

Giorgio Cantelli Forti was born in Bentivoglio, Bologna, Italy in 1944. Currently he is Full Professor of Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy in the Faculty of Pharmacy (since 1985) and Director of the post-graduate School of Toxicology, University of Bologna.

He received Baccha Laureate degree in Pharmacy in 1967 and Ph.D. (Biomedical science) in 1971 at the University of Bologna, Italy.

He began his current position as an Instructor and then as Associate Professor of Chemotherapy (1972-1976) at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Verone. From 1976 to 1980 he was Associate Professor of Pharmacology and Pharmacognosy and Dean (1994-2000) of the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Bologna. He spent several periods at the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston TX, USA, where he started his prestigious career as toxicologist. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Texas (1984-present).

His ability and enthusiasm as an educator is demonstrated from the numerous courses in which he has taught at the Medical and the Pharmacy School of the University of Bologna (1972-present). Prof. Cantelli Forti has made the training of graduate students a high priority and has graduated over 100 MSc and PhD candidates in his career.

He provided broad scientific perspective for collaboration with numerous academic, government and industrial laboratories. As a researcher he greatly contributed to the forefront of knowledge.

The research interest is in solving problems associated with potential adverse effect resulting from human exposure to toxicants through environment and the food chain, and the development of multidisciplinary approaches to evaluate human exposure to toxicants. Experimental animals and appropriate human cells are used to understand mechanisms by which mutations arise in the mammalian genome, and the role of xenobiotic metabolism in mutagenesis, and as an etiological event in carcinogenesis and other genotoxicities. His name is associated with original and significant contribution to the development of new cellular and molecular approaches to detect and quantify the global cellular response to toxic stress, including measurements of apoptosis, specific metabolic capabilities and cell cycle effects, to appraise toxicological outcomes linked to carbon- and oxygen-centered radicals and to investigate the ontogeny of cytochrome P-450. He has dedicated much efforts to the study of the toxic effects of pesticides, with particular attention to their presence as residues in food. In this field he has devoted much energy in the organization of conferences, round tables, debates and seminars in the interest of stimulating new ideas and additional research. His work was pivotal for regulatory decisions at regional level.

Prof. Cantelli Forti has authored more than 150 refereed publications and 30 book chapters. He has been a speaker at more than 80 conferences.

He has extensive scientific and administrative experience in organizing national and international meetings (i.e. the Third World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences, Bologna, Italy, August 29- September 2, 1999; the Joint Meeting of the Italian and the French Society of Toxicology, Marseille, France, April 18-19, 1994; the IV European ISSX Meeting, Bologna, Italy, July 4-6, 1992; the International Symposium on Strategies for the Control of Mutagenic and Carcinogenic Risk: Current Status and Perspectives, Bologna, Italy, May 5, 1989).

He greatly contributed to the development of toxicological sciences in Italy and always enthusiastically supported other scientists' and students' efforts to promote and advance the discipline of Toxicology. In 1986 he founded the post-graduate School of Toxicology at the University of Bologna.

He is an active member of several national and international scientific Societies.

For his leading role in various key scientific fields (genetic and cellular toxicology, pharmacokinetic, metabolism, environmental toxicology, pesticide toxicology, food toxicology), he has served on several Scientific Advisory Boards and chaired a variety of Committees.

At the present, he is member of the Directorate-General Health and Consumer Protection, Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and Environment in EU; member of the National Committee for the basic sciences research grants (F.I.R.B. Fondo per gli investimenti della ricerca

di base) of the Italian Ministry of Instruction, University and Research; expert member of the technical and scientific Committee of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture (Consiglio tecnico-scientifico degli esperti per la politica agricola ed agroalimentare, Ministero delle Politiche Agricole e Forestali).

At the national level, he served as the councilor (1989-1995) and President of the Italian Society of Toxicology (2000-present). The responsibilities as President elect include planning and coordinating the scientific content of national and international joint meetings, providing leadership and direction for all society matters and chairing the Board which has oversight of all activities. He was coordinator of the Working Group on Genotoxicity (1991-1995) and served on council and as member of the Educational Training Committee of the Italian Society of Pharmacology (1997-present).

He was member of the Consultant Committee on Pesticides of the National Ministry of Health (1992-1995); member of the Regional Committee on Pesticides (1987-1989); coordinator of the Pesticide Research Program Review Panel, editing of 38 toxicological documents (1989-1991); member of the Scientific Committee for the E.U. Certification of Parmesan cheese (1993-present); member of the Scientific Committee of the "G. Lorenzini" Foundation (1998-present); consultant of the National Academy of Agriculture (1998-present).

At the University of Bologna he is member of the Committee for Environmental Protection (1986-present) and Coordinator of the Graduate Program in Pharmacology and Toxicology (1999-present). He fostered collaborations and establish liaisons with other groups and professional societies. At the International level, Prof. Cantelli Forti was proposer of the Cooperative Agreement for a Joint Educational/Research Center, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston TX, USA and the University of Bologna, Italy, and of the Cooperative Agreement for a Joint Educational/Research Center, Okayama University, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Okayama, Japan and the University of Bologna, Italy. These agreements put the basis for collaborative projects and exchange of scientists and students.