

## **ISICR Officers**

### **President**

Eleanor Fish

### **President-elect**

Leonidas Plataniias

### **Secretary**

Tom Hamilton

### **Treasurer**

Bob Friedman

### **Executive Director**

Cliff Brownstein



## **INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR INTERFERON AND CYTOKINE RESEARCH**

April 2008

Volume 15, No. 1

## **Future ISICR Meetings**

### **2008 Meeting**

Joint ISICR/ICS

Montreal, Canada

Oct. 12-16

[www.cytokines2008.org](http://www.cytokines2008.org)

### **2009 Meeting**

Joint ISICR/ICS/SLB

Lisbon, Portugal

### **2010 Meeting**

Joint ISICR/ICS

Chicago, Illinois

## **ISICR WWW Site**

[www.ISICR.org](http://www.ISICR.org)

## **ISICR Business Office**

[ISICR@faseb.org](mailto:ISICR@faseb.org)

TEL: 301-634-7250

FAX: 301-634-7420

## **ISICR Newsletter Editors**

### **Howard Young**

[younghow@mail.nih.gov](mailto:younghow@mail.nih.gov)

Fax: 301-846-1673

### **Hannah Nguyen**

[nguyenh@methylgene.com](mailto:nguyenh@methylgene.com)

### **Seng-Lai (Thomas) Tan**

[sengt@amgen.com](mailto:sengt@amgen.com)

## **A Message from the new ISICR President, Eleanor Fish**



It is with gratitude and humility that I assume the responsibilities of incoming President of the ISICR. I am honored to have been elected by my peers and am fortunate to have in place a Board of Directors and Committee members that are as committed to strengthening our Society as I am. In recent months, to ensure that our Society reflects the scientific activities of junior investigators, as positions have become vacant on the various ISICR Committees, in consultation with the Committee Chairs I have made best efforts to invite the participation of younger investigators who share our vision of a strong, international, collegial Society. I invite members to participate in your Society - just contact me to let me know of your interest.

Within recent years we have seen a revival of interest in the pleiotropic activities of interferons, touching on many different biological disciplines. Moreover, the role of cytokines and how they inform us of biological processes in normal and diseased states is an ever expanding field. I would like to focus my tenure as President on a number of key areas:

- **Communication.** Disseminate information relating to notable research activities to the general public, to governmental organizations and policy makers. To ensure that support for research in our field is strengthened.
- **Collaboration.** Provide the appropriate information to Society members and new opportunities for networking, to enable translational research: from basic science discoveries to clinical/veterinarian application.
- **Membership.** Enhance the membership to have a broader reach, both in terms of attracting scientists from around the world and from various disciplines. Invite broader membership from academic institutions and industry.

I look forward to doing this in partnership with all of you.

Eleanor

## New ISICR Executive Director



### Clifford M. Brownstein

Cliff Brownstein has spent 33 years in the association management profession. He has served as Executive Director of numerous associations, including the Association of Accounting

Administrators, the National Business Owners Association, the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, and the Association of Practicing CPAs, among others. At present, he is also Executive Director of the Society for Leukocyte Biology.

Prior to joining FASEB's Managed Society Services, he was Owner of Practical Strategies, consultants to associations, from 2000-2007. He provided strategic planning, membership growth, leadership training consulting to a variety of associations including the American College of Radiation Oncologists, the Society for Mucosal Immunology, the Automatic Meter Reading Association, and the American College of Foot & Ankle Orthopedics and Medicine.

From 1996 to 1999, Cliff served as Chief Operating Officer for TEAM Management, Washington, DC, overseeing a staff of 38 in two offices, and managing more than one dozen medical and scientific associations. For 11 years prior, Cliff owned C.M. Brownstein & Associates, Inc., an association management company specializing in professional societies.

Cliff served as 1997-98 President of the International Association of Association Management Companies, has been a frequent contributing author to Association Trends, and has been an invited speaker on various association management topics at meetings of the American Society of Association Executives and its affiliated state societies.

He is a graduate of Rutgers University with a BS in Journalism. He is married with three grown children and one brand new granddaughter. He's also an avid motorcyclist, whitewater rafter, and keyboard and harmonica player.

## New ISICR Business Officer Manager



### Lisa Hetherington

Lisa Hetherington joined FASEB last summer as Senior Project Coordinator in the Managed Society Services department. With over 10 years of administrative and management experience, Lisa is responsible for coordinating and implementing activities for several client societies.

Before coming to FASEB, Lisa served as Director and Manager for various operational, research and publication services. From 2005 to 2007, as the manager of a business analyst group, she planned, directed and coordinated system development life cycles for support and implementation of software changes.

From 1998 to 2005, Lisa worked for a privately owned direct mail firm, serving in different capacities as a Client Service Manager for fulfillment and publishing clients and as the Warehouse Operations Director, managing over \$7 million of client inventory.

Lisa earned her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Florida and is the proud mother of an 8 year old son. Prior to devoting her time to soccer games and Cub Scout activities, Lisa was an avid billiards player, winning two division championship league titles. (Eight Ball - American Poolplayer's Association, sponsored by Bud Light).

### Appreciation:

The ISICR wishes to express its' sincere appreciation to **Ms. Delores Francis** for her many years of effective service to the ISICR and to **John Lord** for his service this past year as Executive Director.

# ISICR Awards

## The Seymour and Vivian Milstein Award



**Seymour Milstein**  
(1920-2001)

Individuals who have made exceptional contributions to research related to interferons and cytokines either in a basic or clinical field. The

Seymour and Vivian Milstein awards are made possible by the generous gift of the Milstein family. This award represents a pinnacle of scientific achievement in our field and is an important landmark of the society. Nominations should be communicated to the President of the ISICR by **May 1, 2008** (see below).

## Honorary Membership

Nominees should be individuals who have made substantive contributions to the interferon/cytokine field over much of their careers, either in basic, clinical or applied research. Honorary members are the treasures of the society and provide us with an historical perspective and valued research tradition.

We invite your nominations for eligible candidates for The Seymour and Vivian Milstein Award and Honorary Membership, both prestigious symbols of recognition by our society for outstanding achievements. A brief (one to two page) description of the reasons for your nomination and the CV of the nominee should be sent to the ISICR President by **May 1, 2008**:

Eleanor N. Fish, Ph.D.  
Canada Research Chair in Women's Health & Immunobiology  
Professor, Dept. of Immunology, University of Toronto  
67, College Street, Rm. 424  
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2M1  
Tel: 416 340-5380  
FAX: 416 340-3453  
e-mail: en.fish@utoronto.ca

The nominations will be collated, and passed on to the Chair of the Awards Committee in May. This committee will then vote for the winners. As specified in the ISICR Constitution, the final vote of the Awards Committee is subject to the approval of the ISICR Board of Directors.

## The Seymour and Vivian Milstein Young Investigator Awards

ISICR members who attend the 2008 ISICR meeting in Montreal, Canada and who have received a Ph.D or M.D. within the previous 8 years are eligible. Every year up to five awards are granted to individuals who have made notable contributions to either basic or clinical research. This award is provided by a generous gift of the Milstein Family. We urge every eligible individual to apply for the awards. A CV and letter of recommendation should accompany the application. We also ask more senior laboratory advisers to encourage their associates to apply. Deadline to Submit your 2008 ISICR Award Application is **July 18, 2008**.

## Seymour and Vivian Milstein Travel Awards

ISICR members who attend the 2008 ISICR meeting in Montreal, Canada are eligible for Travel Awards. They are provided through a grant from the Milstein Family based on the scientific merit of the abstract and financial necessity. However, this award does not exempt payment of the registration fee. A CV should accompany the application for this award. Please note that there are no age restrictions to this award. However if both senior and junior members from the same laboratory apply for an award, preference is given to the junior member. Deadline to Submit your 2008 ISICR Award Application is **July 18, 2008**.

The ISICR wishes to express its' deepest appreciation to the Milstein Family for their continuous support of the Society. The ISICR is honored by the generosity of the Milstein Family in being able to recognize the scientists whose work has been instrumental in understanding the role of Interferon in the host response to infectious disease and cancer, through the Milstein Award and Milstein Young Investigator Awards. Furthermore, the Milstein Travel Awards provide an important mechanism for enabling the future generation of scientists to attend and participate in the society, thus ensuring a continuum of scientific excellence in interferon and cytokine research.

## The Christina Fleischmann Award to Young Women Investigators



**Dr. Christina Fleischmann**  
(1945-1996)

The rules for this ISICR award are the same as for the Seymour and Vivian Milstein Young Investigator Award (see above) except for gender and the candidate must have received a Ph.D or M.D. degree within the previous 10 years. This award is made possible through the generosity of the Fleischmann Foundation and is dedicated to the memory of ISICR member and outstanding interferon research scientist Christina Fleischmann. Deadline to Submit your 2008 ISICR Award Application is **July 18, 2008**.

## Vilcek Foundation 2008 Award Winners

The Vilcek Foundation has announced the names of the recipients of its annual prizes in biomedical research and in the arts. Dr. Inder Verma is the prize recipient for biomedical science; the prize recipient for the arts is composer Osvaldo Golijov. The Vilcek Foundation Prizes are awarded annually to foreign-born individuals for extraordinary contributions to society in the United States. In explaining the motivation for the awards, Dr. Jan T. Vilcek, President of The Vilcek Foundation said, "We should not have to be reminded of how much America owes to people who were born abroad, but we do. Historically, the United States has innumerable foreign-born individuals to thank for establishing it as a leader in the sciences and arts, and in many other fields as well. In awarding The Vilcek Foundation Prizes, our primary objective is to raise awareness of that reality. We should not forget that so much of what this country takes credit for is the achievement of immigrants." Marica Vilcek, Vice-President of the Foundation, added: "As the only foundation to recognize the outstanding contributions of foreign-born individuals to the biomedical sciences and the arts, we are in a privileged position to shine a spotlight on leaders such as Dr. Verma and Mr. Golijov, whose achievements we are pleased to honor this year."

A \$50,000 cash award and a commemorative trophy created by designer Stefan Sagmeister was presented to Dr. Verma and Mr. Golijov during The Foundation's third annual awards dinner on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in New York. The two prize winners were chosen by independent panels of experts.



# NEW ISICR MEMBERS

**Joined from November 2007 –  
February 2008**

We welcome these new members to the ISICR and look forward to their participation in society affairs and the annual meeting. We hope to see you all in Montreal!!!!

## **Wanjun Chen**

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, NIH

## **Y Eugene Chin**

Rhode Island Hosp

## **Biyan Duan**

UT Southwestern Med Ctr

## **Kenneth Frank**

Dr. Frank's Health Products

## **Claire Greenhill**

Monash Institute of Med Rsch

## **Bin He**

Univ of Illinois at Chicago

## **Subburaj Ilangumaran**

Univ of Sherbrooke

## **Valerie Janelle**

Universite du Quebec a Montreal

## **Laurent Poliquin**

Universite du Quebec a Montreal

## **Sabrina Racine-Brzostek**

Stony Brook Univ

## **Jeremy Ross**

Univ of Texas - EL Paso

## **Linfang Wang**

Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences

## **Lei Zhang**

Beckman Rsch Inst

## **New Member Minibios**

*Thomas Tan*

### **Dr. Wanjun Chen**

Principal Investigator  
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research  
Bethesda, MD



Dr. Wanjun Chen obtained his MD and his MS in Immunology in China. He did a postdoctoral fellowship in Immunology and mucosal T-cell tolerance at the Center for Neurological Diseases at Harvard Medical School, Boston. From 1997 through 2003 he was a Senior Staff Fellow in the Cellular Immunology Section, Oral Infection and Immunity Branch of the NIDCR and his research was focused on TGF- $\beta$  and T cell tolerance.

Dr. Chen is now a tenure-track Principal Investigator and has been leading an independent research group in the Mucosal Immunology Unit, NIDCR since May, 2004. His research focuses on TGF- $\beta$  regulation of T cell tolerance in mucosal and peripheral immune systems with special attention to the development and function of CD4<sup>+</sup>CD25<sup>+</sup>Foxp3<sup>+</sup> regulatory cells. His work has led to a better understanding of the cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in the mutual regulation between TGF- $\beta$  and regulatory T cells in T cell immunity and tolerance and he has recently published on this research in *Nature Medicine* and *Nature Immunology*.

*(Mini Bios, cont. from page 5)*

**Professor Y. Eugene Chin**

Department of Surgery, Rhode Island Hospital-Brown University School of Medicine, 593# Eddy Street, Providence RI 02903, USA



Professor Y. Eugene Chin, MD, PhD, is from Brown University School of Medicine where he has worked since 1998. His major research interests include cytokine receptor intracellular signal transduction. His lab is particularly interested in studying protein posttranslational modification events other than tyrosine phosphorylation in cytokine signal transduction. Moreover, his lab is interested in developing and applying micro-antibody arrays for differential analysis of cancer proteomics.

**Subburaj Ilangumaran, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Immunology Division, Faculty of Medicine University of Sherbrooke 3001, 12th Avenue North Sherbrooke, Québec, Canada

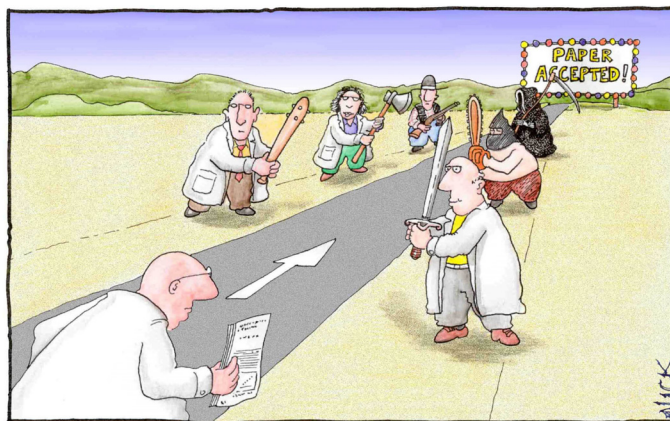


Subburaj Ilangumaran received his PhD in 1993 from the Madurai-Kamaraj University, Madurai, India for his work on Immunological responses to Mycobacterium leprae antigens. As a postdoctoral fellow, he investigated the organization of plasma membrane lipid rafts on T lymphocytes at the Univ. of Geneva, Switzerland (1994-1998) before switching to cytokine receptor signaling in the laboratory of Dr. Robert Rottapel at the Ontario Cancer Institute, Toronto, Canada (1998-2003). He teamed up with Dr. DeSepulveda to demonstrate the role of SOCS1, the key regulator of IFN $\gamma$  signaling, in protein ubiquitination. Subsequently he showed the requirement for SOCS1 in IFN $\gamma$ -induced expression of MHC class II molecules in fibroblasts. Using mice deficient for SOCS1 and IFN, he showed a critical role for SOCS1 in the homeostasis of T lymphocytes.

In 2003, he accepted a faculty position at the Univ. of Sherbrooke and investigated the regulatory functions of SOCS1 in cytotoxic T lymphocytes. He showed that SOCS1 is an important regulator of the homeostatic functions of IL-15, IL-7 and IL-21. His current focus is on antigen non-specific activation of cytotoxic T lymphocytes mediated by cytokines, which have potential implications in autoimmunity and cellular immunotherapy for cancer.

**NOW AVAILABLE TO  
ISICR MEMBERS-  
INTERFERON HISTORICAL  
PERSPECTIVES**

Through the generosity of Mary Ann Liebert Publications, links to the historical perspectives on Interferon research can be found in the "Members Only" section of the ISICR website. These articles, written by society members who were the pioneers in Interferon research, were published during 2007 in the Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research. I urge all ISICR members to read these interesting articles in order to gain a better perspective of the trials and tribulations experienced in the early days of interferon research.



Most scientists regarded the new streamlined peer-review process as 'quite an improvement.'

*Cartoon by Nick D Kim, nearingzero.net. Used by permission Available as a slide in the ISICR slide repository.*

## Reviews of Interest

Deenick EK, Tangye SG. Autoimmunity: IL-21: a new player in Th17-cell differentiation. *Immunol Cell Biol.* 85:503-505, 2007

di Carlo E, de Totero D, Piazza T, Fabbi M, Ferrini S. Role of IL-21 in immune-regulation and tumor immunotherapy. *Cancer Immunol Immunother.* 56:1323-1334, 2007

Dinarello CA. Historical insights into cytokines. *Eur. J. Immunol.* 37:S34-S45 Suppl. 1, 2007

El-Menyar AA. Cytokines and myocardial dysfunction: state of the art. *J. Card. Fail.* 14:61-74, 2008

Filippi CM, von Herrath MG. IL-10 and the resolution of infections. *J. Pathology* 214: 224-230, 2008

Fitzgerald-Bocarsly P, Dai J, Singh S. Plasmacytoid dendritic cells and type I IFN: 50 years of convergent history. *Cytokine Growth Fac. Rev.* 19:3-19, 2008

Friedman RM. Clinical uses of interferons. *Br. J. Clin. Pharmacol.* 65:158-62, 2008

Goldsack L, Kirman JR. Half-truths and selective memory: Interferon gamma, CD4(+) T cells and protective memory against tuberculosis. *Tuberculosis* 87:465-473, 2007

Li HX, Lin X. Positive and negative signaling components involved in TNF alpha-induced NF-kappa B activation. *Cytokine* 41:1-8, 2008

Lodish HF, Zhou B, Liu G, Chen CZ. Micromanagement of the immune system by microRNAs. *Nature Rev. Immunol.* 8:120-130, 2008

Metcalf, D. Hematopoietic cytokines. *Blood* 111: 485-491, 2008

Pelletier M, Girard D. Biological functions of interleukin-21 and its role in inflammation. *Scientific World Journal.* 22:1715-1735, 2007

Takeuchi O, Akira S. MDA5/RIG-I and virus recognition. *Current Op. Immunol.* 20: 17-22, 2008

Teicher BA. Transforming growth factor-beta and the immune response to malignant disease. *Clin. Cancer Res.* 13:6247-6251, 2007

Wang RF, Miyahara Y, Wang HY. Toll-like receptors and immune regulation: implications for cancer therapy. *Oncogene* 27:181-189, 2008

### THE ISICR SLIDE REPOSITORY

Ever see a slide in a talk that you wish you could use for your own presentation? Well now this may be possible through the ISICR Slide Repository. Members can now go in and post slides that they have developed or download slides that others have provided to the membership. **OVER 420 SLIDES ARE NOW AVAILABLE!!!!!!** For this member only feature, you need to have your member number so if you are not sure what that is, please contact the membership office. We urge members to upload general slides that other members can use for lectures, classes, seminars, etc. Slides are not to be changed without permission from the donor and all copyright permissions must be obtained. The repository now has a useful search capability that allows you to find slides on a particular topic. If you have trouble uploading or downloading slides, please contact Howard Young at [young-how@mail.nih.gov](mailto:young-how@mail.nih.gov).

PLEASE CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING YOUR SLIDES. The success of this initiative depends upon you, the membership!!!!

## **ARED: AU-RICH ELEMENT-CONTAINING mRNA DATABASE**

<http://brp.kfshrc.edu.sa/ARED/>

What's New in ARED 3.0

More than 4000 ARE-mRNAs

Expanded coverage from GenBank and RefSeq mRNA records

Additional ARE-mRNA data from EST clustering using 3'ARE EST clustering (Khabar et al., 2005, *Genomics*) and TIGR clustered consensus

Contains alternative ARE-mRNA variants

Use of stringent ARE pattern specific to the 3'UTR (Less stringent search can be found in ARED 2.0)

Gene Ontology (GO) Information and ARE class information

Enhanced search capability

## **BioSolutions**

<http://biosolutions.blogspot.com/>

Biosolutions is a repository of Biological animations and lectures. The aim of site is create knowledge base among the students community.

## **COXPRESdb: co-expressed gene database**

<http://coxpresdb.hgc.jp/>

Aim of COXPRESdb

COXPRESdb provides co-regulated gene relationships to estimate gene functions.

Target species

Human (e.g. gene page for ZAP70)

Mouse (e.g. gene page for Ldlrap1)

Rat (coming soon)

Basic contents of COXPRESdb

Co-expressed genes (ver.2)

Data source; publicly available gene expression data stored at NCBI GEO.

For human; GPL570, 123 experiments, 3749 slides.

For mouse; GPL1261, 154 experiments, 2226 slides.

Calculation procedure; Pearson's correlation coefficients.

Tissue-specific expression patterns

Data source;

For human; GSE3526

For mouse; GSE1986

## **Cytokine Portal**

<http://www.cytok.com/>

Links to lots of Cytokine related information.

## **Jaspar: the high-quality transcription factor binding profile database**

<http://jaspar.genereg.net/>

The JASPAR CORE database contains a curated, non-redundant set of 123 profiles, derived from published collections of experimentally defined transcription factor binding sites for multicellular eukaryotes. The prime difference to similar resources (TRANSFAC, TESS etc) consist of the open data access, non-redundancy and quality: JASPAR CORE is a smaller set that is non-redundant and curated.

When should it be used? When seeking models for specific factors or structural classes, or if experimental evidence is paramount.

## **MALISAM: a database of structurally analogous motifs in proteins**

<http://prodata.swmed.edu/malisam/>

MALISAM is a database of pairwise, structure-based alignments for structurally analogous motifs in proteins.

Homology and analogy are two alternative scenarios to explain structural similarities among proteins. Homologs inherit similar features from their common ancestor, while analogs converge to similar structures due to a limited number of energetically favorable ways to pack secondary structural elements.



Analogous pairs in this database are in three categories: a hybrid motif and a core motif, an interface motif and a core motif, an artificial protein and a natural protein. During evolution, a protein family usually preserves a common core while accumulating insertions and deletions in the periphery. A core motif is composed entirely of secondary structure elements belonging to the evolutionary core. A hybrid motif consists of both core elements and peripheral insertions that are not present in the majority of the family members. An interface motif uses secondary structural elements from two or more domains or subunits contacting along that interface.

Reference: H. Cheng, B. Kim, and N. Grishin (2008). MALISAM: a database of structurally analogous motifs in proteins. *Nucleic Acids Research Database Issue*. 36:D211-217

## MedicineandBiotech.com

[www.medicineandbiotech.com](http://www.medicineandbiotech.com)

Dear Readers, The century of DNA-driven technologies is becoming a reality every day. Advances are being reported regularly in applications of Genomics to develop diagnostic and prognostic tests for cancers and other chronic diseases; advances in Personalized Medicine and the use of Genomics for Pharmaceutical research to enable comprehensive assaying of genetics of drug metabolism are becoming key in streamlining the drug development process. Pharmacogenomics data is now integrated into clinical trial workflows and the information enables researchers to make more informed drug-development decisions, which in turn significantly streamlines evaluation of safety and efficacy of drugs and the time to market.

The DNA blueprint is also playing an important role in design of novel nanomaterials. Recently scientists have used the self-assembling ability of really small particles, similar to that seen with DNA bases, to design three-dimensional gold crystals. This fascinating study will open new avenues for development of novel nanomaterials with applications in nanomedicine, therapeutics, diagnostics, optics and electronics.

MedicineandBiotech.com continues to strive to provide our readers with valuable information in the Biotech and Pharma world every month. Visit MedicineandBiotech.com regularly to learn more about these developments-

Neerja Sethi, PhD, Managing Editor

"MedicineandBiotech.com is a Unique e-magazine that Provides a Platform where Biotechnology, Medicine, Business sector and the Community Converge" Recommended by Kevin Ahearn in *Genetic Engineering News*

## Melanoma Molecular Map Project

<http://www.mmmp.org/MMMP/welcome.mmmp>

The MMMP is an open-access, interactive multidatabase dedicated to the research on melanoma biology and therapy.

The aim of this non-profit project is to create a comprehensive and continuously updated databank collecting in an organized fashion the huge and ever growing amount of knowledge on melanoma currently scattered in thousands of scientific publications.

The ambitious hope of the MMMP is to provide both basic researchers and clinicians with a useful tool to keep updated with melanoma research advances as well as to stimulate new mechanistic/therapeutic hypotheses.

Since the MMMP is made for and by the scientific community, we also invite you to give your scientific contribution to one or more of the MMMP databases/features:

- Biomaps (including lists of molecularly targeted agents, MTA)
- Biocards (linked to clickable Biomaps)
- Melanoma Molecular Profile
- Drug Development Database (DDD)
- Clinical Trial Database (CTD)
- Glossary (including a list of melanoma-related microRNAs)
- Melanoma: An Introduction

- Melanoma News
- Melanoma Risk Assessment Tools

Thank you in advance for your interest in the MMMP.

The MMMP Team  
Gathering, Organizing & Sharing Knowledge on  
Melanoma

## **microRNA.org: A resource for predicted microRNA targets and expression**

<http://www.microrna.org/microrna/home.do>

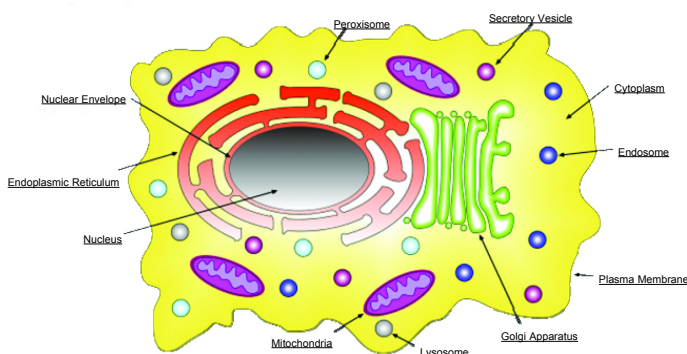
Data Downloads:

- Human Expression
- Human miRNA Target Site Predictions
- Mouse Expression
- Mouse miRNA Target Site Predictions
- Rat Expression
- Rat miRNA Target Site Predictions

## **LOCATE: a mammalian protein subcellular localization database**

<http://locate.imb.uq.edu.au/>

LOCATE is a curated database that houses data describing the membrane organization and subcellular localization of proteins from the RIKEN FANTOM4 mouse and human protein sequence set. The membrane organization is predicted by the high-throughput, computational pipeline MemO. The subcellular locations were determined by a high-throughput, immunofluorescence-based assay and by manually reviewing peer-reviewed publications.



*Available as a slide in the ISICR slide repository.*

## **qPCR reference Page**

[www.Gene-Quantification.info/](http://www.Gene-Quantification.info/)

The Gene Quantification page describes and summarizes all technical aspects involved in quantitative gene expression analysis using real-time qPCR & qRT-PCR. It presents a lot of new and innovative applications, chemistries, methods, algorithms, cyclers, kits, dyes, analysis methods, events, and services involved. Commercial and academic institutions can present their qPCR tools right on their qPCR platform.

## **Scientists for Better PCR**

<http://www.cnpg.com/video/redirect.aspx?redirectid=65>

When you're having coffee.....

## **TOPDB: Topology Data Bank of Transmembrane Proteins.**

<http://topdb.enzim.hu/>

The Topology Data Bank of Transmembrane Proteins (TOPDB) is currently the most complete and comprehensive collection of transmembrane protein datasets containing experimentally derived topology information. It contains records for 1497 transmembrane proteins with information gathered from the literature and from public databases available on the World Wide Web.

The database collects the details of various experiments carried out to learn about the topology of particular transmembrane proteins. The experimental techniques include fusion with reporter enzymes, glycosylation studies, protease accessibility, immunolocalization, etc. In addition to literature-derived data, an extensive collection of structural data was also compiled from Protein Data Bank (PDB) and from Protein Data Bank of Transmembrane Proteins (PDBTM) by utilizing the TMDet algorithm. While literature-derived data can not be collected automatically, data based on 3D structures provides semi-automatic and continuously updated

information for the database. Structural data is the most reliable information about transmembrane topologies, but the topology information is often incomplete. Therefore, for each protein in the database the most probable topology consistent with the collected experimental constraints was also calculated using HMMPRED transmembrane topology prediction algorithm.

Each record in TOPDB also contains the indispensable information about the given protein such as its sequence, name, organism and cross references to various databases (PDB, PDBTM, UniProt and literature references from PubMed).

This web interface of TOPDB includes tools for extensive searching, relational querying and data browsing as well as visualization tools for topology data.

The TOPDB is designed to address the broad gap between the large number of transmembrane proteins in sequence databases and the publicly available topology information of experimentally or computationally studied transmembrane proteins.

Ref: Tusnády GE, Kalmár L and Simon I TOPDB: Topology Data Bank of Transmembrane Proteins. *Nucleic Acids Research Database issue*, in press, 2008.

## Test Your Brain

### ALZHEIMERS' EYE TEST

Count every " F " in the following text:

**FINISHED FILES ARE THE RESULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS...**

SEE BELOW

HOW MANY ? WRONG, THERE ARE 6 -- no joke. READ IT AGAIN ! Really, go Back and Try to find the 6 F's before you scroll down.

The reasoning behind is further down. The brain cannot process "OF". Go back and look again!! Anyone who counts all 6 "F's" on the first go is a genius. Three is normal, four is quite rare.

Clips from the *Daily Drug News*  
Hannah Nguyen

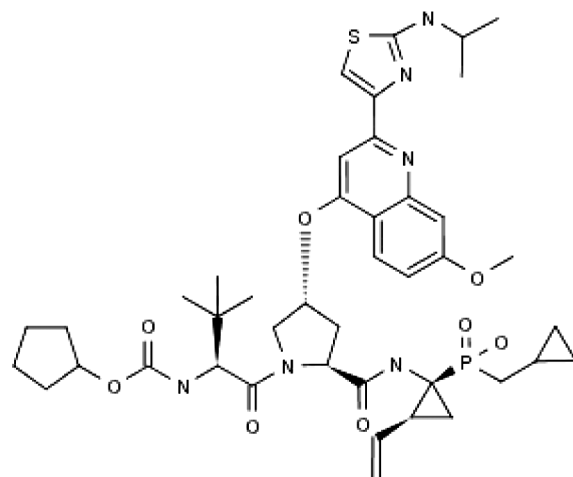
**[January 31, 2008] 1018-ISS safely combined with irinotecan-cetuximab in colorectal cancer.** The combination of Dynavax Technologies' oligonucleotide agonist of Toll-like receptor 9, 1018-ISS, with irinotecan and cetuximab was investigated in a study in 14 patients with previously untreated metastatic colorectal cancer. Patients received 0.2, 0.5 or 1.0 mg/kg doses of 1018-ISS subcutaneously on weeks 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8, with irinotecan 180 mg/m<sup>2</sup> given every other week and cetuximab 400 mg/m<sup>2</sup> given in week 1 and then 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> given every week. Gastrointestinal toxicity was observed, with one patient experiencing grade 3 diarrhea at the 1.0 mg/kg dose of 1018-ISS. The maximum tolerated 1018-ISS dose was not reached. A biomarker of drug activity, the measurement of interferon alpha-induced genes in peripheral blood mononuclear cells 24 hours after 1018-ISS dosing, was positive in 2/5, 3/4 and 1/2 patients at the 0.2, 0.5 and 1.0 mg/kg doses. Progressive disease was seen in 7 of 12 evaluable patients at a median of day 70, while the remaining patients had stable disease at a median of day 120 or could not yet be assessed (Hwang, J.J. et al. *Gastrointest Cancers Symp* (Jan 25-27, Orlando) 2008, Abst 317).

**[February 08, 2008] Idera and Merck KGaA receive Hart-Scott-Rodino clearance for collaboration agreement.** Idera Pharmaceuticals has received clearance under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act for its worldwide licensing and collaboration agreement with Merck KGaA, signed in December 2007, thus entitling Idera to receive an upfront licensing fee of USD 40 million from Merck. Under the agreement, Idera exclusively licensed the therapeutic oncology applications, excluding cancer vaccines, of its lead toll-like receptor 9 (TLR9) agonists, IMO-2055 and IMO-2125. In addition, using Idera's chemistry-based approach to the design and creation of TLR-targeted compounds,

the companies have agreed to engage in research to identify a specified number of novel, follow-on TLR9 agonists for which Merck will have the exclusive right to use in oncology applications other than cancer vaccines (Idera Pharmaceuticals News Release).

**[February 21, 2008] New therapeutic agents for viral hepatitis reported in recent Gilead patents.**

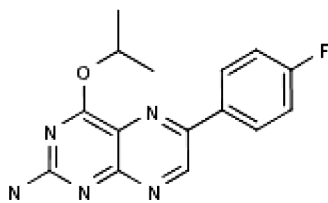
Gilead has divulged a novel series of 4,6-di- and 2,4,6-tri-substituted pteridine derivatives that function as antiviral agents that are claimed for use in combating hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection and other infections pertaining to Flaviviridae family viruses. They are characterized by a distinct substitution pattern that confers selectivity and a particular propensity to suppress viral replication (WO 2008009079). Moreover, Gilead scientists have imparted the synthesis of a series of compounds with Toll-like receptor 7 (TLR7) modulatory properties that are described as being particularly effective in suppressing hepatitis C and B viral infections (WO 2008005555). In a separate development, a series of antiviral phosphinate compounds has been claimed by Gilead for treating hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection (WO 2008005565).



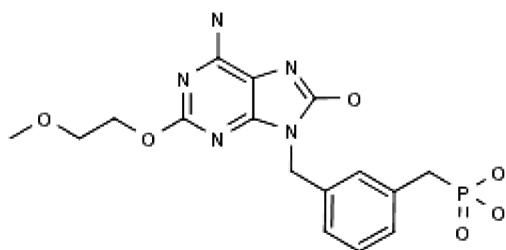
**WO 2008005565**

**[March 04, 2008] Recent patents disclose novel treatment options for cardiovascular disorders.**

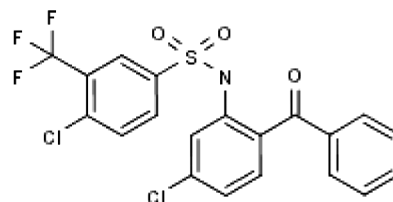
ChemoCentryx has imparted three series of compounds, including triazolyl phenyl and pyridyl benzenesulfonamides, that act as chemokine CCR2 and/or CCR9 receptor antagonists. Such compounds are predicted to be of particular use in the therapeutic intervention of atherosclerosis. Additional applications include restenosis, multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease, rheumatoid arthritis, fibrosis, obesity, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, transplant rejection, neuropathic pain and cancer (WO 2008008374, WO 2008010934 and WO 2008008375).



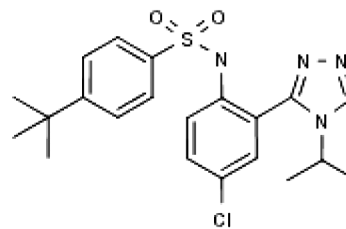
**WO 2008009079**



**WO 2008005555**

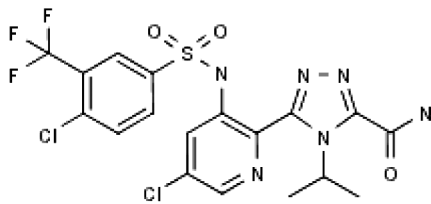


**WO 2008008374**



**WO 2008010934**

(*Biotech News, cont. from page 12*)



**WO 2008008375**

**[March 11, 2008] KaloBios initiates phase I/II trial of KB-002 in persistent asthma.**

KaloBios has initiated a phase I/II clinical study of KB-002, the company's anti-GM-CSF monoclonal antibody, as a potential treatment for persistent asthma. The blinded, placebo-controlled study, which is being conducted at over five sites in Australia, will enroll up to 24 patients who will receive either KB-002 or placebo. Endpoints for the study will include safety, measurements of forced expiratory volume (FEV1) and inflammatory markers (KaloBios News Release).

**[March 12, 2008] Cerimon and Novartis Pharma enter agreement for proof-of-concept study of Simulect in uveitis.** Cerimon has entered into an agreement with Novartis Pharma to conduct a proof-of-concept study for Simulect(R) (basiliximab), a monoclonal antibody that selectively blocks the interleukin-2 (IL-2) receptor, for the treatment of noninfectious uveitis. In February 2006, Cerimon licensed basiliximab from Novartis for the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease (Cerimon News Release).

**[March 13, 2008] iCo Therapeutics presents a clinical update on human monoclonal antibody iCo-008.** iCo Therapeutics has presented a clinical update on iCo-008 (bertilimumab, formerly known as CAT-213), a human monoclonal antibody targeting eotaxin-1, which the company licensed from MedImmune. The preclinical and clinical history of the drug, which has been tested in 126 patients in phase I and II clinical trials, indicates that it may be effective in several large market systemic indications, including severe asthma, food allergies and allergic rhinitis. iCo plans to develop iCo-008 for

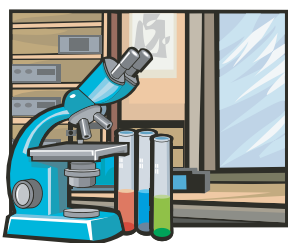
vernal keratoconjunctivitis (VKC), a severe ocular allergy. iCo plans to out-license systemic indications on a worldwide basis, and has sufficient antibody manufactured to enable a partner in certain additional phase II indications. iCo has received iCo-008 drug substance from Lonza, which holds iCo's master cell bank, has carried out process development on the program and has previous experience manufacturing the drug. The drug targets eotaxin-1, which is associated with the chemokine receptor CCR3. Blocking eotaxin-1 has been shown to be effective in inhibiting early phase mast cell activation as well as late phase eosinophilia (iCo Therapeutics News Release).

**[March 17, 2008] New therapeutic agents for respiratory disorders reported in recent patent literature.** AstraZeneca has disclosed a novel series of tricyclic spiropiperidine compounds that act as modulators of chemokine receptors, notably CCR1 receptors. They are described as being particularly useful for treating respiratory disorders such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and asthma (WO 2008010765).

**[March 25, 2008] Mepolizumab investigated in eosinophilic esophagitis and nasal polyposis.** Interleukin-5 inhibition with the humanized monoclonal antibody mepolizumab (GlaxoSmithKline) demonstrated activity in patients with severe nasal polyposis and in a study in patients with severe eosinophilic esophagitis. In a double-blind study, 30 patients with nasal polyposis were randomized to 2 single i.v. injections of mepolizumab 750 mg or placebo. With mepolizumab, nasal polyp scores were significantly reduced at weeks 8 (60% vs. 10%) and 12 (65% vs. 20%) compared to placebo, and more mepolizumab-treated patients had an improved nasal polyp score at weeks 8 and 12. Surgery was required by 15% of the mepolizumab group and 50% of the placebo group (Gavaert, P. et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* [Annu Meet Am Acad Allergy Asthma Immunol (AAAAI) (Mar 14-18, Philadelphia) 2008], 121(2, Suppl.): Abst L26). A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in 11 patients with active eosinophilic esophagitis evaluated i.v. administration of mepolizumab 750 mg on days 0 and 7. Patients not in complete remission at week 4 received 2 additional doses of placebo or mepolizumab

1500 mg. Mepolizumab was associated with a decrease in mean blood eosinophils, and mean eosinophil count was reduced by 67% in esophageal tissue. Swallowing difficulties were improved in two mepolizumab-treated patients at 2 months after the last infusion, while only one placebo-treated patient saw improvement. There were no clinically relevant adverse events (Straumann, A. et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* [Annu Meet Am Acad Allergy Asthma Immunol (AAAAI) (Mar 14-18, Philadelphia) 2008] 2008, 121(2, Suppl.): Abst 171).

**[March 20, 2008] Sustained riloncept effects seen in cryopyrin-associated periodic syndromes.** The 24-week extension of a 24-week study in patients with cryopyrin-associated periodic syndromes (CAPS), including familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome (FCAS) and Muckle-Wells syndrome (MWS), has shown sustained improvement in signs and symptoms with riloncept treatment (Arcalyst<sup>TM</sup>; Regeneron). The interleukin-1 inhibitor received FDA approval for CAPS treatment in February 2008. Of 47 patients initially treated with placebo or riloncept 160 mg s.c. weekly, 44 entered the open-label extension study. The percentages of patients with at least 30%, 50% and 75% improvement in key symptom scores at week 6 were 96%, 87% and 70%, respectively, with riloncept and 29%, 8% and 0%, respectively, with placebo. At week 48, these percentages were 93%, 91% and 68%, respectively, for riloncept-treated patients receiving the treatment for 33-48 weeks. Key symptoms included rash, fever/chills, joint pain, eye redness/pain and fatigue. Large reductions in C-reactive protein and serum amyloid A were seen with riloncept treatment at week 6 (92% and 94%, respectively) and after 33-48 weeks (77% and 84%, respectively) (Hoffman, H.M. et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* [Annu Meet Am Acad Allergy Asthma Immunol (AAAAI) (Mar 14-18, Philadelphia) 2008] 2008, 121(2, Suppl.): Abst 669).



## Clinical Trials

Hannah Nguyen

More information on this list can be obtained at <http://clinicaltrials.gov> [CT], <http://www.center-watch.com/search.asp> [CW], or <http://clinicalstudies.info.nih.gov> [CCNIH].

### **Study of Pegylated Alfa Interferon, Sunitinib and Tarceva in Patients With Metastatic RCC.**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00522249.

Contact: Diana Lema, 713-441-7934, [dlema@tmhs.org](mailto:dlema@tmhs.org). Location: The Methodist Hospital Research Institute, Houston, Texas, United States, 77030. Principal Investigator: Robert J Amato, D.O., The Methodist Hospital Research Institute. Study ID Numbers: RCC-06-101, 0806-0132.

### **A Study Comparing the Effects on Melanoma With High Dose IFN Alone vs Cisplatin, Velban, DTIC, IL-2, IFN and G-CSF (S0008).**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00546416.

Contacts: Richard Rosenbluth, MD, 201-996-5900 ext 5900, [rosenbluth@humed.com](mailto:rosenbluth@humed.com); Nadina Dev, RN, BSN, 201-996-5744 ext 5744, [ndev@humed.com](mailto:ndev@humed.com). Location: Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, New Jersey, United States, 07601. Principal Investigator: Richard Rosenbluth, MD, Hackensack University Medical Center. Study ID Numbers: 01-05-047.

### **Efficacy Study of an Anti-TNF Alpha Agent in Patients With Hand Osteoarthritis (DORA).**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00597623.

Contacts: Xavier Chevalier, PU-PH, (0)1 49 81 27 00 ext +33, [xavier.chevalier@hmn.aphp.fr](mailto:xavier.chevalier@hmn.aphp.fr); Amandine Rialland, (0)1 49 81 37 98 ext +33, [amandine.rialland@hmn.aphp.fr](mailto:amandine.rialland@hmn.aphp.fr). Location: CHU Henri Mondor, Créteil, France, 94000. Principal Investigator: Xavier Chevalier, PU-PH. Study ID Numbers: P 051007.

### **An Exploratory Study of the Effects of a Single Dose of QAX576 (an Interleukin-13 Monoclonal Antibody) on Simulated Hayfever.**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00584584.

Contact: Novartis, +41 61 324 1111. Locations:

*(Clinical Trials, cont. from page 14)*

Germany and United Kingdom. Principal Investigator: NOVARTIS, Novartis investigator site. Study ID Numbers: CQAX576A2104.

**Peg-Intron Versus Adefovir in the Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis B (CHB) e Antigen Positive Patients in Taiwan (Study P04498).**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00371761. Contact: SP Clinical Trial Registry Call Center 1-888-772-8734. Locations: 6 Investigational Sites in Taiwan. Principal Investigator: Ding-Shinn Chen, MD, National Taiwan University Hospital. Study ID Numbers: P04498.

**Study of PEG-rIL-29 (or PEG-IFN Lambda) in Subjects With Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection.**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00565539. Contacts: Sherri Sousa, (206) 434-4702, [seso@zgi.com](mailto:seso@zgi.com); Lara Williamson, (206) 428-4029, [lawi@zgi.com](mailto:lawi@zgi.com). Locations: North Carolina, Oregon, Texas, United States. Study Director: Diana F Hausman, MD, ZymoGenetics. Study ID Numbers: 526F06.

**Retreatment of Chronic Hepatitis C Non-Responders With Pegylated Interferon Alpha + Ribavirin + Pioglitazone.**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00433069. Contact: Francesco Negro, Prof. +41-22-3729355. [Francesco.Negro@hcuge.ch](mailto:Francesco.Negro@hcuge.ch). Location: Service de Gastroentérologie et d'Hépatologie, University Hospital, Geneva, GE, Switzerland, 1211. Principal Investigator: Francesco Negro, Prof, University of Geneva, Switzerland. Study ID Numbers: GE-DMI-05-116.

**Adjuvant, Combined Interleukin-2 (Proleukin) and DTIC (Dacarbazine) in High-Risk Melanoma Patients.**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00553618. Contacts: Jason A Chesney, MD, 502-562-4370; Bev S Taft, MSN, 502-852-4143, [bstaff01@gwise.louisville.edu](mailto:bstaff01@gwise.louisville.edu). Location: James Graham Brown Cancer Center, Louisville, Kentucky, United States, 40202. Principal Investigator: Jason A Chesney, MD, James Graham Brown Cancer Center, University of Louisville. Study ID Numbers: 07.0008

**Interleukin-11 in Adults With Von Willebrand Disease Undergoing Surgery.** ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00524225. Contacts: Margaret V Ragni, MD, MPH, 412-209-7288, [ragni@dom.pitt.edu](mailto:ragni@dom.pitt.edu); Kristen Jaworski, RN, 412-209-7411, [kjaworski@itxm.org](mailto:kjaworski@itxm.org). Locations: Hemophilia Center of Western PA, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States, 15213-4306. Principal Investigator: Margaret V Ragni, MD, MPH. Margaret V Ragni, MD, MPH, University of Pittsburgh. Study ID Numbers: PRO07030210

**Effect of rIL-21 on Metastases in Lymph Nodes in Melanoma Skin Cancer.**

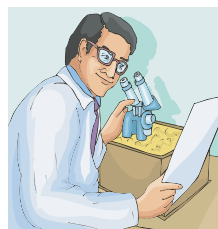
ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00601861. Contact: Public Access to Clinical Trials - Novo Nordisk, [clinicaltrials@novonordisk.com](mailto:clinicaltrials@novonordisk.com). Location: Berlin, Germany. Study Director: Paul Kristjansen, MD, PhD, DMSc, Novo Nordisk A/S. Study ID Numbers: NN028-1801, EudraCT No: 2006-005350-79

**Combined Herceptin and GM-CSF for Metastatic Breast Cancer.**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00429104. Contact: Naoto Ueno, MD, PhD, 713-792-8754. Location: U.T.M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, United States, 77030. Principal Investigator: Naoto Ueno, MD, PhD, U.T.M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Study ID Numbers: DM01-0100.

**Monoclonal Antibody 3F8 and GM-CSF in Treating Young Patients With High-Risk, Refractory or Relapsed Neuroblastoma.**

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00450307. Location: Memorial Sloan - Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York, United States, 10021. Contact: Brian H. Kushner, MD, 212-639-6793, [kushnerb@mskcc.org](mailto:kushnerb@mskcc.org). Study Chair: Brian H. Kushner, MD, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Study ID Numbers: CDR0000534397, MSKCC-05015.



# MIND GAMES

Read out loud the text inside the triangle below.



More than likely you said, "A bird in the bush,"! and. .... if this IS what YOU said, then you failed to see that the word THE is repeated twice! Sorry, look again.

Next, let's play with some words.  
What do you see?



In black you can read the word GOOD, in white the word EVIL (inside each black letter is a white letter). It's all very physiological too, because it visualizes the concept that good can't exist without evil (or the absence of good is evil).

Now what do you see?



You may not see it at first, but the white spaces read the word optical, the blue landscape reads the word illusion. Look again! Can you see why this painting is called an optical illusion?

What do you see here?



This one is quite tricky! The word TEACH reflects as LEARN.

Last one. What do you see?



You probably read the word ME in brown, but..... when you look through ME you will see YOU! Do you need to look again?



# Cytokines 2008

**Cytokines**  
MONTREAL 2008

Cytokines in Cancer and Infectious Diseases  
7th Joint Conference of the ISICR and ICS



October 12-16, 2008  
Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel  
Montreal, Quebec



**ISICR**

**STASH CAFÉ**  
200, rue St-Paul Ouest 514-845-6611  
Take equal measures of European charm and Old Montreal atmosphere, blend in traditional cuisine, sprinkle with Polish art and season to taste with vodka... that's Stash 'st!  
Une mesure de charme européen, une mesure d'ambiance du Vieux-Montréal, une cuisine traditionnelle relevée d'un soupçon d'art polonais et assaisée de vodka, voilà la recette du succès de Stash!

**Dining and restaurants**  
*diner et restaurants*

A delicious, generous and progressive cuisine. Its gastronomic lounge, Suite 701, offers a gourmet lunch menu, exquisite cocktails and a trendy ambiance unique in Montreal.  
Une cuisine savoureuse, généreuse et évolutive. Son lounge gastronomique, la Suite 701, vous offre un menu de midi gourmet, des cocktails exquis et une ambiance branchée unique à Montréal.

**SILE RESTAURANT**  
120 rue St. Denis 514-380-1155  
A delectable creative menu featuring a variety of fresh fish: Angus beef, Quebec lamb and pasta, to name but a few. Marvelously trendy and comfortable setting coupled with friendly, professional service.  
Un menu séduisant par sa variété et sa créativité. Vaut à sélection de poissons frais, bœuf Angus, agneau du Québec, pâtes, et autres délices. Plaisir d'accueillir, ambiance branchée, service professionnel et sympathique.

**AIN CUISINE DU TERROR**  
711 rue St. Denis 514-061-1211

[www.tourisme-montreal.org](http://www.tourisme-montreal.org)

The organizers cordially invite you to participate in the 7th Joint Meeting of the International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research and the International Cytokine Society "Cytokines 2008" to be held October 12 to 16, 2008 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Our Conference will harness the biomedical expertise and energies of these major societies to provide a comprehensive update of recent insights into basic and clinical aspects of Cytokines in Cancer, Inflammation, and Infectious Diseases. The overall theme of this Conference is **Translating Knowledge into Health**, and is chosen to emphasize the integration of basic, pre-clinical, pharmaceutical and clinical research in the areas of cancer, immune modulation, inflammation and infectious diseases. Topics to be covered will include cytokine/interferon structure and function, gene regulation, signal transduction, regulation of cell survival, microenvironment, new cytokines, as well as the multiple roles of cytokines in immunology, inflammation, angiogenesis, host defense and tumor biology. A significant part of the conference will be devoted to cytokine-based therapies in malignancy and other disorders as well as emerging therapies targeting cytokines in autoimmune, inflammatory and malignant diseases. Senior scientists, young investigators, physicians, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students and representatives of the pharmaceutical industry all stand to profit from the interactions available at this venue. We believe that this Conference - set in the beautiful cosmopolitan city of Montreal during the stunning fall display

**Museums and galleries**  
*musées et galeries*

Located in a historical building dating back to 1863, exhibits the works of more than 250 renowned Canadian artists.  
**GALERIE MICHEL-ANGE**  
430, rue Bonsecours 514-875-8281  
Située dans un édifice à caractère historique construit en 1863, elle expose plus de 250 artistes canadiens de renommée internationale.

**MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL**  
135, rue Ste-Catherine Ouest 514-847-6226

**MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS DE MONTRÉAL**  
1379-1380, rue Sherbrooke Ouest 514-285-2000

**ESPACE VERRE**  
1200 rue Mill 514-933-8949  
School and glass studio, gallery and boutique. Glass blowing demo. Collegial degree and initiation classes.  
École-atelier, galerie, boutique. Essai de verre. Démonstration de verre soufflé. Formation collégiale et cours d'initiation pour tous.

of colors - will reflect the best of current cytokine research and will provide a vital impulse for further development.

## Canadian Organizing Committee

John Hiscott - McGill University  
Marc Servant - Université de Montréal  
Eleanor Fish - University of Toronto  
Karen Mossman - McMaster University  
Michele Barry - University of Alberta  
John Schader - University of British Columbia

# Tentative Program

As of March 15, 2008 - Dates and Times of specific lectures are subject to change

## Sunday, October 12, 2008

13:30 - 20:00      **Registration - MEZZANINE LEVEL**

12:00 - 17:00      **ISICR / ICS Council and Committee Meetings**

18:00 - 20:00      **Opening Ceremony - LE GRAND SALON**  
**John Hiscott** (Chair, Scientific Organizing Committee)

**Eleanor Fish** (President, International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research)

**Carl Ware** (President, International Cytokine Society)

**ISICR and ICS Awards Presentations**  
**Honorary Lectures**

**Keynote Address**

20:00 - 20:30      **Nahum Sonenberg**,  
Department of Biochemistry and McGill Cancer Center, McGill University (Canada)

*Translational Control of Innate Immunity Via IRF-7*

20:30 - 22:30      **Welcome Reception** (with Buffet Dinner)  
HOCHELAGA 1 TO 6

08:00 - 18:00      **Registration - MEZZANINE LEVEL**

08:30 - 12:30      **Plenary Session 1 - Pattern Recognition Receptors and Signaling to Innate and Adaptive Immunity**  
LE GRAND SALON  
Session Chairs:  
**Luke J. O'Neill**,  
Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)  
**Marc Servant**, Université de Montréal (Canada)

### Speaker and Topics:

08:30 - 09:00      **Luke J. O'Neill**, Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)  
**New Regulators of Toll-like Receptor Signaling**

09:00 - 09:30      **Caetano Reis e Sousa**,  
London Research Institute, Cancer Research (UK)  
**Innate Recognition Pathways in Dendritic Cells**

09:30 - 10:00      **Andrew Bowie**, Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)  
**Insights into Innate Immune Signaling Pathways from Vaccina Immune Evasion**

10:00 - 10:30      **Dana Philpott**, University of Toronto (Canada) - **Role of Nod-like Receptors in Innate and Adaptive Immunity**

10:30 - 11:00      **Coffee Break (Foyer)**

11:00 - 11:30      **Jenny Ting**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (USA) - **New Functions for NLR Proteins: Cell Death and Type I IFN Response**

<i>(Tentative Program, cont. from page 18)</i>		17:20 - 17:40	<b>Dong-Er Zhang</b> , University of California, San Diego (USA) - <b>ISG15ylation and its Consequence</b>
11:30 - 12:00	<b>Anthony Coyle</b> , MedImmune Inc. (USA) - <b>Danger Signals, Interferons and Autoimmune Disease</b>	17:40 - 18:00	<b>Paul Fox</b> , Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic (USA) - <b>Translational Regulation of IFNgamma-induced Proteins</b>
12:00 - 12:30	<b>TBD</b>		
12:30 - 14:00	<b>Lunch Break (on your own)</b>		
14:00 - 16:00	<b>Concurrent Workshops</b>	<b>Speaker and Topics:</b>	
	<b>Workshop 1</b> - Signal Transduction - LE GRAND SALON		<b>Symposium 2</b> - Biology and Regulation of the TNF Superfamily - MARQUETTE
	<b>Workshop 2</b> - Cytokines and Disease - MARQUETTE		<b>Session Chair</b> - <b>Carl Ware</b> , LaJolla Institute of Allergy and Immunology (USA)
	<b>Workshop 3</b> - Cytokines and Chemokines: Mechanisms of Action - JOLIETTE	16:30 - 17:00	<b>Carl Ware</b> , LaJolla Institute of Allergy and Immunology (USA)
	<b>Workshop 4</b> - Immune Cell Activation and Function - DULUTH	17:00 - 17:20	<b>George Kollias</b> , Alexander Fleming Institute (Greece)
16:00 - 16:30	<b>Coffee Break (Foyer)</b>	17:20 - 17:40	<b>Marja Mikkola</b> , University of Helsinki (Finland)
16:30 - 18:00	<b>Concurrent Symposia</b>	17:40 - 18:00	<b>Genhong Cheng</b> , University of California, Los Angeles (USA)
	<b>Speaker and Topics:</b>		
	<b>Symposium 1</b> - Functions of Interferon Stimulated Genes - LE GRAND SALON	18:00 - 19:30	<b>Poster Session 1</b> (topics determined after Abstracts received) - HOCHELAGA 2 TO 6
	<b>Session Chair</b> - <b>Ganes Sen</b> , Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic (USA)		
16:30 - 17:00	<b>Ganes Sen</b> , Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic (USA) - <b>Induction, Functions and Viral Evasion of the ISG56 Family of Genes</b>		<b>PP 1</b> - Signal Transduction <b>PP 2</b> - Cytokines and Disease <b>PP 3</b> - Cytokines and Chemokines: Mechanisms of Action <b>PP 4</b> - Immune Cell Activation and Function
17:00 - 17:20	<b>Michael David</b> , University of California, San Diego (USA) - <b>Antiviral Effects of Interferon Mediated by miRNA</b>		

<i>(Tentative Program, cont. from page 19)</i>		12:00 - 12:30	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Tuesday, October 14, 2008</b>		12:30 - 14:00	<b>Lunch Break (on your own)</b>
08:00 - 18:00	<b>Registration - ALCOVE</b>	14:00 - 16:00	<b>Concurrent Workshops</b>
08:30 - 12:30	<b>Plenary Session 2 Inflammation and Cancer - LE GRAND SALON Session Chairs: Giorgio Trinchieri, Center for Cancer Research - NCI, Frederick MD (USA) Maya Saleh, Microbiology and Immunology, McGill University (Canada)</b>		<b>Workshop 5 - Gene Regulation: Transcriptional and Post-transcriptional Mechanisms - MARQUETTE Workshop 6 - Control of Cell Growth and Death in Cancer &amp; Hematopoiesis- LE GRAND SALON Workshop 7 - Cytokines and their Receptors: Structure- Function - DULUTH Workshop 8 - Pathogen Evasion of the Host Cytokine Response - JOLIETTE</b>
<b>Speaker and Topics:</b>			
08:30 - 09:00	<b>Alberto Mantovani, Istituto Clinico Humanitas (Italy) - Pathways Connecting Inflammation and Cancer</b>	16:00 - 16:30	<b>Coffee Break (Foyer)</b>
09:00 - 09:30	<b>Giorgio Trinchieri, Center for Cancer Research - NCI, Frederick MD (USA) - Role of Pro-Inflammatory Cytokines in Carcinogenesis</b>	16:30 - 18:00	<b>Concurrent Symposia</b>
09:30 - 10:00	<b>Jurg Tschopp, University of Lausanne (Switzerland) - The Inflammasome in Health and Disease</b>		<b>Speaker and Topics:</b>
10:00 - 10:30	<b>Richard Jove, Beckman Research Institute of City of Hope (USA) - Diverse Roles of STAT3 Signaling in Cancer</b>	16:30 - 17:00	<b>Symposium 3 - microRNA Regulation of Cytokine Gene Expression - LE GRAND SALON Session Chair - Bryan Williams, Monash Institute for Medical Research (Australia)</b>
10:30 - 11:00	<b>Coffee Break (Foyer)</b>		<b>Bryan Williams, Monash Institute for Medical Research (Australia) - Stimulation of Innate Immunity by Short Interfering and microRNA</b>
11:00 - 11:30	<b>TBD</b>	17:00 - 17:20	<b>Greg Goodall, Hanson Institute, Adelaide (Australia) Role of the miR-200 Family in Mediating EMT in Response to TGF-beta</b>
11:30 - 12:00	<b>TBD</b>	-	

*(Tentative Program, cont. from page 20)*

7:20 - 17:40      **Robert Silverman**, Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Ohio (USA) - **Role of Small RNAs Generated by RNaseL in Antiviral Innate Immunity**

17:40 - 18:00      **TBD**

**Speaker and Topics:**

**Symposium 4** - Biology of Th17/IL17 - MARQUETTE  
Session Chair - Sarah Gaffen, SUNY-Buffalo (USA)

16:30 - 17:00      **Sarah Gaffen**, SUNY-Buffalo (USA) - Structure and Function in the IL-17 Receptor

17:00 - 17:20      **John O'Shea**, National Institute of Health (USA)

17:20 - 17:40      **Wim van den Berg**, University of Nijmegen Medical Center (Netherlands) - **IL-17 in Arthritis and Joint Erosion**

17:40 - 18:00      **Xiaoxia Li**, Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic (USA) - **The Role of Act1 in IL-17/IL-25 Mediated Signaling**

18:00 - 19:30      **Poster Session 2** (topics determined after Abstracts received) - HOCHELAGA 2 TO 6

**PP 5** - Gene Regulation: Transcriptional and Post-transcriptional Mechanisms  
**PP 6** - Control of Cell Growth and Death in Cancer & Hematopoiesis  
**PP 7** - Cytokines and their Receptors: Structure-Function  
**PP 8** - Pathogen Evasion of the Host Cytokine Response

19:30 - 22:00

**Evening at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts**

**Wednesday, October 15, 2008**

08:00 - 18:00

**Registration** - ALCOVE

08:30 - 12:30

**Plenary Session 3** - Cytokines and Emerging Infectious Pathogens - LE GRAND SALON

**Session Chairs: Eleanor Fish**, University Health Network (Canada) Adolfo Garcia-Sastre, Mount Sinai School of Medicine (USA)

**Speaker and Topics:**

08:30 - 09:00

**Eleanor Fish**, University Health Network (Canada) - H5N1 and Interferon- $\alpha$ : A Battle for Supremacy

09:00 - 09:30

**Adolfo Garcia-Sastre**, Mount Sinai School of Medicine (USA) - Modulation of Influenza Virus Replication and Virulence by Viral Host Protein Interactions

09:30 - 10:00

**Heinz Feldmann**, Rocky Mountain Labs (USA) - Ebola and Marburg Viruses: Immunopathology and Immunoprotection

10:00 - 10:30

**Grant McFadden**, University of Florida (USA) - Poxvirus Immune Evasion and Host Tropism are Linked by Cytokines

10:30 - 11:00

**Coffee Break** (Foyer)

*(Tentative Program, cont. from page 21)*

11:00 - 11:30 **Michael Gale**, University of Washington (USA) - Triggering and Control of Innate Immunity by Hepatitis C Virus

11:30 - 12:00 **TBD**

12:00 - 12:30 **TBD**

12:30 - 14:00 **Lunch Break** (on your own)

12:30 - 14:00 **ISICR / ICS General Membership Meeting** - (CHAUDIÈRE & MATAPEDIA)

14:00 - 16:00 **Concurrent Workshops**

**Workshop 9** - Cytokines in the Development of Innate and Adaptive Immunity - MARQUETTE

**Workshop 10** - Induction of Cytokines and Interferons - DULUTH

**Workshop 11** - Bench to Beside: Preclinical Models - MACKENZIE

**Workshop 12** - Cytokine Genetics: Polymorphisms and their Relationship to Disease - JOLIETTE

16:00 - 16:30 **Coffee Break** (Foyer)

16:30 - 18:00 **Concurrent Symposia**

## **Speaker and Topics:**

**Symposium 5** - Cytokine Signaling During Lymphocyte Development and Function - JOLIETTE

**Session Chairs:** Christian Schindler, Columbia University (USA)

**Warren Leonard**, Laboratory of Molecular Immunology, NHLBI, NIH (USA)

16:30 - 17:00

**Christian Schindler**, Columbia University (USA) -

17:00 - 17:20

**Warren Leonard**, Laboratory of Molecular Immunology, NHLBI, NIH (USA) -

17:20 - 17:40

**Thomas Decker**, University of Vienna (Austria) -

17:40 - 18:00

**TBD**

## **Speaker and Topics:**

**Symposium 6** - Regulatory T Cells - MARQUETTE

**Session Chair** - Ethan Shevach, Laboratory of Immunology, NIAID (USA)

16:30 - 17:00

**Ethan Shevach**, Laboratory of Immunology, NIAID (USA) - Control of Immune Responses by Natural and Adaptive Regulatory T Cells

17:00 - 17:20

**David Hafler**, Harvard University (USA) - Cytokine Regulation of Human Regulatory T Cells

17:20 - 17:40

**Chyi-Song Hsieh**, Washington University, St. Louis (USA) - Thymic and Peripheral Regulatory T cell Development

*(Tentative Program, cont. from page 22)*

17:40 - 18:00 **Juan Lafaille**, New York University (USA) - Adaptive Foxp3+ Regulatory T Cells

18:00 - 19:30 **Poster Session 3** (topics determined after Abstracts received)

- HOCHELAGA 2 TO 6

**PP 9** - Cytokines in the Development of Innate and Adaptive Immunity

**PP 10** - Induction of Cytokines and Interferons

**PP 11** - Bench to Beside: Preclinical Models

**PP 12** - Cytokine Genetics: Polymorphisms and their Relationship to Disease

20:30 - 23:30 **Dreamscape Gala** - E GRAND SALON

## Thursday, October 16, 2008

### Keynote Address

08:30 - 09:00 **Tada Taniguchi**, Department of Immunology, University of Tokyo (Japan) - 30 Years After the Dawn of Cytokine Molecular Biology: Roles of IRF Transcription Factors

09:00 - 11:00 **Plenary Session 4** - Cytokine-Based Therapeutics - LE GRAND SALON  
**Session Chair:** Marc Feldmann, Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology Division (UK)

### Speaker and Topics:

09:00 - 09:30 **Tadamitsu Kishimoto**, Osaka University (Japan) - Clinical Trials Involving IL-6 Receptor Blockade

09:30 - 10:00 **Charles Dinarello**, University of Colorado (USA) - IL-1 Receptor Antagonists

10:00 - 10:30 **Jeff Browning**, Biogen Idec (USA) - Blockade of the Lymphotoxin/LIGHT Pathway and the Treatment of Autoimmune Disease

10:00 - 11:00 **Coffee Break** (Foyer)

11:00 - 11:30 **Mary K. Crow**, Hospital for Special Surgery, Weill Medical College (USA) - Interferons in the Pathogenesis of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

11:30 - 12:00 **TBD**

12:00 - 12:30 **TBD**

12:30 - 14:00 **Lunch Break** (on your own)

14:00 - 16:00 **Late Breaking Session**

**REMEMBER to check the ISICR website  
([www.isicr.org](http://www.isicr.org)) for the latest information  
regarding ISICR Award applications.  
You must be a 2008 member to be  
considered for the awards!!!!  
5 year memberships are now available!**

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR INTERFERON and  
CYTOKINE RESEARCH**

9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20814-3998  
U.S.A.

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BETHESDA, MD 20814  
PERMIT NO. 4982