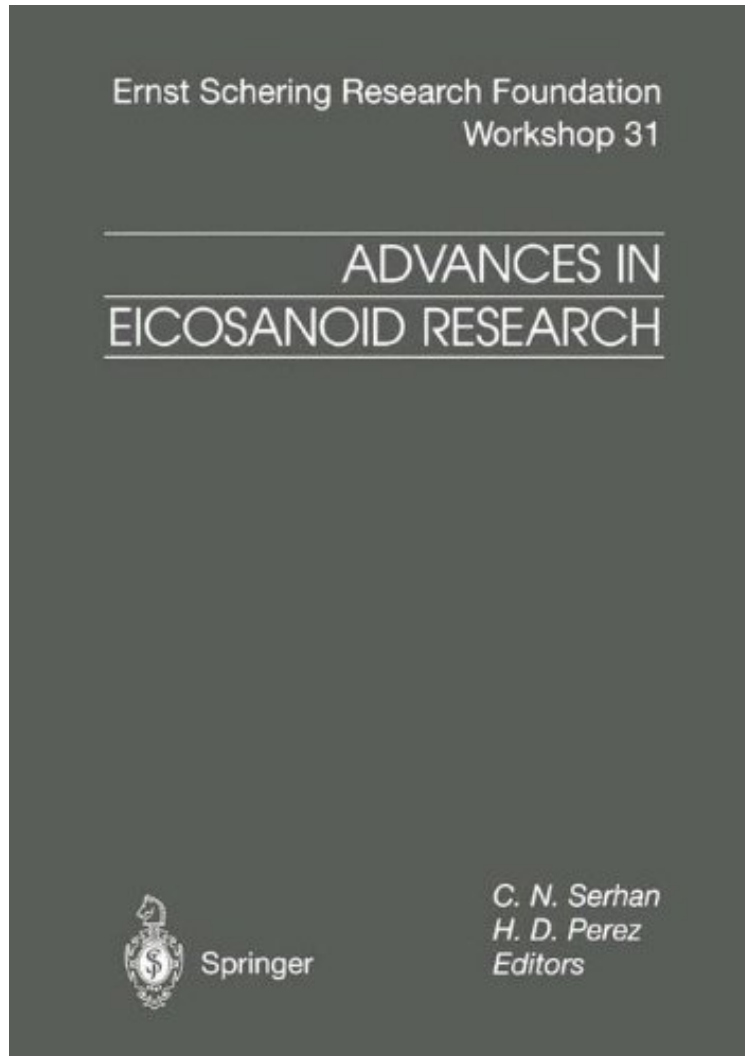


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# Ernst Schering Research Foundation Workshop 31: Advances in Eicosanoid Research

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Over the last few years, we have witnessed tremendous progress in the field of eicosanoids and their therapeutic applications. Receptor antagonists for leukotrienes have been tested as anti-inflammatories and are on the market as a

treatment for asthma. Receptor agonists for prostacyclin are being tested for the treatment of peripheral vascular disease, and selective inhibitors of cyclooxygenase type II were just approved for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. All these developments are the culmination of many years and man-hours of careful research. The field has now entered an upswing that will result in novel therapeutic applications within the next 10 years. New molecules and mediators have been identified, new enzymes and pathways elucidated and new therapeutic approaches have emerged. The concept of eicosanoids as "pro-inflammatory" molecules is being challenged, and their role as regulators is increasingly recognized. In fact, some of these molecules may be important endogenous anti-inflammatory agents.