Current Topics in Histocompatibility & Transplantation

A Unique Continuing Education Opportunity

2009 Teleconference Series

Sponsored by

Sandra Rosen-Bronson, Ph.D., D.(ABHI)

Georgetown University

Washington, DC

An ABHI Approved Continuing Education Program

Current Topics in Histocompatibility and Transplantation for Technologists

This series of twenty interactive lectures, moderated by Dr. Sandra Rosen-Bronson, will reach hundreds of individuals through real-time, ninety minute in-depth audio conferences involving organizations and people from around the world. Without ever leaving your laboratory or office, you can listen to expert scientists and key decision makers thousands of miles away. You can ask questions and get immediate answers as well as listen to other participants' questions. This convenient and cost-effective educational tool will allow you to keep current in the field of histocompatibility testing and transplantation. Each participant will earn ABHI Continuing Education Credit (CEC) equal to 1.5 contact hours or 0.225 CEC per lecture.

Frequently Asked Questions

How Does a Teleconference Work? Three to five days before each lecture, a teleconference packet is mailed to your site coordinator containing the lecture slides as a PowerPoint Show on CD-ROM, handouts, and detailed conference instructions. At the scheduled time on the day of the lecture, your site must call the telephone number provided in the lecture packet. U.S. participants receive a toll-free telephone number. International participants may incur additional telephone charges. Once all conference sites have been connected, participants view the slide show as they listen to the lecturer. You will have an opportunity to participate in a question and answer session at a midpoint and at the completion of the lecture. All teleconferences are scheduled to start at 1:00 P.M. (Eastern Time) and last approximately ninety minutes.

What If the CD Doesn't Work Properly? If the CD you receive does not function properly, it will be replaced at no charge. As soon as you receive your conference packet, please verify that the CD contains the correct Power-Point Show file and that it functions correctly in your computer system. If you experience any difficulty with the CD or have a problem opening the files, contact us immediately.

What If We Haven't Received the Packet ? If you do not receive your conference packet, please contact us no later than one day prior to the conference so that there is time for us to re-ship materials if necessary.

What Equipment Do We Need On Site? You will need an LCD projector or computer with a monitor and a speakerphone.

How Do We Register? Complete the registration form. Fax the form to: (202) 944-2343. Send the original registration form with complete credit card information or a check made payable to Georgetown University to:

U.S. Mail:
Sandra Rosen-Bronson
Box 571438
Georgetown University
3900 Reservoir Road NW
Washington DC 20057-1438

Overnight Courier:
Sandra Rosen-Bronson
Preclinical Science Bldg, Room LE8H
Georgetown University
3900 Reservoir Road NW
Washington DC 20007

In order to assure your registration, it is important to write our **complete and exact address as listed above**.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations which occur 21 days or more prior to the date of the first lecture for which your site has registered are fully refundable less a nonrefundable deposit of $50. For cancellations which occur from 21 to 14 days prior, 50% of the lecture series fee will be forfeited. No refunds are possible after 14 days prior to the starting date. All cancellation requests **must be submitted in writing.**

Further Questions: If you have questions about the registration process or need a registration form, please contact Andre Thalberg at:

Tel: (202) 784-5518 or (202) 687-8924
Fax: (202) 944-2343
Email: andre.thalberg@georgetown.edu
www.ctht.info

2009
Teleconference Schedule

All dates are Tuesdays and all lectures begin at 1:00 P.M. (Eastern Time)

April 7, 2009
Organ Allocation: Equity Vs. Utility
Patricia Campbell, M.D., University of Alberta Hospitals, Edmonton, AB, Canada
Carol Pancoska, Ph.D., Verona, NJ
and
Michael Cecka, Ph.D., University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

As the shortage of donor organs continues to increase, the debate continues as to how to best allocate this precious resource. This conference will weigh the pros and cons of allocation based on equity versus utility.

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April 28, 2009
B cell Responses following Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant
David Miklos, M.D., Ph.D., Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA

It is well known that donor specific antibody can impact the clinical outcome of an organ transplant. However, much less is known about the specificity and impact of DSA in hematopoietic stem cell transplant. This lecture will discuss the role of antibody responses in the development of chronic graft versus host disease.

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May 5, 2009
High Sensitivity Chimerism Detection by Real-Time Quantitative PCR
Katherine Lazaruk, Ph.D., Celera, Alameda, CA

Chimerism detection is widely used for post-transplant monitoring after bone marrow transplantation. This lecture will describe an alternative to STR-PCR-based assays for chimerism detection that uses real-time quantitative PCR (RQ-PCR).

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May 12, 2009
Core Concepts in the Prevention, Assessment and Management of GVHD
Stella Davies, M.D., Ph.D., Cincinnati Children's Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH

Graft versus host disease (GVHD) remains one of the greatest barriers to successful hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. This basic lecture will provide an overview of what GVHD is and how the transplant physician combats it.

June 16, 2009
The XM-One®Crossmatch
Annette Jackson, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University Immunogenetics Laboratory, Baltimore, MD

Participants will learn about a new and novel flow cytometry-based crossmatch test kit designed to detect the presence of recipient IgM and IgG antibodies to donor endothelium.

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June 23, 2009
Pair Kidney Donation
Michael Rees, M.D., Ph.D., University of Toledo Medical Center, Toledo, OH

This lecture will discuss what kidney paired donation is all about. Participants will learn how this system matches one incompatible donor/recipient pair to another pair with a complementary incompatibility, so that the donor of the first pair gives to the recipient of the second, and vice versa.

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June 30, 2009
Population Genetics for Dummies: How to get the Most out of Allele and Haplotype Frequency Tables
Marcelo Fernandez-Vina, Ph.D., University of Texas, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

This conference will use a case study approach to teach participants how to interpret and utilize allele and haplotype frequency data to aid in the donor search process for patients in need of a hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

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August 4, 2009
T Cells and Innate Immunity
Robert Fairchild, Ph.D., Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH

The immune response is composed of innate and adaptive components. The innate response occurs earlier during a response to infection or injury, whereas the adaptive response occurs later during an immune response. This lecture will discuss the role of T cells in innate immunity.

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August 11, 2009
Comparing and Correlating Quantitative Values for Solid Phase Assays
Hal Gibson, B.S., C.H.T, One Lambda, Inc., Canoga Park, CA
and
Paul Brailey, B.S., Hoxworth Blood Center, Cincinnati, OH

Many laboratories use multiple solid phase assays for identification of donor specific HLA antibodies and most struggle with how to best interpret and report data generated in different assays. This conference will discuss a comparative study of MFI SFI, MESF, and channel shifts.

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August 18, 2009
DSA™ : Solid Phase Donor-Specific Antibody Detection and its Utility in a Paired Donor Exchange Program
Annette Blair, M.T., C.H.S., Medical College of Ohio, Toledo, OH
and
Patrick Adams M.S., C.H.S, Tepnel Lifecodes, Stamford, CT

Participants will learn about one laboratory's experience with Tepnel Lifecodes' solid phase Luminex-based donor specific antibody detection assay that makes it possible to screen patients for the presence of antibodies directed against the HLA antigens of a specific donor.

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August 25, 2009
Effects of Anti-Donor Antibodies on Organ Transplant Outcome
Milagros Samaniego, M.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Participants will learn about the impact of pre-transplant donor-specific HLA antibodies on the short-term and long-term outcome of kidney transplantation.

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September 1, 2009
Standardization of Antibody Identification: The Canadian Experience
Patricia Campbell, M.D., University of Alberta Hospitals, Edmonton, AB
Kathryn Tinckam, M.D., University Health Network, Toronto Medical Laboratories, HLA Laboratory, Toronto, ON
and
Peter Nickerson, M.D., Canadian Blood Services, Immunogenetics Laboratory, Winnipeg, MB

National allocation of kidneys for sensitized patients depends on defining HLA antibodies accurately and precisely. This conference will discuss the findings of a multi-laboratory workshop aimed at evaluating a standardized approach to antibody identification and quantification.

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September 15, 2009
The Role of MICA Organ Transplant Outcome
Medhat Askar, M.D., Ph.D., Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH

Major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class I chain related molecule A (MICA) is a surface glycoprotein expressed on endothelial cells, dendritic cells, fibroblasts, epithelial cells, and activated monocytes, but not on peripheral-blood lymphocytes. Participants in this conference will learn about the immunogenetics of MICA genes and antibodies as well as their clinical relevance in transplantation.

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September 22, 2009
The Aging Stem Cell and its Niche: Implications for Stem Cell Function
James DeGregori, Ph.D., University of Colorado, Denver, CO

This lecture will discuss research aimed at understanding the conditions that foster the initiation of leukemias and lymphomas. Participants will learn how reduced progenitor cellular fitness resulting from carcinogen exposure, inadequate diet or aging may select for adaptive oncogenic events and thereby promote the expansion and fixation of oncogenically initiated cells.

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September 29, 2009
Mechanisms of Altered Lymphocyte Function in Type I Diabetes
Jane Buckner, M.D., Benaroya Research Institute, Seattle, WA

Participants will learn about studies aimed at identifying the underlying mechanisms by which regulation of the adaptive immune response fails or is overcome in the setting of human autoimmunity.

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October 6, 2009
HLA Typing Beyond Basics: Impact of Sample Source, Sample Integrity and Typing Method Limitations
Neng Yu, M.D., American Red Cross New England Region, Dedham, MA

Laboratories performing molecular typing for hematopoietic stem cell transplant programs often face unique challenges in obtaining sufficient and appropriate DNA samples for HLA typing. Participants will hear about case studies that demonstrate pitfalls and potential solutions for accurately HLA typing patients with hematopoietic malignancies.

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October 13, 2009
Antibody Conundrums
Robert Bray, Ph.D. and Howard Gebel, Ph.D., Emory University, Atlanta, GA

As histocompatibility laboratories have improved and expanded their ability to precisely define antibody specificities, the list of questions about what specificities to report and how to report them has grown as well. This conference will discuss these antibody conundrums and how they may best be addressed.

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October 27, 2009
Biomarkers in Transplantation
Allan Kirk, M.D., Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Participants will learn about a new kidney biomarker immunoassay developed by Invitrogen. This luminex-based assay detects IP-10 and MIG, two biomarkers shown to be two potential early indicators of kidney injury.

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December 1, 2009
Genomic Profile of Operational Tolerance
Minnie Sarwal, M.D., Ph.D., Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA

Participants will learn how cDNA microarray analysis has been used to define genes associated with acute rejection, chronic rejection and drug nephrotoxicity. They will learn how this information may allow for clearer differentiation between causes of transplant dysfunction and facilitate individualization of immunotherapy for transplant patients.

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December 8, 2009
Transplant Tourism
Francis Delmonico, M.D., Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

Participants will learn about the growing worldwide problem of transplant tourism. This term refers to the purchase of a transplant organ abroad that includes access to an organ while bypassing laws, rules, or processes of any or all countries involved. Transplant tourism remains a refuge for wealthy recipients; however, it is predicated on the exploitation of the desperation of donors, recipients and their families.

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