

Veronika Ádám

Personal data

Place and date of birth: Nagykanizsa, 1 January 1949

Family: married to Dr Szilveszter E. Vizi, Former President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences,
son: Attila Vizi, economist

Education

Degree: medical doctor, 1973, Semmelweis University

Scientific degree:

- PhD in medical science – Interaction of brain tissue Na, K, -ATPase enzyme with endogenous substances. The effect of noradrenaline and vanadium." (1981)
- Doctor of Medical Science – "The role of depolarization, Ca²⁺ uptake, and intracellular Ca²⁺ mobilization in acetylcholine release." (1989)
- HAS Corresponding Member (2001)
- HAS Ordinary Member (2007)

Jobs, positions

1973-1974: Institute of Pharmaceutical Research – junior member

from 1975: Semmelweis University

Institute of Medical Biochemistry

1982-1986 Assistant Professor

1987-1990 Associate Professor

from 1990 Full Professor

1990-2014 professor, head of department

Semmelweis University

1996-1999, 2003-2006 Vice Rector for Scientific Affairs and Foreign Relations

2006-2009 Vice Rector for Foreign Relations

HAS membership:

Corresponding Member from 2001

Ordinary Member from 2007

Current position:

Semmelweis University

professor emeritus

Foreign language skills

- advanced proficiency exam in English, 1989
- conversational proficiency in French

Study trips

- 1980-1981: London University Institute of Psychiatry, Department of Biochemistry – 6 months in Roger. M. Marchbanks's laboratory
- 1983: Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, 2 months in F. Foldes's laboratory
- 1986-1987: King's College London, Department of Physiology, Wellcome Trust Grant – 2 years working with professor Peter Baker
- 1985-1986 and 1990-1992 Center for Neurochemistry, New York 1-2 months per year in Abel Lajtha's laboratory

Scientific activity

Research area:

Neurochemistry (ion transports, pH regulation, neurotransmitter release, oxidative stress)

Most important results:

- Described the characteristics of calcium-independent neurotransmitter release in nerve endings involved in ischemia
- Described the most sensitive targets of oxidative stress in nerve endings
- Described the property of forming an alpha-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase reactive oxygen derivative
- Described the ROS-forming specificity of disease-causing alpha-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase mutants
- In collaboration with her colleagues, she determined the structure of ROS-forming alpha-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase mutants

Public activity in science:

- HAS Department of Medicine, member with right of consultation, 1999-2001
- Co-chairperson, Neuroscience Committee, Medical Research Council, 1993-2006
- HAS Neuroscience Committee, member, 1994-1995
- OTKA, president of the Human and Neuroscience Jury, 1998-2000
- Biology Section, National Accreditation Committee, member, 1994-1998
- OTKA, Infra-individual Committee, member, 1990-1994
- OTKA, Life Sciences Special Course, member, 2002-2005
- Gedeon Richter Plc. Scientific Committee, member, 2003-2008
- HAS Department of Medical Science, President of Doctoral Committee III, 2006-2011
- President of the Committee for Neural Activity Experimental and Clinical Research, Medical Research Council, from 2009
- President of the Committee for Theoretical Medicine, HAS Medical Research Council from 2012
- L'Oreal-UNESCO Women for Science, chairperson of the scientific jury, from 2004
- Deputy head of department, HAS Department of Medical Sciences, from 2014

Teaching experience

Graduate training:

- teaching chemistry and biochemistry courses to medical students in Hungarian and English since 1975
- offering classroom lectures in Hungarian since 1980
in English from 1989

Postgraduate training:

- Director of the sub-program "Neurochemistry" under the "Neuroscience" program Individual course within the above program (1994, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2008)

Textbook

- Editor and one of the authors of the Medical Biochemistry Textbook accepted by the country's medical schools
 - 1st edition, 1996, ed. Veronika Ádám, Semmelweis Publishers
 - 2nd edition, 2001, ed. ÁV, Medicina Publishers
 - 3rd edition, 2003, ed. ÁV, Medicina Publishers
 - the book received the "Medicina Award for Excellence" in 2003
 - 4th revised edition, 2017, ed. Veronika Ádám, Semmelweis Publishers
 - the book received the "Fine Hungarian Book" award in 2016

Published scientific papers:

- 150 papers, reviews, and book chapters in English

- Citation index: > 5000

Professional and public positions

Membership of scientific organizations:

- **Hungarian:**
 - Hungarian Biochemistry Society – member of the presidency 1990–2004
 - Hungarian Neuroscience Society
 - Hungarian Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology
 - Hungarian Physiological Society
- **International:**
 - European Society for Neurochemistry
 - member of the Presidency 1996-2001
 - Secretary-General 2001-2005
 - member of the Presidency 2005-2009
 - International Society for Neurochemistry-
 - member of the Presidency 2001-2005
 - International Brain Research Organization
 - American Society for Neuroscience
 - European Bioenergetics Conference Advisory Board 2010 -

Public activity in university life:

- Member of the University Council – 1994-2009
- Vice Rector for Scientific Affairs and Foreign Relations – 1996-1999, 2003-2006
- Vice Rector for Scientific Affairs – 2006-2009
- Member of the Habilitation Committee – 1993-2000
- President of the University Foreign Relations Committee – 1994-1995
- Medical School Scientific Committee member – 1991-1994
- Medical School Economic Committee member – 1991-1995, 2000-2003
- President of the Audit Committee for Training and Research – 1998-1999
- Co-chairperson of the University Scientific Committee – 2000-2003
- President of the Habilitation Committee – 2012-2018
- Member of the Rector's Advisory Board – 2013-2016

Organization of conferences:

- Basic neuroscience and neurochemistry. Austrian and Hungarian Joint Meeting, 1993
- Brain astrocyte, neuron and endothelium triangle. British Council-Hungarian Government Workshop, 1999
- Symposium at the International Congress of Pharmacology, Budapest, 1999
- Semmelweis Symposium, Budapest, 2001
- European Society for Neurochemistry Meeting, Program Committee elnöke, Perugia, 2002
- International Society for Neurochemistry Meeting, Program Committee tag, Innsbruck, 2005
- European Society for Neurochemistry Meeting, Program Committee member, Salamanca, 2007
- Symposium at the Brain Research Organization Congress, Melbourne, 2007
- International Conference on Brain Energy Metabolism, Budapest, 2010
- International Conference on Brain Energy Metabolism, Monterey, 2012, Program Committee member

Editorial board membership:

- Journal of Neurochemistry, 1996-2009
- Medical Science Monitor, 1996-2009
- Brain Research Bulletin from 2008
- Frontiers in Neuroenergetics, from 2010
- Frontiers in Neurotrauma, from 2010
- Translational Neuroscience, from 2010

- International Journal of Developmental Neuroscience, from 2009
- Neurochemistry International, from 2011

Recognitions:

- János Szentágothai Award (1998)
- László Batthyány–Strattmann Award (2000)
- Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary, Golden Cross (2000)
- "Medicina Award for Excellence" in recognition of the book "Medical Biochemistry (2003)
- Arnold Ipolyi Award – OTKA (2005)
- Genersich Award (2005)
- Széchenyi Award (2010)
- Honorary Citizen of Nagykanizsa (2018)
- Prima Primissima Award in the category of science (2019)