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Michael (Mickey) Aviram is a full Professor at the Technion Faculty of Medicine, Rappaport Institute for Research in the Medical Sciences and Rambam Medical Center, in Haifa, Israel. He is the Head of the Lipid Research Laboratory, and served as the Chairman of the Department of Laboratory Medicine at Rambam hospital (2001-9). Professor Aviram was appointed on August 2008 as the Director of the Legacy Heritage Clinical Research Institute at Rambam. Aviram was born in Israel (December 7.1948). Prof. Aviram received a B.Sc. in Chemistry, and a M.Sc. and D.Sc. in Clinical Biochemistry from the Technion under the supervision of Avram Hershko, the 2004 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry. Prior to joining the Technion Faculty of Medicine, he completed a post-doctoral research at MIT, Cambridge ,MA. Over the years, he has also been a Visiting Professor at a wide variety of institutions around the world, including: University of Tromso, Norway ;University of Milano, Italy ;Columbia University, NY; University of Washington, Seattle, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and now at the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign. Aviram is a member of the Technion's Selected Senate and its Standing, Research, and Extended Studies Committees. Aviram teaches Biochemistry to medical students, and he is one of the few Technion permanent distinguished lecturers (more than 10 successive winning of the Technion's students distinguished lecturer award), and supervises the research of graduate students and physicians. Professor Aviram is one of the leading experts in cholesterol and lipoproteins and a key contributor to atherosclerosis and heart disease research. Prof. Aviram's research has won international recognition. In 1987 he received the USA Fogarty award. In 1994, he was awarded the France's Pasteur Institute Senior Investigator International Prize, for his research on lipoprotein oxidation and atherosclerosis, and in 1998, he received the Canadian Pfizer Lecturer award.

In 2007 Aviram was awarded the Hershel Rich Technion Innovation Award and in 2008 – the Miller UIUC award. As the author of more than 450 published original papers (12,700 citations), Prof. Aviram investigates the mechanisms responsible for LDL ("the bad cholesterol") and arterial cells oxidation as they relate to macrophage foam cell formation, atherosclerosis development, and its consequent cardiovascular diseases. An important branch of his research focuses on the protective role against oxidative stress and atherosclerosis development played by antioxidants and paraoxonases (PON). Dietary antioxidants studied by Aviram include the polyphenolic flavonoids found in red wine, licorice, olive oil and mainly, in pomegranate. In addition to antioxidants that act as a first line of defense against oxidative stress, HDL ("the good cholesterol") – associated paraoxonase 1 and cellular PON2 were shown by Aviram to act as a second line of defense against oxidative stress, as he demonstrated by elucidating PONs ability to break down specific oxidized lipids in the atherosclerotic lesion. The combined anti-atherogenic actions of antioxidants and paraoxonases is the focus of Aviram's current research.