

2021
Hans Müller-Eberhard Memorial Lecture



Mohamed R. Daha, PhD
Emeritus professor of the Leiden University Medical Center,
Leiden, The Netherlands.

The Hans Müller-Eberhard Lecture will be presented by Dr. Moh Daha at the International Complement Workshop being held Sept 13-17, 2020, in Berlin, Germany. Dr. Daha was selected for this award for his long list of research discoveries, his lifelong service to the complement field, and his mentoring of numerous students and fellows in Leiden and around the world. Dr. Daha contributed enormously to the European Complement Network (ECN) and the International Complement Society (ICS) and in addition served important roles in several national and international immunology boards including the International Union of Immunology Societies (IUIS).

Ever since his graduation and PhD training in 1973, Dr. Daha has devoted his research on unraveling the role of complement in health and disease. During his post-doc training at Harvard he described the functional consequences of C3-Nephritic factor. Following his return to Leiden, Dr. Daha has focused on the functions of complement in inflammatory processes that are important for renal diseases and autoimmunity. In the context of autoimmunity he not only studied the pathological consequences of complement activation in target organs, but also the role of complement in preventing autoimmunity by studying opsonization of apoptotic material. As a key collaborator Dr. Daha has accelerated the field of complement biology across a wide array of disciplines. During his career he has supervised more than 70 PhD students and has been a co-author of more than 650 scientific publications.

After his retirement in 2009, Dr. Daha not only remained active at Leiden University and Groningen University but also continued as a highly appreciated invited speaker, reviewer, teacher, motivator and inspirator.

Dr. Müller-Eberhard (May 5, 1927 – March 3, 1998) was a distinguished molecular immunologist who did pioneering research in the United States and his native Germany. The areas of investigation upon which he left his mark include the immunoglobulins and the complement system. Awarded the gold Robert Koch Prize in 1987, he served as a mentor for numerous students, residents, and fellows at both the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral level. The award signifies the profound commitment that Dr. Müller-Eberhard has shown towards the support and development of research in the field of complement.