

Dr Bernard Rees Smith, *FIRS Laboratories*

Bernard Rees Smith is the founder and Chairman of the RSR group of companies. He has a PhD and DSc from the University of Sheffield and over 400 peer reviewed articles in the scientific literature. His discovery in the early 1970s that the target autoantigen for the long-acting thyroid stimulator (LATS) is the TSH receptor was an important milestone in the history of thyroidology. This led to the development and commercialisation of the first competitive binding assays for the TSH receptor autoantibodies by RSR. He is actively involved in basic and applied research on the TSH receptor and TSH receptor autoantibodies including clinical trials of the drug K1-70™, RSR's human monoclonal autoantibody with powerful TSH receptor blocking activity. He has received numerous awards including the Harington De Visscher prize of the European Thyroid Association (in recognition of outstanding contributions to thyroid research) in 1984. Honorary membership of the Japan Endocrine Society in 1992. Lissitzky Career Award of the European Thyroid Association in recognition of life-long contribution to thyroid research in 1999. Special Awards from Queen Elizabeth II in 1987, 1991 and 1995 for the development and commercialisation of autoantibody assays.