WINTER MEETING OF PROTEINS AND AUTOIMMUNITY

Satellite Meeting of the INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS on AUTOIMMUNITY

COURMAYEUR
Aosta Valley - Italy

January, the 29th - 30th - 31st 2009

www.lab-courmayeur.info
New aspects on standardization of tests for measuring/characterizing biological proteins and innovative approach for standardization of diagnostic assays for autoimmune diseases.

As a wide range of diagnostic kits is currently available on the market and results from several studies on autoimmunity diverge, standardization of diagnostic tests has become a must in the field of autoimmunity. By combining proteins and autoimmunity topics, experience gained so far in any of both these fields will foster the other one.

A joint session on both these topics will be also planned.

English will be the official language of the Meeting. A simultaneous interpreting service (English-Italian) will be available.

Abstracts and posters will be accepted.

300 participants are expected.
COMMITTEE

CONGRESS PRESIDENT

Yehuda Shoenfeld
Israel - Congress President

CONGRESS CO-CHAIRMEN

Pier Luigi Meroni
Italy

Joanna Sheldon
UK

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Israel - Chairman of Autoimmunity Meetings and EASI

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Italy - Chairman of IUIS Committee

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USA - Chief Editor of the Journal of Autoimmunity

E. Chan
USA - Secr. of IUIS Committee

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I. Zegers
Belgium - IRMM

J. Sheldon
UK - Member of WG/IFCC Proteins

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Switzerland

J. Bienvenu
France

T. Galeotti
Italy - Unesco Member

M. Mussap
Italy
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M. E. Gershwin - Davis (California, USA)
G.M. Ghiggeri - Genova (Italy)
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J.A. Goldmann - Atlanta (Georgia, USA)
A. Helander - Stockholm (Sweden)
M. Herrmann - Erlangen (Germany)
P. Youinou - Brest (France)
G. Mengozzi - Turin (Italy)
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F. Tagliaro - Verona (Italy)
F. Tedesco - Trieste (Italy)
A. Tincani - Brescia (Italy)
G. Valesini - Rome (Italy)
A. Vernocchi - Treviglio (Italy)
P. von Landerberg - Mainz (Germany)
I. Zegers - Geel (Belgium)
08.30 Opening Ceremony
Introduction to the Meeting and welcome addresses from local Authorities:
- Regional Councillor for Health and Social Care
- Director General of the Regional Health Authority of Aosta Valley
- Mayor of Courmayeur
- Chairpersons: J. Sheldon, P. L. Meroni

SESSION 1
International standardization of proteins
Chairpersons: T. Galeotti (Rome), J. Bienvenu (Lyon)

09.00 Do we need to be standardised?
J. Sheldon (U.K.)

09.25 Certified reference materials for serum proteins: tailored for their purpose
I. Zegers (Belgium)

09.50 External Quality Control Of Protein Assays-The Challenges
R. Beetham (U.K.)

10.15 Coffee break

SESSION 2
International standardization of CDT
Chairpersons: M. Plebani (Italy), A. Vernocchi (Italy)

10.30 International standardization of carbohydrate-deficient transferrin (CDT) measurement
A. Helander (Sweden)

11.00 Critical evaluation of the current analytical methods for cdt determination
F. Tagliaro, F. Bortolotti (Italy)
11.30  Ethyl glucuronide in Urine as a Short Time Marker of Alcohol Use - Preanalysis, Analysis, Interpretation.
       T. Arndt (Germany)

12.00  Discussion

13.00  Lunch

SESSION 3
Standardization concerns in infrequent analysis
Chairpersons: M. Mussap (Italy), J. Sheldon (U.K.)

14.00  Analytical and post-analytical problems of standardization in CSF analysis
       G. Bernardi, E. Ciusani (Italy)

14.30  Basic analysis of cerebrospinal fluid:
       What analysis should be included and why?
       A. Regeniter (Switzerland)

15.00  Cystatin C as a marker of GFR--history, indications, and future research
       G. Filler (Canada)

15.30  Discussion

16.00  Coffee break

ROUND TABLE
New approaches, recommendations and problems in the field of proteins
Chairpersons: J. Sheldon (U.K.), A. Dolci (Italy),

16.15  Oral communications: A. Dolci (Italy), A. Vernocchi (Italy), U. Basile (Italy), J. Bienvenu (France), M. Mussap (Italy), A. Regeniter (Switzerland)

18.15  End of the session
SESSION 1
Antinuclear antibodies
Chairpersons: K. Conrad (Germany), P.L. Meroni (Italy)

08.30 Inaccurate ANA results
J. Goldman (USA)

09.00 Anti-dsDNA: state of the art
M. Herrmann (Germany)

09.30 The so called anti-nucleosomes
O.P. Reckvig (Norway)

10.00 Selected oral communications:
- Anti-Ribosomal-P antibodies and CNS-SLE
  N. Among-Levin (Israel)
- Beta-2-glycoprotein-I (β2GPI), anti- β2GPI cross-talk: from protein to small molecules
  M. Blank (Israel)

10.30 Coffee break

SESSION 2
Anti-Extractable Nuclear Antigens
Chairpersons: E.K.L. Chan (USA), G. Valesini (Italy)

10.45 Autoantibodies to cytoplasmic antigens associated with RNA interference and induced stress
E.K.L. Chan (USA)

11.15 Myositis specific and associated antibodies
A. Doria (Italy)

11.45 Automated image acquisition, processing and analysis for the standardization of autoantibody screening
K. Conrad (Germany)

12.15 Selected oral communications:
- Automated testing of anticardiolipin antibodies
  B. Gilburd (Israel)
Potential usefulness of autoantibody level titration in the ANA screening approach

*G. Mengozzi (Italy)*

12.45 Lunch

**SESSION 3**

**Disease specific autoantibodies**

*Chairpersons Y. Shoenfeld (Israel), A. Sinico (Italy)*

14.00 ANCA: state of the art
   *A. Sinico (Italy)*

14.30 Autoantibodies in RA - RF, ACPA and beyond
   *G. Steiner (Austria)*

15.00 Anti-phospholipid antibodies in 2009
   *A. Tincani (Italy)*

15.30 Autoantibodies in celiac disease
   *N. Bizzaro (Italy)*

16.00 Coffee break

**SESSION 4**

**Autoantibodies and organ damage**

*Chairpersons: M.E. Gershwin (USA), P. Youinou (France)*

16.15 Primary Biliary Cirrhosis: the Role of the AMA to unmask nephritis in lupus
   *M.E. Gershwin (USA)*

16.45 Complement: do we need a standardization?
   *F. Tedesco (Italy)*

17.15 The autoantibodies predictive of nephritis in lupus
   *P. Youinou (France)*

17.45 Defining and Dissecting Autoantibodies in
Companion Animals
L.J. Gershwin (USA)

18.15 Selected oral communications:
• The incidence of AMA in the general population
  C. Selmi (Italy)

18.30 End of the session

JANUARY, THE 31ST 2009

COMMON SESSION
Chairpersons: Y. Shoenfeld (Israel), P.L. Meroni (Italy),

08.30 Autoimmunity in renal diseases:
  from proteomics to patients
  G. Ghiggeri (Italy)

09.00 Analyses of diverse autoimmune diseases
  via a multiplex technique
  Y. Shoenfeld (Israel)

09.30 Anti-thyroid autoantibodies: state of the art
  P. Beck Peccoz (Italy)

10.00 ANA standardization in Germany
  P. von Landerberg (Germany)

10.30 Standardization
  H. Schimmel (Belgium)

11.00 Coffee break

11.30 ROUND TABLE WITH THE FACULTY
From protein standardization to autoantibody
standardization. A common road?
Chairpersons: P.M. Meroni (Italy), J. Sheldon (UK)

12.30 Closing of the Meeting
General organization of the meeting

The Meeting will last three days, **29 - 30 - 31 January 2009** covering proteins and autoimmunity issues separately. A joint session will address problems common to both these fields.

**LOCATION**

Centro Congressi Courmayeur
(New Courmayeur Congress Centre),
Piazzale Monte Bianco - Courmayeur

**WORKING LANGUAGE**: English

**DATES**

January the 29th - 30th - 31st 2009

**SCHEDULING**

01/29/09 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
01/30/09 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
01/31/09 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**REGISTRATION FEES**

Until **15/01/09**:  
• € 250 for Sibioc and Simel Members only  
• € 300 for all the other

From **16/01/09** to **28/01/09**:  
• € 300 for Sibioc and Simel Members only  
• € 350 for all the other

**CME ACCREDITATION**

The Local Organizing Committee will provide to request CME credits corresponding to this event.
Courmayeur is easily linked to north-western Italy and is 218 km far from Milan. It is also linked to France (Lyon is about 250 km far away and you can drive there in a few hours) by the Mont Blanc Tunnel and to Switzerland (100 km far from Geneva).

The closest airports to Courmayeur are the following:

- MILANO/Malpensa ➞ 212 KM
- TORINO/Caselle ➞ 149 KM
- MILANO/Linate ➞ 237 KM
- GINEVRA/Cointrin ➞ 105 KM
Committees - Abstract - Scientific programme
General information - Registration
Hotel accommodation

www.lab-courmayeur.info

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dott.ssa Carla Stefania Riccardi
Direttore Generale
Azienda USL Valle d’Aosta

Dott.ssa Patrizia Forneris
Dirigente Biologo

Dott. Giuseppe Villani
Direttore SC O.S.R.U.

Dott. Giorgio Galli
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