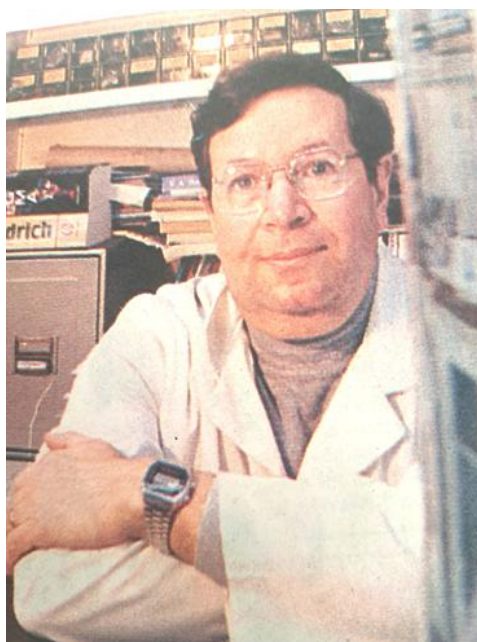




**Abdulla A-B. Badawy, 1941-2026**

Professor Abdulla Abu-Bakr Badawy passed away on June 23, 2026 at the age of 85 after a series of medical problems earlier in the year. Abdulla was born in Cairo and educated at the Ibrahim Secondary School (1955-57) and Cairo University (B.Pharm., 1957-61). He later moved to a Postdoctoral Fellowship at King's College London (1970-71), subsequently taking an appointment as Consultant Clinical Biochemist in the Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust in 1972, remaining there until his retirement in 2006. Abdulla was active in research and published over 200 papers. His early interests centred around the causes and treatment of alcoholism, and the biochemistry of tryptophan. In 1967 he was involved in the formation of the Medical Council on Alcoholism (MCA), a group affiliated with the Royal College of Physicians, becoming the Editor-in-Chief of their journal, 'Alcohol and Alcoholism' from 1994-2004. Abdulla's research led to the development of an alcohol-deterrent treatment based on the ability of tryptophan metabolites to inhibit alcohol dehydrogenase. He had shown that benserazide inhibited the tryptophan-metabolising enzyme kynureninase, and then established that kynurenine metabolites caused nausea and vomiting when consumed with ethanol and benserazide. These combinations were a substantial improvement on previous alcohol deterrents since they increased brain serotonin (5-HT) levels, generating positive feelings of well-being and success, rather than depression. This work was supported by the Wellcome Trust. In 1990, Abdulla was one of 13 European academics who formed the Plinius Major Society, a group dedicated to performing and promoting research into

alcoholism (named after Pliny the Elder's interest in alcohol). In his later years, Abdulla produced a series of detailed, highly-cited reviews and analyses of tryptophan metabolism along the kynurenine pathway and in 2012, for his contributions to tryptophan biology, he was awarded the prestigious Musajo Medal by the International Society for the Study of Tryptophan (ISTRY) and the University of Padua. Abdulla was appointed in 2000 to be the first Treasurer of ISTRY, a post he retained until 2016. On his retirement Abdulla was made Honorary Professor of Clinical Biochemistry at the Cardiff Metropolitan University of Wales. He retained formal links with colleagues at the University of Karachi, the University of Texas at Saint Antonio, and Wake Forest University in North Carolina. Abdulla will be remembered for his contributions to science, and also as a gentle man, always ready to help and advise those who needed it. He leaves his wife, Janet.

*Trevor Stone, Oxford.*