Current Topics in Histocompatibility & Transplantation

A Unique Continuing Education Opportunity

2010 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. Additionally, 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. The packet will contain the lecture slides as a PowerPoint file, handouts as a PDF file, and detailed conference instructions all on a CD-ROM. 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 file and that it functions properly 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 ensure 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 any questions, please visit our website at www.ctht.info or contact us at:

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

2010
Teleconference Schedule

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

April 6, 2010
The Future of Genomics in Transplantation
Philip Halloran, M.D., Ph.D.
Alberta Transplant Applied Genomics Center, University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB, Canada

This conference will discuss current studies addressing the regulation of gene expression in transplant organs undergoing rejection and the effect of tissue injury in transplant organs. Participants will also learn about the diagnostic applications of microarrays in organ transplantation.

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April 13, 2010
The Biology of a Plasma Cell
Marilia Cascalho, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Michigan Department of Surgery
Ann Arbor, MI

The clinical significance of antibody-mediated rejection has become increasingly clear in recent years. Participants in this conference will learn about plasma cells, the main antibody producers of the immune system.

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April 27, 2010
An Overview of Cytokines
Carolyn Hurley, Ph.D.
Georgetown University and the C.W. Bill Young Marrow Donor Program
Washington, DC

Participants in this conference will learn about the general features of cytokines and their receptors. The speaker will also discuss the role of cytokines in disease and treatment.

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May 4, 2010
HIV-1 Evolution in Response to Immune Selection Pressure by CTL: Implications for Vaccine Design
Zabrina Brumme, Ph.D.
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, BC, Canada

Participants will learn about how viruses adapt to immune selection pressure by HLA class I-restricted cytotoxic lymphocyte responses. The speaker will discuss how understanding this process impacts vaccine development.

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May 11, 2010
Transplant Rejection: It is More Than the Immune System
Linda Ohler, M.S.N., R.N.
Georgetown University Hospital Transplant Institute
Washington, DC

This basic presentation will describe how the immune system functions and its impact on solid organ transplants. Participants will learn the challenges faced by clinicians and patients in balancing the immune system between infection and rejection.

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May 18, 2010
Concepts in the Prevention and Treatment of Acute Cellular Rejection
Christopher Ensor, Pharm.D., B.C.P.S.
Cardiothoracic Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support
Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD

Immunosuppression after solid organ transplantation is complex and must often be tailored to meet the individual patient's characteristics and to balance the risks and benefits of these medications. This lecture will provide an overview of current pharmacologic approaches to preventing and managing transplant rejection.

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June 8, 2010
Cord Blood Transplantation
Mary Laughlin, M.D.
Case Western Reserve University, Allogeneic Bone Marrow Transplant Program
Cleveland, OH

Umbilical cord blood is increasingly used as a source of hematopoietic stem cells for transplantation. This conference will provide participants with an update on current cord blood transplant practices and outcomes.

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June 15, 2010
Criteria for Hematopoietic Stem Cell Donor Selection:
Choosing the Best From Among Multiple Mismatched Donors
Marcelo Fernández-Viña, Ph.D.
University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, TX

Many patients in need of a hematopoietic stem cell transplant have no fully HLA matched donor available. In this conference participants will learn about factors and issues to consider when choosing between multiple mismatched donors.

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June 22, 2010
Paired Kidney Exchanges: Variations on a Theme
J. Keith Melancon, M.D.
Georgetown University Hospital Transplant Institute
Washington, DC

Paired kidney exchange (PKE) programs assist donor/recipient pairs who are incompatible or poorly matched with each other to find another donor/recipient pair(s) with whom they can exchange kidneys to enable a more favorable compatibility. Participants in this conference will learn about the growing number of different PKE strategies being adopted by transplant centers across the U.S.

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July 20, 2010
Novel Approaches to Managing DSA
Hal Gibson, B.S., C.H.T.
One Lambda, Inc.
Canoga Park, CA

This conference will review current desensitization protocols. The participants will also learn about laboratory tools for evaluating the effectiveness of desensitization protocols and for monitoring donor specific antibody post-transplant.

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July 27, 2010
Islet Cell Transplant
J. Keith Melancon, M.D.
Georgetown University Hospital Transplant Institute
Washington, DC

Allogeneic islet transplantation is a potential cure for patients with severe type 1 diabetes and autologous islet transplantation is often an option for patients with severe chronic pancreatitis. Participants in this basic conference will learn about current islet cell transplantation practices and outcomes.

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August 10, 2010
Update on UNOS/OPTN Policies and Initiatives
Michael Cecka, Ph.D.
University of California Los Angeles, Immunogenetics Center
Los Angeles, CA

This conference will provide participants with an update on current UNOS/OPTN policies, as well as ongoing and proposed initiatives. Discussion topics will include cPRA and kidney allocation.

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August 31, 2010
Troubleshooting Interference in Solid Phase Antibody Assays
Annette Jackson, Ph.D.
Johns Hopkins University Immunogenetics Laboratory
Baltimore, MD

Using instructive case studies, the lecture will discuss approaches to identifying and resolving interfering factors in solid phase antibody assays.

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September 14, 2010
Emerging Infectious Diseases and the Transplant Patient
Robin Avery, M.D.
Cleveland Clinic, Department of Infectious Disease and the Transplantation Center
Cleveland, OH

The ongoing emergence of new viruses like H1N1 presents new challenges to physicians caring for immune compromised transplant patients. This lecture will provide an overview of pathogens most critical in transplant patients and will discuss current approaches for detection and treatment.

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September 21, 2010
The Clinical Significance of Antibody Isotype and Subtype in Transplantation
Alin Girnita, M.D.
Transplant Immunology, Hoxworth Blood Center, University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH

Classical complement activation is a key step in the process of antibody-mediated rejection. This conference will discuss the clinical relevance of alloantibodies with different isotypes and subtypes.

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October 5, 2010
Pharmacotherapy for the Prevention and Treatment of Antibody-Mediated Rejection in the Highly Sensitized Candidate
Christopher Ensor, Pharm.D., B.C.P.S.
Cardiothoracic Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support
Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD

Participants will learn about current pharmacologic tools for desensitizing patients with donor-specific HLA antibody and for preventing and treating antibody-mediated rejection.

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October 19, 2010
Transfusion Related Acute Lung Injury (TRALI)
Karen Nelson, Ph.D.
Puget Sound Blood Center, Immunogenetics Laboratory
Seattle, WA

Transfusion related acute lung injury (TRALI) is a serious complication of blood transfusion characterized by the acute onset of pulmonary edema. In this conference participants will learn about this immune-mediated syndrome thought to be caused by HLA or neutrophil-specific antibodies in the plasma of the blood donor.

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November 23, 2010
Understanding Haplotype Frequency Tables and How to Use Them to Facilitate a Donor Search
Sandra Rosen-Bronson, Ph.D., Georgetown University Hospital Histocompatibility Laboratory
Washington, DC
and
Speaker TBD, The National Marrow Donor Program, Minneapolis, MN

Participants will learn how haplotype frequency data available from the NMDP databases were extracted to generate population-based high-resolution HLA frequencies. Participants will also learn how haplotype frequency data is used to develop effective donor search strategies.

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November 30, 2010
The Sensitized Patient: Stopping Antibody at Its Source
Mark Stegall, M.D.
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN

Participants will learn about the Mayo Clinic Transplant Program's approach to desensitization in highly sensitized transplant patients. Dr. Stegall's studies focus on reducing donor-specific antibody with a plasma cell-specific monoclonal antibody called bortezomib.

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December 7, 2010
Significance of *de novo* Donor-Specific Antibody Post-Kidney Transplant
Peter Nickerson, M.D.
Canadian Blood Services, Immunogenetics Laboratory
Winnipeg, MB, Canada

The prevalence and clinical significance of post-transplant donor-specific antibody is increasingly apparent and may be an important predictive marker of rejection. Participants will learn about new data addressing the clinical significance of de novo HLA antibodies in renal transplant patients.

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