

CIS Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases Consortium Conference
June 11, 2009
San Francisco, CA, USA

The Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases Consortium Conference took place at the San Francisco Marriott in San Francisco, CA, on June 11, 2009, in conjunction with the Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies (FOCIS) Annual Meeting. This was the fifth Consortium on Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases.

This year's Consortium was co-organized by the Clinical Immunology Society (CIS) and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology (AAAAI).

This activity was intended to reach an international target audience consisting of fellows-in-training, junior faculty, as well as noted experts in the field.

This symposium brought together experts in the field to discuss recent updates as well as material related to our understanding of the scientific processes affected in various primary immune deficiencies. Both by lecture and networking during the symposium, clinicians and researchers came away with an improved knowledge of primary immunodeficiencies. The material was delivered primarily in lecture format; however a poster session and scheduled breaks allowed networking, mentoring, and one-on-one time with the state-of-the art lecturers.

The objectives for this conference were: to continue to advance understanding of the diagnosis, molecular defects, complications, and treatment of these complex diseases; to develop the careers of new scientists in this area of academic medicine; to enhance awareness of clinical immunology and its importance in scientific discoveries and clinical applications; and to stimulate future collaborations between investigators in different medical centers and countries, and between new investigators and experienced physician / scientists in the field.

Six organizers were selected to review applications and attend the Consortium. The organizers consisted of the following members:

Charlotte Cunningham-Rundles, MD PhD • Mount Sinai Medical Center • New York, NY
Kari Nadeau, MD PhD • Stanford University • Stanford, CA
Hans Ochs, MD • University of Washington • Seattle, WA
Joao Bosco Oliveira, MD PhD • National Institutes of Health • Bethesda, MD
Kathleen Sullivan, MD PhD • Children's Hospital of Philadelphia • Philadelphia, PA
Troy Torgerson, MD PhD • University of Washington • Seattle, WA

Fourteen speakers, including the abstract presenters, were invited to present at the Consortium along with over forty poster presenters. Countries represented by the oral presenters included: Brazil, Germany, The Netherlands, and the United States. CIS provided travel grants for all accepted oral and poster presenters to attend the Consortium.

This program was a full day satellite. Fourteen speakers were invited to present on their area of expertise, which included nine abstracts selected for an oral presentation. Sufficient time was allocated after each presentation for a question and answer session. A Poster Reception was held during lunch for those abstracts selected to allow for additional networking.