inflammation, women's health, and metabolic syndrome
- safety and pharmacovigilance studies.

It is the first time that the Bionorica Phytoneering Award will be bestowed and GA is thankful to Prof. Dr. Michael Popp as endowing sponsor.

The members of the jury unanimously decided to give the Bionorica Phytoneering Award 2009 to Dr. Dana Seidlova-Wuttke, Medical University of Göttingen, Germany.

Dr. Dana Seidlová-Wuttke was born 1962 in Czechoslovakia. She studied medicine at the Charles University (1980-1986) in Prague and after promotion in 1986 she started her professional career as gynaecologist at the 2nd Gynaecologic Clinic of the Charles University in Prague. In 1992 she finished the professional education in gynaecology and obstetric. Her main topic was colposcopy and prophylaxis of cervical cancer and gynaecologic endocrinology. In

1992 she founded the Center for Contraception at the 2nd Gynaecologic and Obstetric Clinic in Prague, spent WHO-sponsored fellowships at the University Women's Hospital in Bern (Switzerland) and at the Reproductive Health Care Service Center in Uppsala (Sweden) after which she was awarded with the European Certificate for Teaching and Therapy in Reproductive Health. In 1997 her book "Contraception for praxis" was published.

In the same year she was awarded with a scholarship to spend a year in the Department of Clinical and Experimental Endocrinology at the University Hospital in Göttingen (Germany) and became a staff member in 1998. In 2000 she passed the German Board examination in "Obstetrics and Gynaecology". In 2004 she finished her second doctoral thesis at the Georg-August-University in Göttingen.

In her scientific work she developed animal models for estrogen deficiency diseases for which she won an award at the 9th International Menopause Society World Congress in Yokohama, Japan. She focused on hormone replacement therapy and incorporated new aspects of phytotherapy in gynaecology; she is also active in osteoporosis research.

In her recent studies she has accomplished a number of insights into beneficial effects of *Actea (Cimicifuga) racemosa* by utilizing *in-vitro* and animal models. Her research has demonstrated that *Actea (Cimicifuga) racemosa* is devoid of adverse effects in the uterus or the mammary gland of female rats.

Her experimental results have added to the knowledge of the health promoting profile of *Actea (Cimicifuga) racemosa* not only in females but also in males.

Her contributions impressively show she and coauthors have preclinically worked on many aspects of the topic “*Actea (Cimicifuga) racemosa extract*” with high competence, convincing and innovative experiments, continuative ideas and finally with excellent results. Their data mainly contributed to the view that today *Actea (Cimicifuga) racemosa* extracts can be regarded as effective and safe.

Dana Seidlova-Wuttke is honored with the Bionorica Phytoneering Award 2009, which is donated with 10.000 Euro.

Brigitte Kopp
GA President