



Biographical Sketch - Erik Dybing

Affiliation

Erik Dybing was born in Oslo, Norway, June 3, 1943. He was the Director of the Department of Toxicology, National Institute of Public Health in Oslo, 1981-89 and the Director of the Department of Environmental Medicine, 1990-2000. After a merger of several institutes into the Norwegian Institute of Public Health in 2001, he is now Division Director, Division of Environmental Medicine. This is the leading toxicological and environmental health research and advisory institution in the country, and has a staff of some 100 people. Erik Dybing has been an Adjunct Professor of Toxicology/Environmental Medicine at the Medical Faculty, University of Oslo, 1988-2004. He was briefly appointed as full Professor of Environmental Medicine at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden in 1987.

Education

Erik Dybing obtained his MD degree at the University of Göttingen in Germany in 1968. He then received a PhD degree in pharmacology at the University of Oslo in 1974. He spent one year as a postdoctoral fellow at the Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology, National Heart and Lung Institute, National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, USA, 1974-75. Since then he has been affiliated with the National/Norwegian Institute of Public Health in Oslo.

Research activities

Erik Dybing has 230 scientific publications (120 scientific papers in international journals and 110 book chapters/review articles). His research covers the following areas: cellular toxicokinetics, xenobiotic metabolism, metabolic activation and organ damage, covalent binding of reactive metabolites, genotoxicity tests, health effects of particles and risk assessment. He has especially conducted research on aromatic amines and halogenated propyl compounds. Erik Dybing was the recipient of the Society of Toxicology (SOT) Frank R. Blood Award in 1984 for the best paper published in official SOT publications. Erik Dybing is a member of the editorial board of 6 international scientific journals, MiniReview editor of Basic & Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology and Associate Editor of Toxicological Sciences.

Consulting and research administration

Erik Dybing has been/is head/member of a large number of national advisory and regulatory committees (food additives, pesticides, indoor air pollutants, carcinogens, mutagens, allergens, environmental contaminants, cosmetics, radiation). He is currently a member of the Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety and chairman of its Pesticide Panel, and a member of the Norwegian Council on Tobacco and Health. He has also been the chairman or member of many large research council committees in Norway and Sweden. Further, he has been a member of many international groups evaluating institutions/programmes in Sweden, Finland and Denmark.

International expert groups

Erik Dybing has been the chair/member of a large number of international expert groups on toxicology and risk assessment, especially within the European Union, the International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS), the European Regional Office for the World Health Organization (WHO EURO), the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the Organization of Economical Co-operation and Development (OECD) and International Institute of Life Sciences (ILSI) Europe, relating to air pollutants, environmental contaminants, pesticides, carcinogens, toxicological test methods and risk assessment. He has been a member of the Scientific Council of IARC and a member of the EU Scientific Committee for Toxicology, Ecotoxicology and the Environment (CSTEE). He is currently the chairman of WHO's Study Group on Tobacco Product Regulation (TobReg).

Teaching and academic activities

Erik Dybing has taught pharmacology, toxicology and environmental medicine for medical students since 1971. He has been responsible for/participated in several research courses at the graduate level as well as courses for the board in clinical pharmacology and toxicology. He has arranged a course in principles of risk assessment for students from Eastern Europe in Lithuania, Croatia and Bulgaria. He has been responsible advisor for 4 PhD degrees, a member of 11 doctoral dissertation committees and 6 committees for evaluation of applications for professorships in Denmark, Finland and Sweden.

Experience from toxicological organisations

Erik Dybing has a very broad experience from participating in national and international toxicological societies. He was a Councillor of the Norwegian Society of Pharmacology and Toxicology from 1978-2002, he was the President of this society 1983-85 and Head of its Section of Toxicology 1987-88 and 1992-93. Erik Dybing was Vice-President of the former Federation of European Societies of Toxicology (FEST), 1987-89 and continued as Vice-President of EUROTOX 1990-93 when FEST merged with the European Society of Toxicology (EST). He was EUROTOX Vice-President 1990-93, EUROTOX President 1993-96 and EUROTOX Past-President 1996-98, and Head of its Subcommittee Education and its Nomination Committee. Erik Dybing was the President of the EUROTOX'99 Congress held in Oslo. Further, he has been Treasurer of the Section of Toxicology of The International Union of Pharmacology (IUPHAR) 1987-94 and Secretary General of the Nordic Society of Pharmacology 1988-93. Erik Dybing was a member of the IUTOX Nomination Committee 1992-95 and has been/is a member of the IUTOX Scientific Programme Committees for the international congresses of toxicology in 1995 (Seattle), 1998 (Paris), Brisbane (2001), Tampere (2004) and Montreal (2007). He was a Director of the IUTOX Executive Committee for 1998-2001, IUTOX President for 2001-2004 and Past-President for 2004-2007. Erik Dybing is an Honorary Member of EUROTÒX (1999) and the Swedish Society of Toxicology (2000). In 2005 he was given the EUROTOX Merit Award.

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