**Andrew R. Blight, Ph.D.**

**Biographical Sketch**

Andrew Blight received his Ph.D. from the University of Bristol in the UK and completed postdoctoral fellowships in the U.S. (at NYU) and Germany (Max Planck Institute). He subsequently held faculty positions at New York University Medical Center (1980-1987), Purdue University (1987-1992) and the University of North Carolina where he was Professor and Director of the Neurosurgery Research Laboratory from 1992-1998. He joined Acorda Therapeutics, Inc. in 1998 and was Chief Scientific Officer from 2004 to 2017. In academia, Dr. Blight specialized in research on the pathophysiology of spinal cord injury (SCI), particularly on the role of inflammation and demyelination. At Acorda, he extended his earlier academic studies on the clinical therapeutic application of 4-aminopyridine in SCI and multiple sclerosis (MS), including the two largest multicenter clinical trials in chronic SCI to date. These efforts culminated in an FDA approval for treatment of walking in MS in 2010. He has also been involved in management of a number of other preclinical and clinical research programs in SCI, MS and stroke. Dr. Blight was a charter member of the National Neurotrauma Society and previously served as Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President. He is a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Neurotrauma. He is a reviewer for a number of agencies engaged in SCI funding and is active in international efforts to improve clinical strategies for therapeutic development in SCI . He is co-chair of the Spinal Cord Outcomes Partnership Endeavor (SCOPE) a collaboration between academia, industry and non-profit and government funders of research in this area.