

2009/2010 UPCOMING CONFERENCES

2-4 July, 2009 - Albufeira, Portugal

ESH Training Course
CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF DISORDERS OF IRON METABOLISM
Chairs: Ph. Beris, M. Cappellini, J. Porter, A. Taher

11-13 September, 2009 - Bordeaux, France

ESH - ICMF International Conference
CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA - Biological Basis of Therapy
Organizers: J.M. Goldman, J. Cortes, T. Hughes, T. Holyoake, D. Perrotti, J. Reiffers
Scientific Advisory Committee: A.M. Carella, G.Q. Daley, C. Gambacorti, F. Guilhot, R. Hehlmann, F.-X. Mahon, J.V. Melo, G. Saglio, C. Schiffer, P. Valent, R. Van Etten

22-25 October, 2009 - Mandelieu, France

ESH International Conference
MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROMES
Chairs: M. Cazzola, P. Fenaux, E. Hellström-Lindberg

April 2010

ESH-EBMT Training Course
BLOOD AND MARROW TRANSPLANTATION
Chairs: J. Apperley, E. Carreras, E. Gluckman, A. Gratwohl, T. Masszi

May 2010

ESH International Conference
ANGIOGENESIS
Chairs: K. Alitalo, J.P. Armand, Ch. Betsholtz, A. Bikfalvi, A. Eichmann, C. Rüegg, G. Tobelem

**23-26 September, 2010
Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington DC, USA**

ESH - ICMF International Conference
**CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA
Biological Basis of Therapy**
Chairs: J.M. Goldman, J. Cortes

30 September - 3 October, 2010 - Albufeira, Portugal

ESH International Conference
MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROMES
Chairs: T. Barbui, T. Green, H. Pahl, W. Vainchenken

14-18 October, 2010 - Cascais, Portugal

ESH International Conference
**CELL DEATH AND DISEASE: ADVANCES IN THERAPEUTIC
INTERVENTION AND DRUG DEVELOPMENT**
Chairs: T.J. McDonnell, J.A. Hickman, K.M. Debatin

28-30 October, 2010 - Tunis, Tunisia

ESH International Conference
**AN UPDATE ON HAEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES :
from Bench to Bedside**
Chairs: P. Fenaux, B. Meddeb, G. Salles

November, 2010 - Mandelieu, France

ESH-EUROCORD-ED Conference
BIOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL APPLICATIONS OF CORD BLOOD CELLS
Chairs: J. Garcia, E. Gluckman, J. Kurtzberg, E.J. Shpall



WORKSHOPS

SPRING

PAEDIATRIC HAEMATOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

Chairs: A. Baruchel, A. Biondi, I. Roberts, K. Welte

SPRING

INNOVATIVE THERAPIES FOR RED CELL AND IRON RELATED DISORDERS

Chairs: C. Camaschella, E. Gluckman, Ph. Lebourd, C. Beaumont, M. Narla, Y. Beuzard

SPRING

T-CELL ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA (T-ALL) MEETS NORMAL T-CELL DEVELOPMENT

Chairs: J.P. Meijerink, J. Cools, A. Ferrando, J. Soulier

TUTORIAL TYPE I

6-8 November, 2009 - Vienna, Austria

**HEMATOLOGY TUTORIAL DIAGNOSTIC WORK-UP OF HAEMATOLOGICAL
MALIGNANCIES: FOCUS ON CHRONIC MALIGNANCIES**
Chairs: G. Zini, B. Bain, R. Foà

5-7 November, 2010

**DIAGNOSTIC WORK UP OF HAEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES:
FOCUS ON ACUTE MALIGNANCIES**
Chairs: B. Bain, W. Erber, G. Zini



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Cascais

MECHANISMS OF CELL DEATH AND DISEASE: Advances in Therapeutic Intervention and Drug Development

Chairs: **T.J. McDonnell, J.A. Hickman, K-M. Debatin**

Local Organizer: **A.C. Rego**

Cascais, Portugal / 30 October-4 November, 2008



Unlike any other cell death conference, the scope of this ESH conference on cell death and disease has, since its inception in the year 2000, focused on facilitating a multidisciplinary approach to expedite the development of clinical applications of cell death research. This strategy involves designing programs of interest to basic scientists, clinicians, and commercial pharmaceutical and biotechnology investigators.

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The program consisted of 34 speakers and there were 120 participants at the conference, many of who presented their research in poster format. These 120 participants represented 19 countries attesting to the global interest in a meeting of this scope and focus and the decidedly international composition of the conference.

The conference opened at the Quinta da Marinha Resort in Cascais, Portugal on the evening of October 30 with a brief tribute and remembrance of Professors Stan Korsmeyer and David Mason for their pioneering contributions to the field of cell death research. The keynote address was given by Suzanne Cory from the Walter and Elisa Hall Institute of Medical Research (Melbourne) who presented a broad overview of cell death signaling with a focus on the bcl-2 family member proteins. Dr. Cory presented insights regarding structure-function relationships between various bcl-2 family members. Based on this information she introduced the concept of BH3-mimetics as a strategy for selectively disrupting interactions between Bcl-2 family members to achieve therapeutic effect. This keynote address was outstanding and clearly introduced the field of cell death research, provided a context for the themes of the conference, and described strategies for therapy development based on targeting cell death regulatory proteins.

A major theme of the conference was bcl-2 and the bcl-family of cell death regulators. A historical perspective on

this family of proteins was provided by a luminary group of speakers who were among those originally establishing the significance of this family of proteins and who remain active contributors in this area of investigation. The topic was divided into several sessions including Bcl-2 family members past and present challenges, endoplasmic reticulum and mitochondrial roles of the bcl-2 family, and non-death roles for bcl-2. There was a session dedicated to the topic of metabolism and autophagic cell death and sessions dedicated to structure-function relationships in drug discovery and clinical studies involving the therapeutic modulation of core cell death regulatory pathways. The latter sessions were greatly facilitated by the participation of investigators from Genentech, Servier, Novartis, Abbott, and AstraZeneca and included presentations of investigational agents currently being evaluated in clinical trials.

Additionally, three short communication sessions provided eight young investigators in the field of cell death research an opportunity to present their research from the podium. Three talks were selected from the submitted abstracts by the conference chairs that were considered meritorious and provided award recognition. Finally, two poster sessions were featured at the meeting with ample dedicated time for viewing and interaction with the presenters.

A total of 47 posters were presented from meeting abstracts.

In summary, by all criteria including attendance, quality of the presentations, scientific discussions, and feedback of the participants the conference was an enormous success. This year marks an important milestone in the history of this conference in that presentations and discussions included those focused on recent clinical trials involving agents that selectively target cell death. Planning is underway for an 8th conference to be held in October, 2010.

HAEMATOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

Chairs: **A. Newland, D. Provan, J. Semple, R. Stasi**
Mandelieu, France / 13-15 February, 2009

This was the first time an ESH meeting has covered Autoimmune Haematology. It was decided that within the 2.5 days, not every known autoimmune haematological disease could be covered in detail, but instead a substantial time would be devoted to the basic immunology and the immunopathology of a selected number of topics.

The first session was chaired by John Semple (Toronto, Canada) and this covered the *basics of immunology, role of B cells and T cells in the autoimmune process*. Recently published data was presented by all the speakers, covering pre-clinical work and human data (John Semple, Canada; Don Segal, Baltimore; Hans Wadenvik, Sweden).

The second session of the first day was more diverse with a talk on the *epidemiology of autoimmune disease* (Ameet Sarpatwari, London). The second speaker covered the *pathogenesis and management of autoimmune complications of lymphoid malignancies* (Steve Devereux, London). There was also an update on *thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura* (Marie Scully, London) and finally the *investigation and management of autoimmune neutropenia* (Paul Moss, Birmingham).

Day 2 covered all aspects of *ITP clinical management* (Drew Provan, London), *terminology consensus* (Marco Ruggeri, Italy), *advances in therapy* (Drew Provan) and *ITP trigger factors* (Roberto Stasi, Italy).

The afternoon of day 2 was for free communications and a few abstracts were submitted, covering *Rituximab use in Evans' syndrome, indium scanning before splenectomy in ITP, murine models of ITP, polymorphisms within the SEPS1 gene and thyroiditis, low dose in ITP*.

The final morning had talks on *Autoimmune haemolytic anaemia* (Stan Urbaniak, Scotland), *Overview of Evans' syndrome* (Marc Michel, France), *Pure red cell aplasia* (Nicole Casadevall, France) and *Q&A session* hosted by the 3 chairs where the audience could ask any question they wished.



Dr Drew Provan

Consultant Haematologist at Barts
& The London School of Medicine

Overall

The venue was first class and the facilities for the meeting were excellent. Catering and general hotel facilities were also of very high quality. The conference ran very smoothly thanks to the excellent preparation made by ESH ahead of the meeting. There were no technical glitches and even the webcasting proceeded very smoothly.

Areas to improve

All this first ESH conference on the topic attracted an international audience of over 180 participants, more abstracts are required for the free communications session. For the next meeting, more effort must be made here so that the best abstracts can be chosen for presentation or posters. It may be useful to have more free Q&A sessions and less didactic lectures since the audience appeared to enjoy the unstructured sessions. Some useful collaborations came out of the last morning's Q&A and this could be even better if we ensure there is more Q&A time.

The conference webcast is freely available on line (www.esh.org) thanks to an unrestricted educational grant from Amgen. There was also book with abstracts, biographies and slides available on site. Nevertheless, it would be very useful to have all the PowerPoint presentations on CD ROM or flash disk. We shall ask if the speakers are agreeable to this for the next meeting.

Next time, other aspects of autoimmune haematology will be covered such as the acquired bleeding disorders (acquired haemophilia and others).

LEUKEMIC AND CANCER STEM CELLS: common and distinct features

Chairs: **D. Bonnet, C. Chomienne, D. Louvard, P. Valent**
Mandelieu, France / 3-5 April, 2009

120 scientists of 26 countries

gathered under the new spring sun of South of France in the modern setting of the Royal Casino Hotel and the homely organization of the ESH Office for two whole days from the 3rd to the 5th April this year. The idea was to bring together scientists, clinicians, post-docs and students who either were already working in the cancer stem cell field and needed to share their experience and query with their fellow-colleagues, or newcomers to the field who wanted to launch projects and needed counselling. Indeed, the cancer stem cell field has recently been embedded in a rapidly moving whirlwind or tornado and researchers and clinicians are aware of the risk to be rapidly swept away in the magical Land of Oz of cumbersome and costly experiments which may be wrongly designed.

The program was designed by the organizing committee (Christine Chomienne (F), Dominique Bonnet (UK), Peter Valent (A) and Daniel Louvard (F) to describe the recent advances in the malignant stem cell of hematopoietic diseases with a goal to share knowledge and queries with fellow researchers involved in the cancer stem cell field of solid tumors. Speakers and chairmen of the invited faculty belonged to the elite researchers of the field and had accepted to openly share their experience in the field of cancer stem cell research. Genetic and molecular markers and pathways linked to stemcellness and oncogenesis were presented by Dan Tenen (US), Steve Baylin (US), Fey Rassool (US), Emmanuelle Passegue (US), Keith Humphries (CA), Kolja Eppert (CA), Hiromitsu Nakauchi (J), Gerald De Haan (NL), and M Terwijn (NL). Since the identification of leukemic initiating stem cells in AML, results indicating to the presence of malignant stem cells in CML were presented by Tessa Holyoake (UK), Rick van Etten (US), Jan Jacobs Schuringa (NL); presence of initiating stem cells in CLL by Medhat Shehata (A), in Hodgkin disease

and myeloma by Richard Jones (US), in preB ALL by Tariq Enver (UK), Maïke Schmitz (CH), in MDS and preleukemias by Stein Eirik Jacobsen (UK), Rose Ann Padua (F) and Seth Corey (US), while Monica Casucci highlighted the potential reservoir of LSC in dendritic cells (I).

Dominique Bonnet (UK) and Peter Valent (A) presented respectively the utility and pitfalls of xenotransplantation and a critical review of methodologies. This set layed the setting of the most interactive part of the workshop where the attendees separated in three different workgroups to address major experimental questions in cancer stem cell research:

- 1** Cell culture and flow cytometry;
- 2** Animal models and xenotransplantation;
- 3** Cell banking and amplification.

The workgroups were chaired by members of the Paris-Île-France Cancer Stem Cell Network (Sylvie Robine, Hervé Chneiweiss, Thierry Jaffredo, Françoise Pfumio) and European colleagues (Gerald De Haan, Jan Jacobs Schuringa and Dominique Bonnet). The summary of the workgroups were presented in a plenary session and conclude in all groups the need to have rapid access to shared information, samples, mice colonies, markers, and procedures....

The workshop closed on Sunday afternoon with still many questions unanswered but the reassuring existence of a solid group of fellow colleagues with the goal to set up an interactive network and the wish to convene in two years time.



WEBCAST

Excerpts of the following meeting are now freely available online

25 - 28 May, 2009

Chairs: **J. Apperley, E. Carreras, E. Gluckman, A. Gratwohl, T. Masszi**
Latimer, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, UK

The 13th ESH-EBMT training course on Blood and Marrow Transplantation

NEW EUROPEAN COMMISSION PROJECT



Last year 2008, the Education, Audio-visual and Culture Executive Agency Lifelong Learning Program funded the Chair on Transfusion, Cell and Tissue Therapy ⁽¹⁾ in order to develop a European master program in Trasfusional Medicine (TRANSMED).

Doctor Robert Foundation and Blood and Tissue Bank of Catalonia, both coordinate this initiative including the participation of the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain), Université de Liège (Belgium), the Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum (The Netherlands), the Universitätsklinikum Düsseldorf (Alemania), and other European institutions and blood banks such as the European School of Haematology (France), the Foundation Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico-Mangiagalli e Regina Elena (Italy) and the José Carreras Stammzellbank (Germany).

These institutions work together by topic areas, key issues in a master program design such as its structure and curricular development, quality guidelines, dissemination plan and administrative and institutional agreements.

This project is nowadays being developed with a deadline foreseen for October 2010.

For further details about the project, please contact:

dafne.farre@uab.cat

(1) Chair on Transfusion, Cell and Tissue Therapy created by Blood and Tissue Bank of Catalonia, Autonomous University of Barcelona and Doctor Robert Foundation.

ESH aims to be a valuable resource for lifelong learning for as many people as possible.

In 2008, the decision was made to webcast certain ESH events and to make them freely available on the website. We share with you here, the website statistics corresponding to the activity generated by each of the following 3 webcasted ESH events during the period of one month.

Webcast visits from March 1st to 31st, 2009



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA

Organizers:

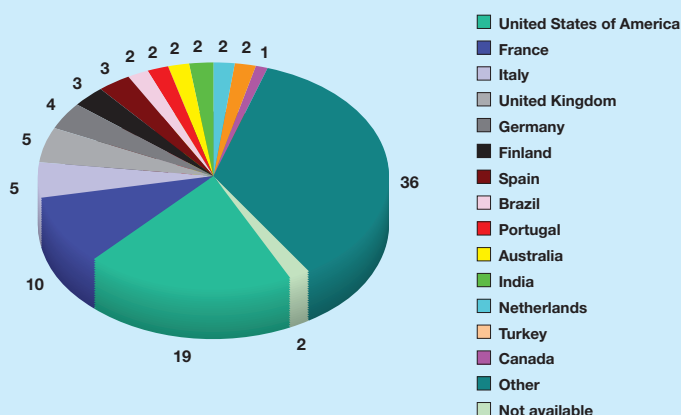
J.M. Goldman and J. Cortes

Co-Organizers:

**A.M. Carella, G.Q. Daley, C. Gambacorti, F. Guilhot,
R. Hehlmann, T. Holyoake, M. Horowitz, T. Hughes, J.V. Melo,
G. Saglio, C. Schiffer, P. Valent, R. Van Etten**

Boston, USA / September 2008

Tenth International Conference on Chronic Myeloid Leukemia
% Percentage of visitors by country



WEBCAST ACTIVITY

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA

MARCH 2009

- Number of webcast website visits 312
- Number of slides viewed6042
(includes repeated visits, does not include podcast slides)
- Avg. time spent per presentation..... 10 min
(does not include podcast time)
- Podcasts downloaded 83

The ESH website welcomes over 35 000 unique visitors and

AS IF YOU HAD ATTENDED THE EVENT

Webcast visits from May 1st to 31st, 2009



CORD BLOOD BIOLOGY AND CLINICAL APPLICATIONS

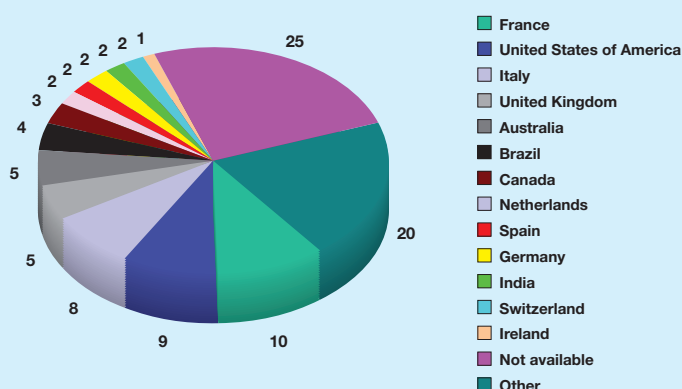
Chairs:

J. Garcia, E. Gluckman, J. Kurtzberg, E.J. Shpall

Mandelieu, France / October 2008

International Conference on Biology and Clinical Applications
of Cord Blood Cells

% Percentage of visitors by country



WEBCAST ACTIVITY

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BIOLOGY AND CLINICAL APPLICATIONS OF CORD BLOOD CELLS

MAY 2009

- Number of webcast website visits 554
- Number of slides viewed 16347
(includes repeated visits, does not include podcast slides)
- Avg. time spent per presentation 18 min
(does not include podcast time)
- Podcasts downloaded 70

Webcast visits from May 1st to 31st, 2009



HAEMATOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

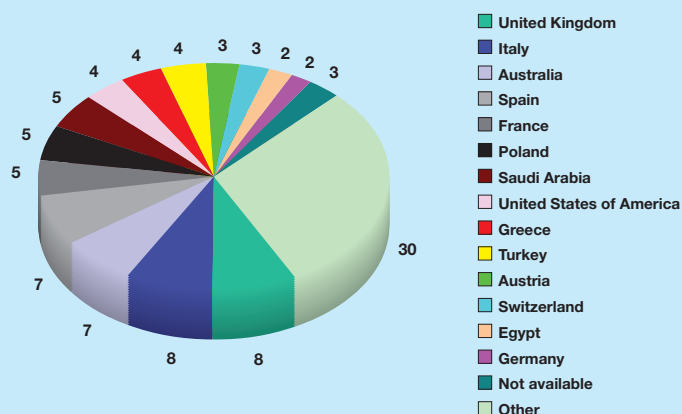
Chairs:

A. Newland, D. Provan, J. Semple, R. Stasi

Mandelieu, France / 13-15 February 2009

Haematological Aspects of Autoimmune Diseases

% Percentage of visitors by country



WEBCAST ACTIVITY

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HAEMATOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

MAY 2009

- Number of webcast website visits 304
- Number of slides viewed 5785
(includes repeated visits, does not include podcast slides)
- Avg. time spent per presentation 17 min
(does not include podcast time)
- Podcasts downloaded 26

over 1,5 million page visits in 2008 - www.esh.org



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