This section brings six articles based on the presentations given at two international meetings in 2011 that were organised by MEDICHEM, the international scientific association for occupational and environmental health in the production and use of chemicals: MEDICHEM 2011 Congress held in June 2011 in Heidelberg, Germany under the motto “Occupational Health in a Changing World” and MEDICHEM Mini Symposium held in November 2011 in Vienna, Austria entitled “Occupational Carcinogens: Exposure Scenarios and Health Risks”.

Special thanks go to MEDICHEM Board Chairman, Thirumalai Rajgopal, all Board members, and particularly to Maren Beth-Hübner, chief organiser of MEDICHEM 2011, for accepting the offer of the journal’s editors and providing them with the opportunity to ask the Congress participants to submit their congress presentations in the form of manuscripts to be considered for publication in Archives of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology. Extended report on MEDICHEM 2011 by Maren Beth-Hübner is published separately. Furthermore, interesting and less known linked fact is that late Birgitta Haeger-Aronsen, who was the first MEDICHEM Secretary in the early 1970s, was also the Corresponding Member of the Department of Medical Sciences at the Croatian Academy of Science and Arts in Zagreb. More recently, in January 2007, IMROH hosted the mid-term meeting of MEDICHEM Board members. This event was followed by a jointly organised half-day Mini Symposium, which embraced professional and scientific presentations from both sides: MEDICHEM Board members and IMROH’s researchers.

Last but not least, special gratitude in publishing MEDICHEM papers in this issue goes to the following Board members, who are also the journal’s Advisory Board members, for their valuable assistance in connecting MEDICHEM 2011 Congress and Mini Symposium delegates to our journal, as well as for their active participation in writing and/or reviewing the MEDICHEM theme part of this issue, first and foremost to Michael Nasterlack, as well as to Robert Winker, Diane J. Mundt, and Stephen W. Borron.

Archives of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology looks forward to participating in future MEDICHEM activities.

Martina Piasek,
Guest Editor to the MEDICHEM section