# *Current Topics in Histocompatibility and Transplantation for Technologists 2005*

Sponsored by

Sandra Rosen-Bronson, Ph.D., D(ABHI)

and the

Histocompatibility Laboratory

at

Georgetown University Hospital

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 scores 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. You can ask questions and get immediate answers as well as listen to other participants' questions and discussions. 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.

All teleconferences are scheduled to start at 1:00 P.M. (Eastern Time) and last approximately ninety minutes. In addition, lecture outlines and slides will be provided to each participating site.

## *Any Questions?*

***How Does a Teleconference Work?*** Three to five days before each lecture, a teleconference packet will be mailed to your site coordinator containing the lecture slides, outline, and dial-in instructions. U.S. participants will receive a toll-free telephone number. International participants may incur additional telephone charges. On the day of the lecture and at the scheduled time, your site will call the telephone number provided in your lecture packet. Once all conference sites have dialed in, participants will follow the slide show with the lecturer. You will have an opportunity to participate in a question and answer discussion session at both the midpoint and at the completion of the lecture.

***What Equipment Do We Need On Site?*** You will need a 35 mm slide or LCD projector with a screen and a telephone set with a speaker (if more than one person will be participating at your site). You may also want to obtain a quality teleconference system for maxium audio reception and clarity. Your organization's telecommunications department may have one available. Alternatively, units can be purchased from companies such as *HELLO Direct* (800/444-3556, www.hello-direct.com) or rented from *A.T. Products, Inc*. (800/848-2205).

***How Do We Register?*** Complete the teleconference registration form. Fax the form to: (202) 687-1244. Send the original registration form and 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
(202) 784-2909

In order to assure 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 questions about the registration process or need a registration form, please contact Dr. Rosen-Bronson at the GUH Histocompatibility Laboratory.

Tel: (202) 784-2909 or (202) 687-8924
Fax: (202) 687-1244
Email: bronson@gunet.georgetown.edu

# *2005*
# *Teleconference Schedule*

**(With the exception of Thursday, September 1, all dates are Tuesdays and all lectures begin at 1:00 P.M. (Eastern Time)**

---

**March 15, 2005**
**BMT Through the Eyes of the Coordinator**
Sherry Rue, M.T., C.H.T.C., National Marrow Donor Program, Minneapolis, MN and
Jennifer Wilder, R.N., UCSD Bone Marrow Transplant Program, San Diego, CA

This intermediate level lecture will provide participants with a better understanding of the steps and hurdles involved in identifying the best donor for a patient in need of a stem cell transplant. They will learn how efficient teamwork between the transplant center, donor center, and the HLA typing lab can help bring patients to transplant more quickly.

***

**March 22, 2005**
**Humoral Immunity**
Mark Grebenau, M.D., Ph.D.
Novartis Pharmaceuticals
East Hanover, NJ

This beginner level lecture will review how B-cells develop and are stimulated by antigen to become antibody producing plasma cells or memory B cells. This conference will be particularly useful for technologists studying for the CHT or CHS certification exams.

***

**March 29, 2005**
**Transplanting the Sensitized Patient: Biology versus Pharmacology**
Robert Bray, Ph.D., D.(ABHI) and
Howard Gebel, Ph.D., D.(ABHI)
Emory University Hospital
Atlanta, GA

This intermediate level lecture will discuss the pros and cons of emerging and evolving strategies for transplanting highly sensitized patients.

***

**April 5, 2005**
**Hero or Villain: The Immune System in BMT**
Christopher J. VandenBussche, B.S.
Georgetown University Medical School
Washington, DC

This beginner level lecture will describe the immune responses that occur in the stem cell transplant patient. Participants will learn how the immune system is critical for a patient's survival while at the same time can be the cause of a life threatening graft versus host response.

***

**April 19, 2005**
**TRANS Link 101**
Laurie Olesen, R.N., C.H.T.C.
National Marrow Donor Program
Minneapolis, MN

This beginner level lecture will teach participants about the NMDP's TRANS Link computer program. Understanding what TRANS Link is and how to effectively use it can help transplant programs and HLA laboratories work together in order to quickly identify the best donor for BMT patients in urgent need of a transplant.

***

**May 10, 2005**
**The Pharmacogenetics of Immunosuppression**
Mark Grebenau, M.D., Ph.D.
Novartis Pharmaceuticals
East Hanover, NJ

From this intermediate level lecture, participants will learn how different individuals can have different enzymes that may react differently to combinations of immunosuppressive drugs and other phamaceuticals. They will hear how understanding such differences can aid in optimizing each transplant patient's treatment.

***

**May 17, 2005**
**Innovative Approaches for Haploidentical Stem Cell Transplant in Children**
Rupert Handgretinger, M.D., Ph.D.
Stem Cell Transplant and Gene Therapy Program, St Jude Children's Research Hospital
Memphis, TN

This advanced level lecture will discuss how by manipulating bone marrow cells to either enrich stem cells or specifically deplete mature T cells, one haplotype matched related donors can be used to successfully transplant patients who otherwise have no suitable bone marrow donor.

***

**June 21, 2005**
**Future Challenges in Therapeutic Strategies for Transplantation**
Allan Kirk, M.D., Ph.D.
Transplantation Branch, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD

Although modern immune suppression drugs can be very effective at preventing organ rejection, they are at the same time the leading cause of complications following transplantation. This advanced level lecture will discuss why the future goal in transplantation is to develop new ways of preventing graft rejection that do not depend heavily on immunosuppressive drugs.

***

**June 28, 2005**
**Mechanisms of Anti-HLA Antibody Mediated Graft Damage**
Elaine Reed, PhD., D.(ABHI)
UCLA Immunogenetics Center
Los Angeles, CA

The important role of antibody in mediating organ damage post transplantation is becoming increasingly recognized. This intermediate level lecture will discuss the mechanisms by which the development of HLA antibody post transplant can contribute to the induction of chronic rejections.

***

**July 12, 2005**
**C4d Deposition: An Important Marker of Humoral Rejection**
Susan Saidman, Ph.D., D.(ABHI) and A. Bernard Collins, Ph.D.
Department of Pathology, Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

In this intermediate level lecture, participants will learn how the presence of C4d deposition in peritubular capillaries along with circulating anti-donor HLA antibody can be an important diagnostic marker of humoral allograft rejection.

***

**July 26, 2005**
**Creative Laboratory Management: The Next Level**
John Hart, M.B.A., C.H.S.
Johns Hopkins University Immunogenetics Laboratory
Baltimore, MD

In this advanced level lecture, participants will learn about management and organizational functions critical to operating an effective, efficient, and financially stable histocompatibility laboratory.

***

**August 2, 2005**
**Future Challenges in Clinical Laboratory Support for Transplantation**
Peter Nickerson, M.D.
Canadian Blood Services
Winnipeg, MB, Canada

The histocompatibility laboratory's role has evolved over the years from that of "tissue typers" to that of integral members of the transplant team. Participants will learn how more laboratories are performing sensitive innovative assays that provide information critical to the transplant surgeon's treatment plan for individual patients.

***

**August 16, 2005**
**Ethical Dilemmas of Organ Transplantation in the 21st Century**
Mark Fox, M.D., Ph.D.
Oklahoma Bioethics Center, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
Tulsa, OK

With the advent of reality TV, the internet, and organ donor web sites, the 21st century promises to present a new array of ethical questions for the transplant community. This basic level lecture will discuss issues related to the process of organ procurement, distribution, and transplantations.

***

**August 23, 2005**
**Effective Time Management in the Workplace**
Steward Hickman, S.P.H.R.
The Learning Network, Georgetown University Hospital
Washington, DC

In this era of reduced budgets and heavy workloads, effective time-management skills are essential. This basic level lecture will teach participants tools for more efficient time utilization whether at work or at home.

***

**September 1, 2005 (Please note that this is a Thursday)**
**The Clinical Relevance of Donor Specific HLA Antibody in BMT**
Claudio Anasetti, M.D.
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute,
Tampa, FL

As more HLA mismatched stem cell transplants are performed, there is renewed interest in understanding the clinical relevance of donor specific antibody in stem cell transplant patients. This intermediate level lecture will discuss the current data concerning the importance of donor and recipient compatibility to transplant outcome.

***

**September 13, 2005**
**Things Everyone Should Know About Human Protection and Consent**
Roberta King, M.P.H.
Research Support Services, National Marrow Donor Program
Minneapolis, MN

As new tests are developed and new loci detected that may play a role in donor selection or transplant outcome, the scientific and medical communities are faced with new questions of human subjects' rights protection, privacy, and consent for testing. This basic level lecture will discuss these issues and will provide the listener with general guidelines for navigating the internal review-board process.

***

**September 20, 2005**
**OPTN/UNOS**
Walter Graham, Executive Director
United Network for Organ Sharing
Richmond, VA

In this basic level lecture, participants will learn how the 1984 passing of the National Organ Transplant Act resulted in the establishment of the Organ Procurement and Transplant Network operated by UNOS. Participants will learn how the OTPN/UNOS functions and is governed as well as how they can become involved. In addition, they will learn how as individuals they can influence U.S. transplant policies.

***

**September 27, 2005**
**KIR Genotyping for BMT Transplantation**
Vicky Turner, Ph.D., D.(ABHI)
St Jude Children's Research Hospital Histocompatibility Laboratory
Memphis, TN

Following the initial description of the polymorphic killer immunoglobulin-like receptors (KIR), much attention has been focused on the role of KIR in stem cell transplant outcome. This intermediate level lecture will discuss how KIR genes are typed as well as current evidence concerning the role of KIR polymorphism in transplantation.

***

**October 4, 2005**
**Emerging Infectious Diseases and Their Implications to Transplantation**
Chatchada Karanes, M.D.
National Marrow Donor Program
Minneapolis, MN

With new diseases such as West Nile virus, encephalitis, and vCJD, there is increasing concern about the safety of blood and tissue donation. This basic level lecture will discuss various potential issues and concerns raised by new infectious agents in the transplant arena.

***

**November 15, 2005**
**Donor Search Strategies III: More Case Studies**
Sandra Rosen-Bronson, Ph.D., D.(ABHI)
Georgetown University Hospital Histocompatibility Laboratory
Washington, DC

This advanced level lecture will continue to build on search strategy principals and tools described in prior teleconferences. The search process for individual BMT case studies will be discussed in depth and will demonstrate how to effectively and efficiently identify the optimal donor for a patient in need of a stem cell transplant.

***