



# Current Topics in Histocompatibility & Transplantation

**A Unique Continuing Education Opportunity**

## *2011 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 PowerPoint 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](http://www.ctht.info) or contact us at:

Tel: (202) 784-5518 or (202) 687-8924

Fax: (202) 944-2343

Email: [andre.thalberg@georgetown.edu](mailto:andre.thalberg@georgetown.edu)

## **2011 Teleconference Schedule**

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

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**March 29, 2011**

**Medical Terminology for the Histocompatibility Technologist**

Eileen Ronsheim, RN, BSN, CMSRN  
Georgetown University Hospital  
Washington, DC

Participants in this conference will learn about medical terminology, clinical diagnostic tests, and conditions evaluated and considered for solid organ transplant recipients. The conference will focus on laboratory tests most frequently ordered for pre- and post-transplant patients.

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**April 12, 2011**

**Graft Versus Host Disease: Progress Toward Modulation**

Christian Capitini, MD  
National Cancer Institute, Pediatric Oncology Branch  
Bethesda, MD

Participants in this conference will learn about graft versus host disease and will hear about current research focused on strategies for modulation toward graft versus tumor responses.

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**April 19, 2011**

**The Complement System**

Michael Cole, PhD  
Georgetown University  
Washington, DC

In this basic lecture, participants will learn about the complement system and its role in innate immunity. They will learn how its activation causes inflammation and tissue damage.

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**April 26, 2011**

**The C1q Assay: Detection of Clinical Relevant Antibodies**

Dolly Tyan, PhD  
Stanford University  
Palo Alto, CA

Participants in this conference will learn about the C1q assay developed to detect the sub-set of IgG antibodies capable of fixing complement. They will learn about how this assay may be helpful in predicting which donor specific antibodies are most likely to cause antibody mediated rejection.

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**May 24, 2011**

**ASHI Inspection Without Tears**

Maurine Davidson, CHS  
University of Minnesota Medical Center  
Minneapolis, MN

Participants will learn the difference between a checklist-based inspection and an audit approach to a laboratory inspection. Technologists at all levels will learn how to prepare for and participate in a laboratory audit.

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**June 21, 2011**  
**Characterization and Clinical Significance of Rare and Null Alleles**  
 Marcelo Fernandez-Vina, PhD  
 University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center  
 Houston, TX

This presentation will discuss the potential origins of rare and null alleles and the impact of these alleles on an unrelated donor search

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**July 19, 2011**  
**Tools for Identifying the Best Hematopoietic Stem Cell Donor**  
 Sandra Rosen-Bronson, PhD  
 Georgetown University Hospital  
 Washington, DC

Participants will learn how to access and utilize the variety of resources available to help with a difficult unrelated donor search. Case study examples will be used to demonstrate how search aids can be utilized.

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**August 2, 2011**  
**HLA Geocoding and Ancestry**  
 Martin Maiers, MS  
 National Marrow Donor Program  
 Minneapolis, MN

The Bioinformatics Research group at the National Marrow Donor Program has developed methods and tools for exploring HLA diversity geographically within the United States and internationally. This talk will discuss the application of these methods in the context of human ancestry for a world-wide donor search.

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**August 16, 2011**  
**Histocompatibility Testing for the New Technologist**  
 Sandra Rosen-Bronson, PhD  
 Georgetown University Hospital  
 Washington, DC

This basic lecture will provide an updated 'big picture' look at what the typical histocompatibility laboratory does and why. Participants will learn about the history and evolution of standard assays, as well as new tests emerging as standard tools for assessing clinical relevance.

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**August 30, 2011**  
**Paired Kidney Exchange: The Laboratory's Perspective**  
 Cathi Murphey, PhD  
 Southwest Immunodiagnostics, Inc.  
 San Antonio, TX

Paired kidney exchange (PKE) programs assist donor/recipient pairs who are incompatible with each other to find another donor/recipient pair with whom they can exchange kidneys to enable a more favorable compatibility. This conference will discuss the role of the histocompatibility laboratory in facilitating and expediting this process.

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**September 13, 2011**  
**HLA Nomenclature 2010**  
 Steven Marsh, PhD  
 Anthony Nolan Research Institute  
 London, UK

Participants will learn about the HLA nomenclature changes implemented in 2010 and how these changes will impact histocompatibility laboratories and donor registries.

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**September 27, 2011**  
**Blood Banking for the Histocompatibility Technologist**  
 TBD  
 National Institutes of Health  
 Bethesda, MD

ABO blood group antigens are important histocompatibility antigens, particularly in solid organ transplantation. With more centers exploring ABO incompatible transplants, it is increasingly important for histocompatibility technologists to understand blood group genetics. Participants will learn the basics of blood group antigens and antibodies. They will also learn how ABO typing is done and how compatibility is determined.

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**October 11, 2011**  
**UNOS Histocompatibility Committee Update**  
 Nancy Reinsmoen, PhD  
 Cedars-Sinai Medical 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 an update on cPRA and a potential sliding scale for sensitization points.

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**November 8, 2011**  
**Class, Isotype, and Epitope Patterns of HLA-Specific Alloantibody in Early Versus Late Antibody Mediated Rejection**  
 Alin Girnita, MD  
 Hoxworth Blood Center, University of Cincinnati  
 Cincinnati, OH

This conference will discuss the difference in HLA-specific antibody patterns in early and late antibody mediated rejection. The possible implications for prognosis and therapeutic response will also be discussed.

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**November 15, 2011**  
**Understanding Biomedical Statistics**  
 Brent Logan, PhD  
 Institute of Health and Society, Medical College of Wisconsin  
 Milwaukee, WI

From this basic lecture participants will learn how to understand the biomedical statistics used for evaluating clinical trial outcomes. The speaker will discuss the statistical analyses used as well as rationales for clinical study design.

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**November 22, 2011**  
**Antibody Epitope Mapping**  
 Ilias Doxiadis, PhD  
 Leiden University Medical Center  
 Leiden, The Netherlands

HLA antibodies recognize an array of different structures, or epitopes, on an HLA molecule. Participants in this conference will learn about how immunogenic epitopes are identified and how the definition of acceptable and unacceptable epitopes can facilitate finding compatible donors for sensitized patients.

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**November 29, 2011**  
**Introduction to Pharmacogenetics**  
 Maria Bettinotti, PhD and Vicky M. Pratt, PhD  
 Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute  
 Chantilly, VA

Pharmacogenetics is the science that studies how genes influence our response to therapeutic drugs. This lecture will explain general concepts of pharmacogenetics and the role that HLA plays in this new and growing part of personalized medicine.

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**December 6, 2011**  
**Standardizing Solid Phase and Flowcytometric Assays**  
 Robert Bray, PhD and Howard Gebel, PhD  
 Emory University  
 Atlanta, GA

Participants will learn about ways to optimize solid phase antibody detection assays and flowcytometric crossmatches. The speakers will also discuss potential strategies for the standardization of these assays.

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**December 13, 2011**  
**Clinical Significance of DP and DQA Antibody**  
 Anat Tambur, PhD  
 Northwestern University  
 Chicago, IL

With the advent of Luminex-based single antigen bead assays, the prevalence of antibody specific for HLA-DP and the alpha chain of HLA-DQ has become increasingly apparent. This conference will use a case study format to discuss the clinical importance of these antibodies.

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**December 20, 2011**  
**Setting up and Optimizing DNA Sequencing for HLA Typing**  
 Nicholas DiPaola, PhD  
 Ohio State University  
 Columbus, OH

This lecture will provide a practical overview of how to set up and validate sequence-based HLA typing. Participants will learn about innovative interpretation software and get tips for troubleshooting difficult samples.

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