



Current Topics in Histocompatibility & Transplantation

A Unique Continuing Education Opportunity

2013 Teleconference Series

Sponsored by

Sandra Rosen-Bronson, PhD, 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 and a PDF 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 or contact us at:

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

2013 *Teleconference Schedule*

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

March 26, 2013

Interpreting Flowcytometric Crossmatches

presented by Nancy Higgins, MT, CHS
Indiana University Health Methodist, Indianapolis, IN

Determination of histocompatibility between a transplant recipient and a potential donor typically involves parallel interpretation of flowcytometric crossmatches and solid phase antibody detection assays. In this case study-based conference, participants will learn troubleshooting tips and considerations useful for interpreting equivocal crossmatches.

April 16, 2013

HSC Donor Selection Guidelines

presented by Stephen Spellman, MBS
National Marrow Donor Program, Minneapolis, MN

Current data suggests that the optimal hematopoietic stem cell source may not be the same for all patients and diseases. In addition, HLA matching requirements may also vary between different stem cell sources. This conference will discuss current studies and guidelines for donor matching and hematopoietic stem cell source selection.

April 23, 2013

Genomics: Transforming Medicine

presented by Kenneth Beckman, PhD
Biomedical Genomics Center, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

In recent years, technological advances have allowed exponential increases in the ability of scientists to sequence and analyze the human genome. Participants in this conference will learn how these advances are transforming and enabling individualized medicine.

May 14, 2013

HLA-Haploidentical HSC Transplant

presented by Ephraim Fuchs, MD
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD

Hematopoietic stem cell transplant is a potentially curative treatment for a variety of hematologic disorders. When a fully HLA matched donor is not available, often the only option available for a patient is a haploidentical transplant from a related donor. Participants will learn how haploidentical transplant with non-myeloablative regimens can be a less toxic approach and often result in improved transplant outcomes.

June 4, 2013

DPB1 T-Cell Epitope Matching in HSC Transplant

presented by Bronwen Shaw, MD
Anthony Nolan Research Institute, Royal Free Hospital, London, UK

Current studies suggest that risks after unrelated-donor hematopoietic stem cell transplant with a 10/10 allele matched donor can be decreased by selection of a donor who is also HLA-DPB1 matched. However, finding such individuals can be difficult. Participants in this conference will hear how classification of HLA-DPB mismatches based on T-cell-epitope groups may help identify permissive mismatches that are better tolerated. A new web-based tool for identifying permissive DPB1 mismatches will also be discussed.

June 11, 2013

The Role of BLyS and BLyS Receptor in B-Cell Selection and Regulation

presented by Michael Cancro, PhD
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Participants in this conference will learn about a tumor necrosis factor-like cytokine called B lymphocyte stimulator (BLyS). They will hear how BLyS and BLyS receptors play a key role in B-cell selection and why they may represent important targets for new immune therapies.

June 18, 2013

Antibody Specificity Detection and Definition of Epitopes

presented by Marcelo Fernandez-Vina, PhD
Stanford Medical School Blood Center, Palo Alto, CA

This conference will discuss a computational approach to serologic epitope mapping. Participants will learn how calculating correlation coefficients between serologic reagents and polymorphic residues of different HLA loci can aid in the definition of putative antibody epitopes.

June 25, 2013

Predictive Biomarkers in GVHD

presented by John Levine, MD
University of Michigan, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI

Graft-versus-Host Disease (GVHD) remains a major complication of allogeneic bone marrow transplant. Participants will learn about studies focused on identifying biomarkers that discriminate between patients with or without GVHD and predict long term survival independently of GVHD severity.

July 16, 2013

Regulatory B-Cells

presented by R. Carlin Walsh, PharmD, BCPS
Transplant Immunology Laboratory, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

B-cells regulate immune responses by producing antigen-specific antibodies. However, specific B-cell subsets can also negatively regulate T-cell immune responses, and have been termed regulatory B cells. This basic lecture will discuss current knowledge of regulatory B-cells.

July 23, 2013

CPT Code Update

presented by Sandra Helman, PhD
Georgia Health Sciences University, Augusta, GA

The Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code set is maintained by the American Medical Association through a CPT Editorial Panel. CPT codes are used throughout the healthcare industry to describe procedures performed by healthcare professionals. Participants in this conference will learn about new codes for tissue typing and antibody testing that directly impact histocompatibility laboratories operating in the U.S.

July 30, 2013

Antibody Mediated Rejection in Liver Transplantation

presented by Jacqueline O'Leary, MD, MPH
Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, TX

The presence of preformed donor-specific HLA antibodies (DSA) in liver transplant recipients is increasingly recognized; however, the prevalence of DSA and their impact on allograft function remains unclear. Participants in this conference will learn about current studies focused on the role of donor specific antibody (DSA) in liver transplant outcome.

September 10, 2013

UNOS Histocompatibility Committee Update

presented by Lee Ann Baxter-Lowe, PhD
University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, 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 the new kidney allocation system, the sliding scale for allocation points based on level of cPRA, and organ sharing programs for highly sensitized patients.

September 17, 2013

Genetic Ancestry: A Guide for Donor Search

presented by Abeer Madbouly, PhD
National Marrow Donor Program, Minneapolis, MN

Participants in this conference will learn the importance of genetic ancestry information for hematopoietic stem cell donor selection. They will hear about issues associated with self-identified race and ethnicity that can impact transplant and will learn how improvements to race and ethnic classification of donor and recipients can improve donor registry operations.

September 24, 2013

Analysis of HLA Sequence Feature Associations

presented by Richard Scheuermann, PhD
J. Craig Venter Institute, San Diego, CA

Associations between specific HLA alleles and a variety of medical conditions, including autoimmune diseases, are well documented. Conventional disease association studies, however, treat each HLA allele as a single complete unit, which does not illuminate the parts of the molecule associated with disease. Participants in this conference will learn about a novel approach for genetic association analysis in which HLA genes and proteins are broken down into smaller sequence features. This allows for the independent analysis of disease association with any sequence feature variant type (SFVT).

October 1, 2013

The Role of Complement in Solid Organ Transplantation

presented by Jennifer Zitzner, PhD
Transplant Immunology Laboratory, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

Complement is a component of the innate immune system and functions to clear pathogens from an organism. This conference will provide participants with an overview of the complement system including the triggers and effects of the complement activation in solid organ transplantation.

October 15, 2013

HLA Class II Antibody Epitopes

presented by Anat Tambur, DMD, PhD

Transplant Immunology Laboratory, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

Understanding of HLA class I antibody epitopes has progressed; however, less is known about epitopes of HLA class II antigens. This conference will discuss the importance of polymorphic α chains in HLA class II molecules and how the incorporation of this information into antibody analysis can impact interpretation and recommendations in clinical histocompatibility testing.

October 22, 2013

Next-Generation Sequencing

presented by Kenneth Beckman, PhD

Biomedical Genomics Center, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Next-generation DNA sequencing (NGS) is a new technology that has made it possible not only to look at complete individual genomes, but also to rapidly compare genetic sequences among multiple genomes. Participants will learn about how NGS works and how it can allow researchers to ask virtually any question of the genome, transcriptome, and epigenome of any organism.

November 5, 2013

Structural Perspectives of the HLA Antibody Response in Transplantation

presented by Rene Duquesnoy, PhD

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA

Donor specific antibodies play an important role in transplant rejection and subsequent graft failure. It is also well documented that HLA antibodies are specific for epitopes rather than the entire antigen. Participants will learn how an epitope approach is important not only for identifying acceptable mismatches for sensitized patients but also for a better understanding of the sensitization process induced by an HLA mismatch.

November 12, 2013

A Web-Based Registry of Antibody-Defined HLA Epitopes

presented by Marilyn Marrari, BA, CHS

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA

Participants will learn about a new web-based registry of antibody defined epitopes developed as a collaborative project of the 16th International Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Workshop (IHIW). The HLA Epitope Registry is likely to become a valuable resource for investigating and understanding antibody responses to HLA mismatches.

December 3, 2013

The Alloimmune Response

presented by Lee Ann Baxter-Lowe, PhD

University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

This basic lecture will discuss the principles of alloimmunity. Participants will also hear about current research on allorecognition and its role in transplantation.



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