



IX Workshop on Apoptosis in Biology and Medicine
NEUROINFLAMMATION IN NEURONAL DEATH AND REPAIR
Parghelia (VV) Calabria, Italy 13-16 September, 2006

UNDER THE AUSPICIES

University of Calabria, Cosenza
University "Magna Græcia", Catanzaro
Department of Pharmacobiology, UNICAL
Calabria Region
National Institute of Health
Italian Society of Pharmacology
Italian Society of Neuroscience

PRESIDENTS

Bagetta Giacinto (Cosenza)
Lipton A. Stuart (La Jolla)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Bagetta Giacinto (Cosenza)
Corasaniti M. Tiziana (Catanzaro)
Lipton A. Stuart (La Jolla)
Wyss-Coray Tony (Stanford)

SCIENTIFIC BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Neuroinflammation has been recently implicated in the pathogenesis of many neurodegenerative diseases. The cross-talk between neurons and non-neuronal cells seems to be a critical step in the progression of neurodegeneration and molecules that have a beneficial role may turn into harmful players. Thus, matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs), which are involved in axonal growth and regeneration as well as synaptic plasticity, may also have detrimental effects. Recent evidence has linked MMPs to conditions like ischemia, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease and suggested that, together with their role in the degradation of extracellular macromolecules, MMPs could work as important signalling molecules from injured neurons to the microglia. Thus, MMP-3 has been shown to induce the release of pro-inflammatory cytokines from microglia *via* activation of ERK and NF- κ B-dependent pathways.

Increasing evidence highlights the importance of a balanced cross-talk between neurons and non-neuronal cells and indicates that the presence of reactive astrocytes, the activation of microglia and the release of inflammatory mediators may contribute

to the progression of many central nervous system disorders, independently of the nature of the primary pathogenic event.

However, many aspects still remain controversial and much more effort is needed to understand the role of neuroinflammatory mediators and processes in these conditions.

On its ninth edition, the Workshop on Apoptosis in Biology and Medicine aims to bring together international scientists to discuss current knowledge and views on the mechanisms of neuroinflammation, on its role in the context of different neurodegenerative diseases (i.e. Alzheimer's, prion disease, HIV-associated dementia, multiple sclerosis, pain) and on the potential approaches for future therapeutic strategies. The meeting wants to provide also young scientists (PhD and PostDocs) with an opportunity for discussing their original scientific data with outstanding researchers. Indeed, also this workshop has been organized within the PhD program of the University of Calabria in collaboration with the Universities of Catanzaro and Rome Tor Vergata.

ADVISORY BOARD

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PRELIMINARY LIST OF SPEAKERS

Amantea Diana	(Department of Pharmacobiology, University of Calabria, Cosenza, Italy)
Bonanno Giovambattista	(Department of Experimental Medicine, University of Genoa, Italy)
Centonze Diego	(Clinica Neurologica, University "Tor Vergata" Rome, Italy)
Gasque Philippe	(Department of Medical Biochemistry, School of Medicine, Cardiff, UK)
Gendelman Howard	(Center for Neurovirology and Neurodegenerative Disorders, University of Nebraska, Omaha, USA)
Hunt P. Steve	(Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology, University College, London, UK)
Karin Michael	(Department of Pharmacology, University of California, La Jolla, USA)
Lipton A. Stuart	(The Burnham Institute for Medical Research, La Jolla, USA)
Minghetti Luisa	(Department of Cell Biology and Neurosciences, Rome, Italy)
Moroni Flavio	(Department of Pharmacology, University of Florence, Florence, Italy)
Pekny Milos	(The Arvid Carlsson Institute for Neuroscience, University of Goteborg, Sweden)
Ransohoff Richard	(Department of Neurosciences, Lerner Reserch Institute, Cleveland, USA)
Rogers Joe	(L. J. Roberts Center for Alzheimer's Reserch, Sun City, USA)
Turner J. Anthony	(Faculty of Biological Sciences, University of Leeds, UK)
Van Eldik J. Linda	(Center for Drug Discovery and Chemical Biology, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA)
Volterra Andrea	(Department of Cell Biology and Morphology, University of Lausanne, Switzerland)
Wyss-Coray Tony	(Department of Cell Biology and Morphology, University of Stanford, Stanford, USA)

TOPICS

- 🌳 Neuroimmune regulation in normal and pathological brain
- 🌳 Mediators of microglia and astrocytes functions
- 🌳 Modulation of neuronal function by neuroimmunomediators
- 🌳 Modulators of cell signalling in neuronal death and repair
- 🌳 Cellular and molecular targets for new therapies of neuroinflammatory diseases

ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION

Participants are welcome to submit abstracts for presentation at the meeting. All abstracts will be for poster presentation and should be written according to the instructions below.

Deadline for submission: 15th July 2006.

Language: English (abstract and poster).

Abstracts must be submitted by via e-mail to the secretariat (fico@unical.it), indicating “IX Workshop” as subject of the correspondence. Authors will be notified the acceptance of the abstract by August, 10th, 2006. Each abstract, written in times new roman (12 character), should contain a sentence stating the study objective; a brief statement of methods, if pertinent; a summary of the results and a statement of the conclusions. It is not satisfactory to say, “the results will be discussed”. Use a short, specific title. Capitalize initial letters of trade names. Use standard abbreviations for units of measure. Other abbreviations should be spelled out in full at first mention, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses. Include the source of research support on the bottom line of the abstract. The presenting author assures the merit of the presentation and that all authors listed have had a significant role in the research being reported. The size of the poster will be 70 cm width and 100 cm height.

Also, Elsevier will be publishing the proceedings in the highly respected serial International Review of Neurobiology. This serial, as with all Elsevier serials, is indexed by ISI and linked to Pubmed, ensuring that articles can be cited on Medline. Please note that your invitation is subject to delivery of your manuscript at the meeting.

REGISTRATION FEES

A registration fee of 150 € must be payed at the time of abstract submission. The fee includes access to the meeting room, congress kit, cocktail at the opening ceremony, coffee breaks. Payment should be made to “IX Workshop on Apoptosis in Biology and Medicine, Department of Pharmacobiology, University of Calabria, Via P. Bucci 87030 Rende (CS) Italy. **Bank details:** MONTE DEI PASCHI DI SIENA FILIALE 8473, Via Ponte Pietro Bucci, 87036 Arcavacata di Rende (Cosenza). Cin W, ABI 01030, CAB 80880, Bank Account 000000010947, IBAN IT 52 01030 80880 000000010947; BIC PASCITMMXXX

FELLOWSHIPS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A limited number of grants from the Italian Society of Pharmacology will be available to support the participation of PhD students and young researchers presenting their original scientific data as poster communication. Applications for these grants should be directly to the Italian Society of Pharmacology. Also, financial support for PhD students and young PostDocs which will participate in the meeting are available from the International Society of Neurochemistry. Applicants should send their request via email to Prof Giacinto Bagetta (g_bagetta@virgilio.it).

MEETING VENUE

Porto Pirogus Hotel (tel. 39 0963 600 351) is located at Parghelia (Vibo Valentia), in one of the loveliest spots of the Tirrenian Coast facing the still active Stromboli volcano. The international airport of Lamezia Terme (Catanzaro) is 30 Km from the

Hotel. Further travelling information are available on the web at www.portopirgos.com. A reduced price has been agreed for the full board accommodation of participants to the workshop.

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Amantea Diana	(Cosenza)
Iannone Michelangelo	(Catanzaro)
Palma Ernesto	(Catanzaro)
Paoletti Annamaria	(Catanzaro)
Rombolà Laura	(Cosenza)
Russo Rossella	(Cosenza)

LOCAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Fico Guido	(Cosenza)
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Politi Giovanni	(Catanzaro)
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SECRETARIAT

Hilary Rowe, Publishing Editor, Neuroscience, at Elsevier, San Diego, CA
Nicola Fico, Department of Pharmacobiology, University of Calabria, Via Pietro Bucci, I – 87030 Rende (CS), Italy – Tel 39 0984 493248 – Fax 39 0984 493462 – E-mail: fico@unical.it