

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT: RESEARCH CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITY

Clinical & Translational Research in Pneumonia: Defining a Research Agenda for Today and Tomorrow

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Editor-in-Chief

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From the Editor-in-Chief

The reason for this special supplement of the Journal is to inform readers of a scientific research conference supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The NIH Research Conference Grant (R13) supports high quality scientific conferences in areas that are important to the NIH's mission and to the public health. We just received notification that the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) has approved the application for an international research conference entitled: "Clinical & Translational Research in Pneumonia: Defining a Research Agenda for Today and Tomorrow". The conference will be held on Wednesday, May 24th and Thursday, May 25th, 2017 in the city of Washington, D.C., USA. In this supplement, I will describe the novel methodology that will be used during this research conference, the conference objectives, and some general information regarding the conference.



A New Conference Paradigm

Current international medical conferences are good venues for the transfer of knowledge from experts in the field to a general audience of practitioners. On the other hand, opportunities for researchers to have the appropriate time and setting to discuss their current research and gain feedback and collaboration are limited. Although virtual meetings allow investigators to interact, the outcomes of these interactions are rarely equal to in-person contact.

The existing paradigm for scientific conferences is to allow the presenter approximately 45 minutes to outline a detailed description of her/his research including completed work that may have been already published. This is traditionally followed by 15 minutes of questions focused on clarifying concepts from the presentation.

In this conference we are challenging this existing paradigm. The presentations will be more focused, last only 15-minutes, and exclude detailed of previous literature of the topic. It will be followed not by a question and answer session, but by a 15-minute moderated brainstorming session. This brainstorming will allow for a free flow of ideas from all of the experts. Some presentations will focus on "defining the research agenda for today" and some on "defining the research agenda for tomorrow."

Speakers in the module "defining the research agenda for today"

will have 15 minutes to present the most important aspects of her/his active research activities with limited discussion of already published data and background information. The presentation will be followed by a 15 minute moderated brainstorming session to give expert feedback and to generate new ideas for collaboration.

Speakers in the module "defining the research agenda for tomorrow" will have 15 minutes to present the most important research gaps in a particular field of pneumonia. The presentation will be followed by a 15 minute moderated brainstorming session to generate pathways for resolution of current gaps.

Conference Objectives

The overall objective of the conference is to bring together the pneumonia research community to provide a unique opportunity to foster global clinical and translational research in the field of pneumonia, influenza, and emerging respiratory pathogens.

To achieve this, the conference has the following objectives:

1. To foster an international research network in the field of pneumonia, influenza, and emerging respiratory pathogens.
2. To expand and strengthen the existing research collaboration among national and international investigators.
3. To recognize gaps in the knowledge of lung infections and

to identify research pathways to fill these gaps.

4. To engage junior investigators in the field of lung infection research.

Conference Directors

This research conference is chaired by Dr. Julio Ramirez, Professor of Medicine at the University of Louisville. The conference co-chairs are Dr. Richard Wunderink, Professor of Medicine at Northwestern University and Dr. Charles Feldman, Professor of Pulmonology at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Conference Speakers

Speakers Representing Research Teams from the United States

Richard Wunderink, MD
Professor of Medicine, Pulmonary and Critical Care,
Northwestern University
Chicago, USA

Michael S Niederman, MD
Professor of Clinical Medicine, Joan and Sanford I. Weill
Department of Medicine,
Weill Cornell University, New York, New York, USA

Thomas File, MD
Professor of Medicine,
Northeastern Ohio Universities,
Chief, Infectious Disease Service,
Summa Health System, Akron, USA

Julio Ramirez, MD
Professor of Medicine,
Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases,
University of Louisville, Louisville, USA

Nathan C. Dean, MD
Professor of Medicine,
Chief, Pulmonary and Critical Care,
Intermountain Medical Center,
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, USA

Antonio Anzueto, MD
Professor of Medicine,
Chief, Pulmonary Section, Audie L Murphy Veterans
Hospital
University of Texas, San Antonio, USA

Marcos Restrepo, MD
Associate Professor Medicine, Director Intensive Care Unit,
Audie L Murphy Veterans Hospital
University of Texas, San Antonio, USA

Mark Metersky, MD
Professor of Medicine,

Director, UConn Center for Bronchiectasis Care,
Director, Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship Program,
University of Connecticut, Farmington, Connecticut, USA

Charles Dela Cruz, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine,
Director, Yale Center for Pulmonary Infection Research and
Treatment (CPIRT),
Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA

Jose Bordon, MD
Assistant Professor,
Georgetown University;
Chief, Section of Infectious Diseases,
Providence Hospital, Washington DC, USA

Daniel Musher, MD
Distinguished Service Professor of Medicine-Infectious
Disease,
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA

Lis Caler, Ph.D.
Program Director, Division of Lung Diseases,
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute,
NIH, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Barbara Jones, MD
Assistant Professor, Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine
Salt Lake City Veterans Affairs Medical Center
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

Speakers Representing Research Teams from Other Countries

Francesco Blasi, MD
Professor of Respiratory Medicine,
Vice-chairman, Department of Pathophysiology and
Transplantation,
Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan, Italy

Tobias Welte, MD
Professor, Pulmonary Medicine,
Head, Department of Pulmonary & Infectious Diseases,
Hannover University, Hannover, Germany

Antoni Torres, MD
Professor of Medicine, Director of Institut Clínic de
Pneumologia i Cirurgia Toràtica Hospital Clínic de
Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

Jordi Rello, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine, Chief of Critical Care, Vall
d'Hebron University Hospital, University of Barcelona,
Barcelona, Spain

James Chalmers, MD
Lecturer in Respiratory Medicine, Department of

Respiratory Medicine, Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee, Scotland

Stefano Aliberti, MD

Department of Health Science, University of Milan-Bicocca, Respiratory Dept, AO San Gerardo, Monza, Italy

Rosario Menedez, MD

Chief, Pneumology Department, Hospital La Fe, Valencia, Spain

Grant Waterer, MD

Professor of Medicine, Medical Co-Director, Service 4, Royal Perth Hospital, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia

Charles Feldman, MD

Professor of Pulmonology, Chief Physician, Charlotte Maxeke, Johannesburg Academic Hospital, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

Carlos Luna, MD

Professor of Medicine, Chief Pulmonary Hospital Clínicas, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Yuichiro Shindo, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine, Department of Respiratory Medicine, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan

Conference Dates, Hours, and Location

The research conference will take place on Wednesday, May 24th from 9AM until 6PM and on Thursday, May 25th from 8AM until

4PM. The conference will take place at The Loft at 918 F Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20004.

Conference Participants & Registration

This conference is open to all healthcare workers interested in the field of pneumonia research. If you are interested in participating in this conference, please register using our [online form](#), or email Kimberley Buckner at kfbuck01@louisville.edu requesting to be registered as a conference participant.

Virtual Participant

We are planning to offer this research conference on a free on-line platform to allow interested investigators to be a virtual participant in the conference. For more information please register using our [online form](#), or email Kimberley Buckner at kfbuck01@louisville.edu requesting to be registered as a conference virtual participant.

Conference Proceedings

The University of Louisville Journal of Respiratory Infections will offer a published conference proceedings supplement summarizing the current and future areas of research from each of the participating research centers, which will be available at <http://louisville.edu/jri>.

If you have any further questions regarding this research conference you can contact me at: j.ramirez@louisville.edu

Thank you, and I hope to see you in Washington, DC.

Julio A. Ramirez, MD
University of Louisville