

Welcome to the 16th IHIW

Message from the Chairs

We would like to announce that the 16th International HLA and Immunogenetics Workshop (IHIW) and Conference will be held in Liverpool from 26th May to 2nd June, 2012. The proposal is to have 3 days for workshop and 3 days for Conference, with a day between.

Both the Workshop and the Conference will be held at the recently opened BT Convention Centre which is located on the Liverpool waterfront next to the Albert Dock and close to Liverpool city centre. Hotels and restaurants are conveniently located close to the Convention Centre. Liverpool is 2 hours by train from central London, has an airport which is well served from European Cities and there is a direct train to Manchester Airport, useful for transatlantic flights

The conference that will follow the Workshop will be a joint International Workshop, European Federation for Immunogenetics (EFI) and British Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (BSHI) meeting.

To date several Workshop Projects have been proposed; some continuing from the 15th Workshop. Anyone interested should contact the organisers of each project. Other proposed Projects are welcomed and will be vetted by IHIW Councilors prior to acceptance. A website www.16hiw.org contains some information and will be continually updated in the future.

Projects

Improving Prediction of Chronic Rejection by Donor Specific Antibody and Serum Creatinine

Paul Terasaki and Mikki Ozawa

Paul in a recent paper wrote "Can it B". As we will be in Liverpool "There will be an answer –let it B". Younger members-ask your parents.

Contact: terasaki@terasakilab.org

Two projects dealing with Single Antigen Beads

Evaluation of antibody frequencies and solid phase assays

Andrea Zachary and John Hart

To examine strong and weak points of various assays and Lab's interpretation of solid phase test data

Contact: aaz@jhmi.edu

Towards Standardization of Microparticle-based, Solid Phase, HLA Antibody Identification Assays

Robert Bray and Howard Gebel

Proposal is to develop common methods, reagents and well characterized sera for use in subsequent comparisons by laboratories

Contact: rbray@emory.edu

MICA-MICB Project

Peter Stasny and Yizhou Zou

Participants should collect serum from recipients of kidney transplants which will be tested in Dallas laboratory

Contact: pstasny8@gmail.com

International Histocompatibility Working Group in Haematopoietic Cell Transplantation

Effie Petersdorf and M Malkki

One of the most successful projects of the 15th IHW. Data now available on more than 17,000 unrelated transplants pairs.

Contact: epetersd@fhcrc.org or mmalkki@fhcrc.org

Population global distribution of KIR and ligands

Continuation of 15th workshop project which showed correlations between KIR genes and their ligands in world populations

Jill Hollenbach, Raja Rajalingam, Derek Middleton

Contact: jhollenbach@chori.org RRajalingam@mednet.ucla.edu derek.middleton@rlbuht.nhs.uk

Frequencies of Rare Alleles

, Faviel Gonzalez, Marcelo Fernandez-Vina, Derek Middleton

Continuation of previous project. See Tissue Antigens, 2009,74,480

Contact: MFernand@mdanderson.org, Faviel_gonzalez@hotmail.com
derek.middleton@rlbuht.nhs.uk

Two projects examining handling and analysis of data – ambiguities, resolution, different methods.

AHPD

Alicia Sanchez Mazas

More information on HLA-NET www.hla-net.eu

Contact: alicia.sanchez-mazas@unige.ch

IDAWG:

Steve Mack and Jill Hollenbach

More information on IDAWG at www.igdawg.org

Contact: sjmack@chori.org jhollenbach@chori.org

Possible project in Pharmacogenetics-looking at adverse drug reactions and correlating with HLA

Anyone interested?

Derek Middleton and Steven GE Marsh

Chairs of the 16th International HLA and Immunogenetics Workshop