Recently the combat against HIV and AIDS has gained again public interest as demonstrated by a public announcement of Dr. Angela Merkel, German Chancellor. Dr. Merkel pointed out, that the fight against HIV and AIDS will have priority and her personal support.

With this issue about the role of receptors in the HIV-1 entry process Holzapfel Publishing House continues a series of thematic issues concerning with topics of immediate interest.

Experts in the field of clinical research and analytical chemistry have compiled a representative collection of important aspects of the HIV-1 receptors and their clinical and pharmacological consequences. All manuscripts are up to date with regard to the latest scientific developments in September 2007.

The identification of the specific chemokine receptors CXCR4 and CCR5 just over a decade ago opened a new chance for treatment of HIV-1 infection. At September 18th 2007 the first member of a new drug class named as CCR5-antagonists, has been approved by the EMEA and will become available in Germany in the middle of October, Maraviroc (Celsentri®). This is the first approval of an oral available drug in a new class since 1996!

We thank all authors for rapid and excellent work and wish you an informative trip through the world of HIV-1 receptors.

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